

COUNCIL

12 June 2014
11.00 am - 5.37 pm

Present: Councillors Saunders (Mayor for item 14/24/CNL), Pippas (Deputy Mayor for item 14/24/CNL), Abbott, Ashton, Austin, Avery, Baigent, Benstead, Bick, Bird (Mayor from item 14/25 onwards), Birtles, Blackhurst, Blencowe, Cantrill, Dryden (Deputy Mayor from item 14/26/CNL onwards), Gawthrope, Hart, Herbert, Hipkin, Holland, Johnson, McPherson, Meftah, Moghadas, Moore, O'Reilly, Perry, Owers, Pitt, Price, Ratcliffe, Reid, Reiner, Roberts, Robertson, Sarris, Sinnott, Smart, Smart, Smith, Todd-Jones, Tucker and Tunnacliffe

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

14/24/CNL To elect a Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/15

Councillor Price proposed and Councillor Pippas seconded the nomination of Councillor Gerri Bird as Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/2015.

Resolved that:

- i. Councillor Gerri Bird be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/2015 (Councillor Bird then made the statutory declaration of acceptance of the office of Mayor).

14/25/CNL To elect a Deputy Mayor for the Municipal year 2014/15

Councillor McPherson proposed and Councillor Ashton seconded the nomination of Councillor Robert Dryden as Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/2015.

Resolved that:

- i. Councillor Robert Dryden be elected Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/2015 (Councillor Dryden then made the statutory declaration of acceptance of the office of Deputy Mayor).

14/26/CNL To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2014

The minutes of the 3 April 2014 meeting were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

14/27/CNL To note the Returning Officer's Report that the following have been elected to the office of Councillor

It was noted that the following had been elected to the office of Councillor:

Abbey – Peter Roberts
Arbury – Charlotte Perry
Castle – Marie-Louise Holland
Cherry Hinton – Russ McPherson
Coleridge – Lewis Herbert
East Chesterton – Peter Sarris
Kings Hedge's – Martin Smart
Market – Dan Ratcliffe
Newnham – Rod Cantrill
Petersfield – Richard Robertson and Ann Sinnott
Queen Edith's – Tim Moore
Romsey – Dave Baigent
Trumpington – Nick Avery
West Chesterton – Ysanne Austin

14/28/CNL To note the appointment of the Mayor's Chaplain for the ensuing year

The Council noted the appointment of The Reverend, Ruth Adams as the Mayor's Chaplain for the Municipal Year 2014/2015.

14/29/CNL To note the appointment of the Mayor's Cadet for the ensuing year

The Council noted the appointment of Corporal Avinash Mocherla, as the Mayor's Cadet for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

14/30/CNL To pass a Resolution of Thanks to the outgoing Mayor

Resolved (unanimously), on the proposal of Councillor Catherine Smart, seconded by Councillor Moghadas that:

- i. This Council expresses its appreciation of the manner in which the duties of Mayor were discharged by Councillor Paul Saunders during his period of office and that the Common Seal be affixed to a copy of this resolution for presentation to him.

14/31/CNL Mayors Announcements**1. APOLOGIES**

No Apologies had been received.

2. WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed a group of students from North Cambridge Academy to watch the Mayor making ceremony. Representatives of Castle Townswomen's Guild and students from the University of Cambridge were also welcomed.

3. CIVIC CHURCH SERVICE – SUNDAY, 15th June

The Mayor confirmed that the Mott Sermon would be preached at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 15th June at 9.30am.

4. PROCLAMATION OF MIDSUMMER FAIR – WEDNESDAY, 18th JUNE, 2014

The Mayor confirmed that the Proclamation of Midsummer Fair would take place on Wednesday 18th June.

5. OUTGOING MAYOR'S DINNER – Thursday, 26th June

The Mayor reminded anyone planning to attend the dinner at Corpus Christi College to mark the term in office of Paul Saunders to purchase tickets from the Civic and Twinning Officer.

