

CIVIC AFFAIRS

17 May 2021
5.30 - 5.55 pm

Present: Councillors Davey (Vice-Chair), Dalzell, O'Reilly and Thornburrow

Officers: Caroline Ryba (Head of Finance), Jacob McHugh (Ernst & Young), Gary Clift (Democratic Services Manager)

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

21/9/Civ Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Sargeant and Rob Bennett the Council's Independent Person.

21/10/Civ Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

21/11/Civ Minutes

This was the first in person meeting of a committee of the Council since March 2020 after which committee meetings were held virtually under provisions within the Coronavirus Act 2020, which expired on 7 May 2021. The Vice Chair wished to express Councillors gratitude for the work of democratic services to have maintained an on-line service of meetings throughout.

The Vice Chair also wanted the Committee's thanks to be recorded for the work of Andrew Grant, Returning Officer and the electoral service team for running the elections held on 6 May successfully.

The Vice Chair also wanted to thank Andrew Grant for his valued contribution as interim Chief Executive from 1 October 2020 in a challenging period for the city council.

The minutes of the meetings held on 27 January 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Vice Chair.

21/12/Civ Public Questions

There were no public questions.

21/13/Civ External Audit Plan for 2020/21

The Committee received a report from Ernst and Young (EY) attaching its Outline Audit Planning Report 2020/21 which summarised the proposed approach to the 2020/21 external audit, including consideration of the most significant audit risks.

Jacob McHugh drew the committee's attention to the new risks which will feature in the external audit on pages 5 and 6 of the EY report; the work on accounting estimates (page 8) and Materiality (page 8). There would be a fuller risk assessment for the committee meeting on 14 July.

EY had worked with officers of the Council to agree an achievable timeline to enable the Committee at its 22 September meeting to consider an audited set of accounts.

The Committee observed that reference had been made to land re-evaluation, which came up as an area of specific interest in last year's audit. The Head of Finance stated that as a result, officers had ensured that there were now internally consistent values (between departments).

Unanimously resolved to note the contents of the EY Outline Audit Planning Report 2020/21.

21/14/Civ Nominations for Committees for the Municipal Year 2021/22

The Committee considered an updated paper issued on 17 May setting out the proposed Committee allocations by party and the nominations received as the officer report had been published prior to the results of 6 May elections were known. 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 Democratic Services Manager stated that the Council on 27 May would be considering a Notice of Motion proposing that the four area committees will

continue to meet virtually until the end of 2021 and by meeting virtually, they would be non-decision making.

Resolved (unanimously) to:

- i. Recommend to Council to agree the number and size of committees and to note the nominations listed below (any updates will be provided in the Information Pack to Council):

Ordinary Committee

Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee 10 (6 Labour + 3 Lib Dem + 1 Green and Independent)

H. Davies, Healy, S.Baigent, Sweeney, O'Reilly, Lab TBC

Payne, Hauk, Page-Croft

Copley

Alternates – Sheil, Gilderdale, Bond, Lib Dem TBC

Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee 10 (6 Labour + 3 Lib Dem + 1 Green and Independent)

D. Baigent, S.Smith, Scutt, Gawthrope Wood, Pounds, Lab TBC

Bick, Porrer, Bond

S. Davies

Alternates – O'Reilly, Sargeant, Hauk, Lib Dem TBC

Housing Scrutiny Committee 9 (6 Labour + 2 Lib Dem + 1 Green and Independent)

Bird, Sheil, Gawthrope Wood, Robertson, Gilderdale, Pounds

Dalzell, Lee

Bennett

Alternates – Sweeney, Lab TBC, Page-Croft, Lib Dem TBC

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

Robertson, Davies, Healy, S.Smith

Bick, Dalzell

Alternates – O'Reilly, Scutt, Payne, Lib Dem TBC

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

Sargeant, Davey, O'Reilly, Dryden

Gehring, Flaubert

Alternate – Moore, Dalzell

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

Herbert, Moore, S. Baigent, Collis

Bick, Porrer

Alternates: A.Smith

Licensing Committee 10 (6 Labour + 3 Lib Dem + 1 Green and Independent)

Bird, McPherson, McQueen, Dryden, Moore, Collis

Page-Croft, Cox, Bond

Bennett

Alternates – Scutt, Flaubert

Planning Committee 7 (5 Labour+ 2 Lib Dem)

Smart, D. Baigent, Thornburrow, Gawthroe Wood, Dryden

Porrer, Flaubert

Alternates – Herbert, McQueen, Page-Croft

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority - 1 seat

Herbert

Alternate - Smart

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2 Labour

Davey, D. Baigent

Alternates – Moore

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Audit and Governance Committee 1 Labour + one alternate

Sargeant

Alternate – Moore

Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly 3 (2 Labour + 1 Lib Dem)

S.Smith, Moore, Bick

Joint Development Control Committee - Cambridge Fringes 6 (4 Labour+ 2 Lib Dem)

Smart, D. Baigent, S.Smith, Thornburrow

Porrer, Page-Croft

Alternates – Scutt, Gawthrope Wood, Flaubert, Bond

ii. Agree the nominations for Chairs and Vice Chairs as below:

	Chair	Vice Chair
Environment and Communities Services	H. Davies	Healy
Planning and Transport	D. Baigent	S.Smith
Housing	Bird	Sheil (nb. Tenant/Leaseholder is Chair of Part 1 of the meeting)
Strategy & Resources	Robertson	H. Davies
Civic Affairs	Sargeant	Davey

Licensing	Bird	McPherson
Planning	Smart	D. Baigent
JDCC	Smart as Vice Chair (South Cambridgeshire District Council has the Chair this year)	

iii. Noted there were no constitutional updates for the meeting.

21/15/Civ Nominations of Honorary Councillors

The Committee noted that this item would appear at a future committee in keeping with a desire to focus Council meetings on core business whilst the impact of the coronavirus public health guidance is still observed.

21/16/Civ To note Record of Officer Urgent Decision

8a Officer Urgent Decision: Powers of the Proper Officer for s83 of the Local Government Act 1972-declarations of Acceptance of Office by Councillors
The decision was noted.

The meeting ended at 5.55 pm

CHAIR