

COUNCIL

21 May 2026
11.08 am - 4.00 pm

Present: Councillors Ashton, Baigent, Bennett, Bick, Bird, Blackburn-Horgan, Cleminson, Clough, Dalzell, Davey, Davison, Dryden, Fisher, Flaubert, Gardiner-Smith, Haithcock, Gawthrope Wood, Glasberg, Griffin, Grimwood, Hauk, Hossain, Illingworth, Martinelli, McPherson, Moore, Nestor, Nicmanis, Porrer, Sage, Sheil, Smart, Swift, Taylor, Thornburrow, Todd-Jones, Tong, Toye Scott, Wade, Whitmore and Young

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

26/27/CNL To elect a Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27

Councillor Thornburrow proposed, and Councillor Dryden seconded the nomination of Councillor Ashton as Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Councillor Dalzell proposed, and Councillor Bick seconded the nomination of Councillor Taylor as Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Councillor Bennett proposed, and Councillor Tong seconded the nomination of Councillor Cleminson as Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

As more than one nomination was received, Members proceeded to vote on each candidate. The results were as follows:

Councillor Ashton	18 votes
Councillor Taylor	11 votes
Councillor Cleminson	12 votes

As Councillor Taylor received the lowest number of votes, their nomination was withdrawn. Members then voted on the remaining two candidates, with the following results:

Councillor Ashton	18 votes
Councillor Cleminson	23 votes

Resolved (23 votes to 18) that:

Councillor Clemison be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Councillor Cleminson then made the statutory declaration of acceptance for the Office of Mayor.

26/28/CNL To elect a Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27

Councillor Dalzell proposed, and Councillor Davinson seconded the nomination of Councillor Taylor as Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Resolved that:

Councillor Taylor be elected Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Councillor Taylor then made the statutory declaration of acceptance for the Office of Deputy Mayor.

26/29/CNL To Pass a Resolution of Thanks to the Outgoing Mayor

Resolved (unanimously) on the proposal of Councillor McPherson, seconded by Councillor Bird:

This Council expresses its appreciation of the manner in which the duties of the Mayor and Mayor's consort were discharged by former Councillor Dinah Pounds and consort Adam Pounds during their period of office, 2025/26.

26/30/CNL Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Payne.

26/31/CNL Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Reason
Ashton	All	Personal: Paid council tax; voted in local elections; had never worked for the Ministry of Justice or the Red Cross.
Baigent	All	Personal: Member of Cam Cycle
Tong	All	Personal: Member of Cam Cycle
Whitmore	All	Personal: Member of Cam Cycle

Griffin	All	Personal: Member of Cam Cycle
Illingworth	All	Personal: Member of Cam Cycle
Nestor	All	Personal: Trustee of Cambridge Museum

26/32/CNL Minutes of the meeting held on:

26/33/CNL 26 February 2026

The minutes of the meetings on 26 February 2026, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

26/34/CNL 19 March 2026

The minutes of the meetings on 19 March 2026, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

26/35/CNL To note the Returning Officer's Report that the following have been elected to the Office of Councillor

Maria Cleminson	Abbey Ward
Sefira Davison	Arbury Ward
Alex Sage	Castle Ward
Russ McPherson	Cherry Hinton Ward
Sarah NicManis	Coleridge Ward
Sarah Haithcock	East Chesterton Ward
Martin Smart	King's Hedges Ward
Katie Porrer	Market Ward
Eleanor Toyne Scott	Newnham
Kathyrn Fisher	Petersfield
Amanda Taylor	Queen Edith's
Jacqui Whitmore	Romsey
Olaf Hauk	Trumpington
John Grimwood	Trumpington
Richard Swift	West Chesterton

26/36/CNL To elect from among the Members of the Council Bailiffs of the City for the Municipal Year 2026/27

Resolved (unanimously) to:

Appoint Councillors Dryden, McPherson, Illingworth and Grimwood, Bailiffs of the City for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

26/37/CNL Election of Leader of the Council

Councillor Davey proposed, and Councillor Gardiner-Smith seconded the nomination of Councillor Thornburrow as Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

The nomination was lost by 17 votes to 23.

*Councillor Dryden did not take part in this vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:34 pm. Upon reconvening, Councillor Davey proposed, and Councillor Gardiner-Smith seconded, the nomination of Councillor Thornburrow as Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

The nomination was lost by 17 votes to 22.

*Councillor Hossain did not take part in the vote.

Councillor Davison proposed an adjournment to the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Bennett.

Resolved (22 votes to 0 with 17 abstentions) that the meeting be adjourned until 1 June at 6:00 pm to reconsider this item and the remaining business on the agenda.

26/38/CNL Notification of Cabinet Member Portfolios

This item was postponed.

26/39/CNL Appointments to Committee Places and Chairs/Vice-Chairs of Committee's

This item was postponed.

26/40/CNL Appointments to outside bodies & working groups

This item was postponed.

26/41/CNL Municipal Meeting Calendar 2026/27

This item was postponed.

26/42/CNL To Consider recommendations from Committees

26/43/CNL Civic Affairs & Audit Committee - Constitutional Updates

This item was postponed.

26/44/CNL Civic Affairs & Audit Committee - Annual Civic Affairs & Audit Committee report

This item was postponed.

26/45/CNL Employment Committee - Termination agreement over £100k

This item was postponed.

26/46/CNL To note the officer decision - Capital Budget - Demolition of Council Owned Buildings

This item was postponed.

The meeting ended at 4.00 pm

CHAIR