6. ARMED FORCES DAY - 28th June

The Mayor confirmed that, in support of national Armed Forces Day, the Armed Forces Flag would be flown from the Guildhall from Monday 23rd June for one week.

7. MAYOR'S DAY OUT

The Mayor confirmed that the Mayor's Day Out would take place on Thursday 21st August in Great Yarmouth.

14/32/CNL To elect from among the Members of the Council four Bailiffs of the City for the Municipal Year 2014/15

Councillor Perry proposed and Councillor Pitt seconded that Councillors Moghadas and McPherson be appointed as Bailiffs.

Councillor Pitt proposed and Councillor O'Reilly seconded that Councillors Moore and Pippas be appointed as Bailiffs.

Councillor Hipkin proposed and Councillor Holland seconded that Councillor Meftah be appointed as a Bailiff.

Resolved that Councillors Meftah, Moghadas, McPherson, Moore and Pippas be appointed as Bailiffs of the City for the Municipal Year 2014/2015.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor	Item	Interest
Cantrill	14/34/CNL	Personal: Trustee of Winter Comfort
Reid	14/38a/CNL	Personal: Member of LGA Committee
Todd-Jones	14/38b/CNL	Personal: Member of Unison

14/33/CNL To consider recommendations of Committees for Adoption**Civic Affairs (2 June 2014)****Constitutional amendments and Members of The Executive**

The Mayor confirmed that Councillor Bick had resigned from the post of Leader to enable a new election to take place.

Councillor Benstead proposed and Councillor Price seconded the nomination of Councillor Herbert as Leader of the Council

Resolved (unanimously) to:

- i. Elect Councillor Herbert as Leader of the Council.
- ii. Note the Executive Councillors as follows:
 - Executive Councillor for Strategy and Transformation: Councillor Herbert
 - Executive Councillor for City Centre and Public Places: Councillor O'Reilly
 - Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources: Councillor Owers
 - Executive Councillor for Housing: Councillor Price

- Executive Councillor for Environment, Waste and Public Health: Councillor Roberts
 - Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport: Councillor Blencowe
 - Executive Councillor for Community, Arts and Recreation: Councillor Johnson
- iii. Note the revised Executive Councillor portfolios set out in amended Appendix 1 of the officer's report - as circulated around the Chamber and included in the Council 'Information Pack'.
- iv. Approve the revised scrutiny arrangements set out in the amended Appendix 2 and the amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendix 3 - as circulated around the Chamber and included in the Council 'Information Pack'.

Appointment of Committees 2014/15

Resolved to:

- i. Agree the number and size of committee and membership of committees as listed below:

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	NOMINATION(S)	NUMBERS (1) =Alternate	NOMINATIONS
Community Services	Liberal Democrats	3 (1)	Reiner, Reid, Austin (Alt: Moore)
	Labour	5 (1)	Moghadas, Sarris, Baigent, Sinnott, Ratcliffe (Alt: Robertson)
		8 Total	

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	NOMINATION(S)	NUMBERS (1) =Alternate	NOMINATIONS
Environment	Liberal Democrats	3 (1)	Pitt, C.Smart, Moore (Alt: Tunnaccliffe)
	Labour	5 (1)	Gawthrope, Robertson, Ratcliffe, Perry, M.Smart (Alt: Sinnott)
		8 Total	

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	NOMINATION(S)	NUMBERS (1) =Alternate	NOMINATIONS
Strategy & Resources	Liberal Democrats	3 (1)	Bick, Smith, Cantrill (Alt: C.Smart)
	Labour	5 (1)	Robertson, Benstead, Sinnott, M.Smart, Baigent (Alt: Sarris)
		8 Total	

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	NOMINATION(S)	NUMBERS (1) =Alternate	NOMINATIONS
Housing	Liberal Democrats	2 (1)	Blackhurst, Avery (Alt: Pitt)
	Labour	5 (1)	Todd-Jones, Birtles, Bird, Baigent, Robertson (Alt: Gawthrope)
	Indep/Cons	1 (1)	Holland (Alt: Hipkin)
		8 Total	

