

CIVIC AFFAIRS15 May 2017
6.00 - 6.25 pm

Present: Councillors McPherson (Chair), Benstead (Vice-Chair), Gawthrope, Holt and Robertson

Officers:

Chief Executive: Antoinette Jackson

Democratic Services Manager: Gary Clift

Other Person Present:

Independent Person: Sean Brady

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**17/14/Civ Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Cantrill.

17/15/Civ Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

17/16/Civ Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

17/17/Civ Public Questions

There were no public questions.

17/18/Civ Committee Appointments and Constitutional Changes

The minutes of this agenda item have been split into the following four items:

- 17/18/Civa

- 17/18/Civb
- 17/18/Civc
- 17/18/Civd

17/18/CIVa Nominations for Committees for the Municipal Year 2017/18

The Committee considered a paper setting out the proposed Committee allocations by party and the nominations received. The Committee considered the rules on political balance set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in developing the recommendations set out below.

The Arbury by-election on 4 May did not affect proportionality on the Council and the seats allocated in total and across each committee are the same as 2016/17.

The Committee noted the nominations.

Resolved (unanimously) to:

Recommend to Council to agree the number and size of committees, agree to depart from proportionality on Planning Committee, and to note the nominations listed below:

Ordinary Committees

Community Services Scrutiny Committee 8 (5 Labour + 2 Lib Dem+ 1 I/G)

Ratcliffe, Sinnott, Abbott, Barnett, Bird, Gillespie, Austin, O'Connell

Alternates-Gawthrope, Sargeant, Nethsingha
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Environment Scrutiny Committee 7 (5 Labour + 2 Lib Dem)
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Gawthrope, Bird, Ratcliffe, Sargeant, Sheil, Bick, Tunnacliffe
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Alternates-Abbott, Sinnott, Adey

Housing Scrutiny Committee 8 (5 Labour + 2 Lib Dem +1 I/G)
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Todd-Jones, Bird, Baigent, Gawthrope, Sheil, Holland, Cantrill, Page-Croft

Alternates-Abbott, Barnett, Tim Moore

Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee 6 (4 Labour+ 2 Lib Dem)

Barnett, Baigent, Sarris, Sinnott, Bick, Cantrill

Alternates-Abbott, Sargeant, Avery

Civic Affairs Committee 6 (4 Labour +2 Lib Dem)

McPherson, Benstead, Gawthrope, Robertson

O'Connell, Holt

Alternate-Ratcliffe, Tim Moore

Employment (Senior Officer) Committee 6 (4 Labour +2 Lib Dem)

Blencowe, Hart, Herbert, Price, Bick, Avery

Licensing Committee 12 (8 Labour+ 4 Lib Dem)

Bird
Ratcliffe
Abbott
Benstead
Gawthrope
McPherson
Sinnott
Smart

Gehring
Adey
Tim Moore
Pippas

Alternates- Rosy Moore, Holt

Planning Committee (NB Council approves departure from

proportionality here) 8 (4 Labour+ 3 Lib Dem + 1 I/G)
Smart, Blencowe, Hart, Sarris, Hipkin, Tunnacliffe, Nethsingha, Holt Alternates- Bird, Page-Croft
Cambridge City Joint Area Committee (with County Council) 6 (4 Labour +2 Lib Dem)
Baigent, Bird, Blencowe, Robertson, Tunnacliffe, Adey Alternates- Sargeant
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority -1 seat
Cllr Herbert, Leader of the Council + 1 substitute (Cllr Price)
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 Labour + 1 Lib Dem
Baigent, Cantrill Alternates-Sargeant, Austin
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Audit and Governance Committee New – 1 + one substitute member
Robertson, Ashton (substitute)
Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly 3 (2 Labour + 1 Lib Dem)
Baigent, Price, Bick
Joint Development Control Committee - Cambridge Fringes 6 (4 Labour+ 2 Lib Dem)
Blencowe, Baigent, Bird, Price, Tunnacliffe, Holt Alternates- Gawthrope, Martin Smart, Tim Moore

17/18/CIVb Nominations for Committees Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the Municipal Year 2017/18

The Committee received nominations for Chairs and Vice Chairs of Scrutiny and Regulatory Committees.

Resolved (unanimously) to:

- i. Agree the nominations for Chairs and Vice Chairs as below:

	Chair	Vice Chair
Community Services	Ratcliffe	Sinnott
Environment	Gawthrope	Bird
Housing	Todd-Jones	Bird (nb. Tenant/Leaseholder is Chair of Part 1 of the meeting)
Strategy & Resources	Barnett	Baigent
Civic Affairs	McPherson	Benstead
Employment Appeals Sub	Hart	n/a
Licensing	Bird	Ratcliffe
Planning	Hipkin	Martin Smart
JDCC	Blencowe as Lead Councillor	

17/18/CIVc Appointment of Independent Person and Deputy

Resolved (unanimously) to:

Recommend that Council confirm the appointment of Mr Sean Brady as the Council's Independent Person and Mr Robert Bennett as the Council's Deputy Independent Person for 2017/18.

17/18CIVd Constitutional Amendments

Committee agreed that the changes to Council Procedure Rules introduced in April 2016 had worked well and noted that there had been no feedback from Group Leaders to the contrary.

On the proposals in the officer report (paragraphs 4.6-4.9)

Length of speeches: the Committee agreed to be consistent with speaking times for Motion debates ie 3 minutes per councillor. However, Committee agreed that Ex Cllr/Chair and spokes should be permitted up to 5 minutes.

Extraordinary meetings: the Committee agreed that public questions at Extraordinary Meetings of Council should only relate to that item, but did not agree that they should be submitted by 10am the day before. It should be consistent with other meetings ie. you can ask a question if it is an item on the agenda without prior notice.

County Councillors on Area Committees: the Committee agreed the proposal in the report with the clarification that only a city councillor can be a Chair or Vice Chair.

Appointment to outside bodies: the Committee agreed with the proposal. It was clarified that the arrangement would only apply for appointments 'within Group'.

The Committee noted a further proposal concerning the ability for Groups with more than one seat on a Scrutiny Committee to appoint 2 Alternate Members. The Committee noted that the Group Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group had been notified of this proposal but not in time for nominations to reflect this. Updates will be included in the Information Pack published the day before the Annual Meeting.

Resolved:

To recommend to Council the changes to Council as set out below in **bold text and ""**:

Council Procedure Rules

6. Appointment Of Alternate Members Of Committees And Sub-Committees

6.2 Number

6.2.1 For each committee or sub-committee, the Council (or committees in respect of sub-committees) will appoint one alternate member in respect of each political group represented on that committee or sub-committee, **and**

two in the case of the major Scrutiny Committees for groups with more than one Committee member,” but shall not appoint an alternate member for a political group which declines to nominate an alternate member.

21. Length of speeches

Generally

21.1 **“Except for Executive Councillors, Chairs and spokespersons, who may speak for up to 5 minutes,”** no other speech shall subject to the exceptions provided elsewhere in Council Procedure Rules exceed **“3 minutes”** length (without the consent of the Council given by reason of the exceptional importance of the subject and which consent shall be ascertained by the Mayor either on his/her own initiative or on a motion made which shall be put without amendment or discussion. Provided that it shall be within the discretion of the Mayor to permit up to a further 3 minutes beyond the time so mentioned without the necessity for any such consent.

PART 4B-ACCESS TO INFORMATION RULES-APPENDIX 2 PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS

“Extraordinary Council Meetings – public questions will only be taken on the single item of business for which the extraordinary meeting has been called.”

Part 4EE-AREA COMMITTEE PROCEDURE RULES

4. Co-opted Members

4.1 Each area committee shall invite county councillors **“where the clear majority of a County Council Division is within”** the area to be co-opted members. **“County Councillors may vote on all matters except for any decision relating to city council funding and the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair.”** Area committees may appoint such other non-voting co-opted members as they choose. Co-opted members may be appointed either in respect of the whole work of the area committee, or in respect of specific aspects of that work.

6.1 An area committee shall, at its first meeting of the municipal year, elect “**City Councillors as**” Chair and Vice Chair.....

6.1.2 In the absence from any meeting of the Chair and Vice Chair, a “**City Councillor as**” Chair for that meeting.....

The meeting ended at 6.25 pm

CHAIR