REGULATORY COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS	NUMBERS (1)= Alternate	NOMINATIONS
PLANNING	Liberal Democrat	3 (1)	Pippas, C.Smart, Tunnaccliffe (Alt: Avery)
	Labour	4 (1)	Blencowe, Gawthrope, Dryden, Hart (Alt: Bird)
	Indep/Cons	1 (1)	Hipkin (Alt: Holland)
		8 Total	

COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS	NUMBERS (1)= Alternate	NOMINATIONS
JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE	Liberal Democrat	2 (2)	Avery, C.Smart (Alt: Tunnaccliffe and Pippas)
	Labour	4 (2)	Blencowe, Robertson, Dryden, Price, (Alts: Gawthrope and Herbert)
		6 Total	

COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS	NUMBER (1)= Alternate	NOMINATIONS
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LICENSING	Liberal Democrat	4 (1)	Austin, Bick, Pippas, Smith (Alt: Moore)
	Labour	7 (1)	Benstead, Owers, Sinnott, Gawthrope, McPherson, O'Reilly, Bird (Alt: Baigent)
	Indep/Cons	1 (1)	Meftah (Alt:Holland)
		12 Total	

OTHER COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS	NUMBER (1)= Alternate	NOMINATIONS
CIVIC AFFAIRS	Liberal Democrat	2(1)	Cantrill, Pitt (Alt: Bick)
	Labour	4 (1)	Benstead, Hart, McPherson, Robertson (Alt: Moghadas)
		6 Total	

COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS	NUMBERS (1)= Alternate	NOMINATIONS
EMPLOYMENT APPEALS SUB	Liberal Democrat	2	Pippas, C.Smart

	Labour	5	Birtles, Gawthrope, Price, Sarris, Blencowe
	Indep/Cons	1	Hipkin
		8 Total	

COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE	NOMINATIONS	NUMBERS (1)= Alternate	NOMINATIONS
TRANSPORT AREA JOINT COMMITTEE (AJC)	Liberal Democrat	2	C.Smart, Tunnacliffe
	Labour	4	Blencowe, Robertson, O'Reilly, Ratcliffe
		6 Total	

Appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs 2014/15

Resolved to:

- i. Agree the Chairs and Vice-Chairs as follows:

Committee	Labour Nominations		Liberal Democrat Nominations		Opposition Spokes
	Chair	Vice Chair	Chair	Vice Chair	
Community Services	Moghadas	Ratcliffe			Reid, Reiner
Environment	Gawthrope	Perry			Pitt, C.Smart
Strategy and Resources	Robertson	Sinnott			Bick, Smith,

Housing	Todd-Jones	Part 1: Tenant/ Leaseholder			Blackhurst, Holland
		Part 2: Birtles			
Planning	Dryden	Blencowe			C.Smart, Hipkin
JDCC	Blencowe (City Lead)				C.Smart
Licensing	Benstead			Smith	Smith, Meftah
Civic Affairs	McPherson	Benstead			Pitt
Employment Appeal Sub Committee	Price				Smart, Hipkin

Independent Person and Deputy

Resolved to:

- i. 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 the Municipal Year 2014/15.

City Council appointments to the Conservators of the River Cam

Resolved:

- i. That Councillor O'Reilly take the place of former Councillor Ward on the Conservators of the River Cam.

14/34/CNL Annual Statements

Councillor Herbert spoke to a written Annual Statement on the Labour Group's priorities for the forthcoming Municipal Year, which had been appended to the agenda for the meeting.

Councillor Bick spoke to a written Annual Statement on the Liberal Democrats Group's priorities for the forthcoming Municipal Year, which had been appended to the agenda for the meeting.

Councillor Hipkin spoke to a written Annual Statement on the Independent/Conservative Group's priorities for the forthcoming Municipal Year, which had been circulated around the Chamber.

14/35/CNL Adoption of Annual Policies and Priorities

Under the Scheme for Annual Statements, that of Councillor Herbert was deemed to be a motion for adoption by the Council.

Resolved (by 25 votes to 0) that:

- i. The Annual Statement of the Labour Group, as appended to the agenda, be adopted as Council policy for 2014/15.

14/36/CNL Public Questions Time

Mr Carpen addressed the Council and made the following points:

- i. In April 2012 Councillor Johnson promised to deliver a Cambridge Societies' Fair on the condition that he was elected.
- ii. As the new Executive Councillor responsible for delivering this can he now ask officers to:

- begin the scoping and planning necessary to deliver this - in particular how to work best with students in further education.
 - give very serious consideration to a 'community mapping exercise' - to ensure no community groups are missed out.
 - work with Mr Carpen and colleagues working on a 'community action summit' this September at Anglia Ruskin University.
- iii. Asked the Executive Councillor to report back with a progress update at the next Council meeting.

The Executive Councillor for Community, Arts and Recreation responded:

- i. The Cambridge Community Fair was planned for 2015. Officers would start discussing and developing options, with partners, early in the new year. At the moment a lot of officer time was being spent on the Grants Review which was a very important and complex piece of work.
- ii. In respect to any preliminary planning work with students, Officers would be discussing ideas with the Volunteer Centre and universities. This would build upon the work in 2013 following a Labour Motion to Council by Councillor Roberts which called for closer links between town and gown.
- iii. Organisations such as the Volunteer Centre, Cambridge Hub, Cambridge Student Community Action and Anglia Ruskin Student's Union Volunteering Service already did a lot of work matching up students and other volunteers with voluntary groups. There would be a need to ensure that they were all working together, complementing each other and not duplicating or overlapping work.
- iv. The Council worked closely with voluntary sector organisations such as Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services, Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum, the Volunteer Centre, Disability Cambridgeshire and Living Sport to ensure access to their member groups for disseminating information or seeking opinions. In addition, Cambridgeshire.net provided a fantastic database of groups, clubs and organisations in the city as well as opportunities for volunteering. There would be little point in Officers spending time duplicating what

was already there. Instead officers would focus their time on delivering issues set out in Labour's manifesto around tackling poverty and social exclusion.

- v. The Head of Community Development had been asked if he or a senior member of his staff could assist on the day of the summit. However, as mentioned, Officers had a very challenging work programme to deliver and would not have capacity to become involved in the planning and organisation of the event. It was suggested that Mr Carpen contact the Head of Community Development to confirm his attendance.
- vi. Given this response, reporting back to the next Council meeting would not be necessary.

Mr Carpen addressed the Council and made the following points:

- i. Throughout 2014 he had been disappointed to find that local public sector institutions were ignoring correspondence from local residents trying to hold them to account, and repeated correspondence from local Councillors and Area Committees.
- ii. When standing as a candidate he had also found that his correspondence was ignored.
- iii. Asked if the Council could make it clear to the heads of all local institutions spending taxpayers money to deliver public services that:
 - such behaviour was unacceptable and is a contempt of the Council
 - such behaviour was a barrier towards Cambridge becoming a city greater than the sum of its parts
- iv. Suggested that the Council's Executive consider implementing a new, simple process where the Leader of the Council writes to ministers responsible for those institutions asking for their assistance following repeated refusals to engage with the Council - with the knowledge that any correspondence from the Leaders of Councils in that capacity has to be responded to by Ministers of the Crown.
- v. Asked that outcomes from this be reported back to the next meeting of the Council.

The Leader of the Council responded:

- i. Thanked Mr Carpen for the question and the information that he regularly provided on his blog.
- ii. Whilst the City Council had service standards relating to responding to correspondence, for example responding to Facebook/Twitter posts within 4 hours and letters/emails within 7 days, it could not directly influence others.
- iii. The City Council had to focus on its own standards and particular issues that have been identified by the public should be raised through the relevant Area Committee.

Mr Carpen made the following supplementary points:

- i. He was concerned that Councillors and Area Committees had contacted external bodies such as schools and bus companies and received no response. The Council needed to follow this up and ensure that responses were received.
- ii. With a new administration in place it was an ideal time to make clear that this would not be tolerated.

The Leader of the Council responded:

- i. Discussions with Coleridge Community College and Long Road College regarding engagement with the democratic process were progressing well.
- ii. Councillor Ashton would be following up with the other schools in the south area to discuss engagement ideas.
- iii. The Committee Services Team would be asked to chase Netherhall, Hills Road and Long Road schools following the commitment at South Area Committee to follow this up. However the Council's main focus needed to be on responses on matters that are directly its responsibility.

Mr Carpen addressed the Council and made the following points:

- i. Alex Aiken, Executive Director of the Government Communications Service inside Cabinet Office had confirmed that people in Communication roles would not be eligible for promotions or sideways moves if they did not learn digital skills.
- ii. All local public sector jobs in Cambridge that have a management function should have basic data analysis and social media skills as a mandatory competency.
- iii. Could the Leader and Chief Executive of the Council consider this specific proposal and report back to the next Council meeting.

The Leader of the Council responded:

- i. Specific competencies are based on the individual posts, and digital skills form part of these where appropriate.
- ii. The Council has corporate Twitter and Facebook pages and other parts of the Council operate social media accounts to disseminate information.
- iii. Further improvements to the Council's communication processes were being investigated.

14/37/CNL To deal with Oral Questions

1. From Councillor Pitt

**Executive Councillor for Environment Waste and Public Health:
Councillor Roberts**

How often in the last year have air quality monitors shown hazardous results?

The Executive Councillor responded that Cambridge City Council had 5 continuous monitors at the following roadside sites:

- Regent Street
- Gonville Place
- Parker Street
- Newmarket Road

- Montague Road (replaced monitor that was previously in Silver Street)

Pollutants measured at these sites include, nitrogen dioxide, Particulate Matter -PM10 and a finer fraction of Particles PM 2.5.

The annual mean concentration was only exceeded at one automatic monitoring site namely Parker Street in 2013 compared with two sites in 2012. Although there has been a slight decrease at this site since 2012.

Annual and daily mean objectives for PM10 were achieved at automatic monitoring stations. The PM10 daily mean objective was exceeded 15 times out of an allowable 35 at Parker Street and 14 and 11 times at Gonville Place and Montague road respectively. (35 or more exceedances in a year would be a breach of the objectives.)

Of the 54 non automatic monitoring sites, 5 sites had recorded levels at or above the Air Quality objective level compared with 12 in 2012, 19 in 2011 and 36 in 2010.

2. From Councillor Reiner

Executive Councillor for City Centre and Public Places: Councillor O' Reilly

Some residents were pleased to hear that Labour had committed before the election to remove the fence in Stourbridge Common; in light of this, could the Executive Councillor please tell us when the removal of the fence is likely to happen?

The Executive Councillor responded that the temporary fence on Stourbridge Common was erected in April 2014 to protect 330m of recently repaired riverbank. The establishing vegetation would be assessed in July 2014, and it was envisaged that the fence would be removed at this stage.

3. From Councillor Smart

Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport: Councillor Blencowe

As the new administration intends to centralise planning, removing it from the remit of the Area Committees and giving it all to the central committee, with no change in delegations, has any estimate been made of the time that will be needed in the central Planning Committee? Is it intended that the meeting will run on until it finishes, however long that might be, or is a cut off time envisaged? And if there is a cut off time, what will happen to the remaining applications?

The Executive Councillor responded that the detailed proposals would be considered at the Environment Scrutiny Committee and the Full Council in July.

It was envisaged that there would be a guillotine on proceedings, as currently happens with Area Committees and Full Council. Any remaining applications would then be taken to a reconvened meeting.

4. From Councillor Cantrill

Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport: Councillor Blencowe

Could the Executive Councillor reconfirm the position of the Council regarding the creation of the Chisholm Trail?

The Executive Councillor responded that the Chisholm Trail formed part of the City Deal. The City Deal would be signed next week and this would confirm the position.

5. From Councillor Reid

Executive Councillor for City Centre and Public Places: Councillor O' Reilly

What action will she be taking to have the tourist banners on King's Parade removed?

The Executive Councillor responded that obstructions on the Highway such as A-boards and street banners were enforced by the County Council under the Highways Act. City Council Officers had recently been working closely with the District Highway Manager and his enforcement team to visit King's Parade and ask for the banners to be removed. However they had subsequently re-appeared and the County Council's ability to enforce against this activity on a regular basis in reality was limited. The District Highway Manager had also raised some doubts over the use of the Highway Act as there could be some argument that the banners were not an obstruction.

It was confirmed that City Council Officers were investigating whether action could be taken by Trading Standards as some of the banners state, "Tourist Info Guided Tours Meeting Point" which gives the impression to some visitors that they were part of, or affiliated to, the Official Tourist Information Centre.

6. From Councillor Avery

**Executive Councillor for Environment, Waste and Public Health:
Councillor Roberts**

Would the Executive Councillor for Environment, Waste and Public Health set out the detail of the implementation of the “Cleaner Cambridge Blitzes” programme?

The Executive Councillor responded that additional bins would be added this summer and three new Dog Officers would be tackling known ‘hot spots’. Additional preventative work would also be undertaken by the Pest Control Service.

Additional information regarding the “Cleaner Cambridge Blitzes” programme would be brought to future Area Committees to enable the public to have their say, and an Annual Report would be produced.

14/38/CNL To consider the following Notices of Motion, notice of which has been given by:

Motion A

Councillor Reid proposed and Councillor Pitt seconded the following motion:

“Review of Local Democracy in the UK by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

This 2014 review of local democracy in the UK by international peers has made a series of recommendations calling for greater devolution of powers to local government, increased tax-raising powers for councils and a fairer funding settlement for English local authorities.

The recommendations are fully in keeping with LGA policy in this respect. As with all peer reviews, the onus is on the reviewed body, in this case central and local government in the UK, to address the finding and ensure the necessary improvements are in place.

The council supports the LGA view that the review is a fair reflection on the current pressures facing local government. The current model for financing and running local government needs to change and adapt to today's circumstances. It is important that local and central government work together to address these issues and take these recommendations forward.

When the delegation returns to the UK in five years, these vital reforms should be in full force and local government be able to look to the future with renewed hope.”

Resolved (unanimously) to agree the motion as set out above.

Motion B

Councillor Roberts proposed and Councillor Owers seconded the following motion:

“This council notes the decision of the outgoing ruling group to cease the council’s pest control service.

This council notes that the incoming ruling group have openly campaigned to reverse the decision, and that saving the pest control service therefore clearly has a public mandate.

This council values the important work done by the pest control service during many years of service and apologises for the uncertainty created for the staff by the situation that has arisen in recent months.

This council thanks Unison for their work in alerting the public and councillors to the dangers of this cut, and in representing the workforce affected.

This council resolves to immediately reverse the cessation of the council’s pest control service and to fund the restoration of the service by reducing the Council’s underspent training budget of £301,860 by 25%. The balance of the savings will be considered in a wider budget review in July.

These changes to the Council’s budget are shown in the table below:”

Amendment	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£			
Reverse saving “Cessation of the Pest Control Service”	13,800	54,500	54,500	54,500
Reduction of in the “Overall Training, Seminar and Conference” budget	(75,460)	(75,460)	(75,460)	(75,460)
Net Financial Impact	(61,660)	(20,960)	(20,960)	(20,960)

Resolved (by 26 votes to 0) to agree the motion as set out above.

14/39/CNL Written Questions

There were no written questions.

14/40/CNL To note the record of Member's attendances at Committee, Sub-Committee and Working Party meetings during 2013/14

Resolved that:

- i. Record of Members' attendances at Committee, Sub Committee and Working Party Meetings during 2013/2014 be noted.

The meeting ended at 5.37 pm

CHAIR