



Minutes of the ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillor Shafiq (Mayor)
Councillors Alexander, Bald, Betteley, Bint, Brackenbury, Bramall, M Burke, S Burke, Cannon, Clancy, Clifton, Coventry, Crooks, Dransfield, Eastman, Exon, Ferrans, A Geary, P Geary, E Gifford, R Gifford, Gowans, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Khan, Legg, Lewis, Long, Marland, D McCall, I McCall, McDonald, McKenzie, McLean, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Morla, Morris, Nash, Nolan, O'Neill, Pallett, Patey-Smith, Petchey, Priestley, Small, Tallack, Wallis, White, P Williams and Wilson

Alderspersons Connor, Howell and Saunders

Apologies: Councillors Brunning, Webb and C Williams and Alderspersons Beeley, Bristow, Ellis, I Henderson, E Henderson, Irons and Lloyd

Also Present: 5 members of the public

CL05 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 19 March 2014, 26 March 2014 and 1 May 2014 be approved and signed by the Mayor as correct records.

CL06 RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded the following motion:

"That the report of the Returning Officer following the Elections held on 22 May 2014, be received."

The Mayor invited the 21 new Members to stand and welcomed them to the Council.

RESOLVED -

That the report of the Returning Officer following the Elections held on 22 May 2014, be received.

CL07 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COMMITTEES AND POLITICAL GROUPS) REGULATIONS 1990.

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded the following motion:

“That, in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Council note that the Conservative Group is entitled to 31.58% of the seats on the Council’s Committees, the Labour Group is entitled to 43.86% of the seats, the Liberal Democrat Group is entitled to 22.81% of the seats, with the remaining seats being allocated to the Independent Member.”

RESOLVED -

That, in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, the Council note that the Conservative Group is entitled to 31.58% of the seats on the Council’s Committees, the Labour Group is entitled to 43.86% of the seats, the Liberal Democrat Group is entitled to 22.81% of the seats, with the remaining seats being allocated to the Independent Member.

CL08 ELECTION OF LEADER

It was moved by Councillor O’Neill and seconded by Councillor Middleton, that Councillor Marland be elected Leader for the Council Year 2014/15.

In the absence of any other nominations the Mayor declared Councillor Marland elected Leader for the Council Year 2014/15.

Councillor Marland as part of an address to the Council thanked the Council for his election.

CL09 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET

Councillor Marland, the Leader of the Council, informed the Council that the Deputy Leader would be Councillor O’Neill and that, in addition to himself and Councillor O’Neill, the Cabinet would comprise Councillors Betteley, Legg, Long, Middleton and Miles.

CL10 APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES/GROUPS

The Council considered the number of Members to sit on the Council’s Committees and Groups, and also considered appointing Members to those Committees and Groups in accordance with the political balance on the Council.

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded the following motion:

- “1. That the following Committees and Panels be appointed for the Council Year 2014/15, with the number of members as detailed in brackets, in accordance with the political proportionalities on the Council, where applicable:
 - (a) Appeals Commission (15)
 - (b) Audit Committee (7)
 - (c) Chief Officer Appointments Panel (3/5)
 - (d) Children and Young People Select Committee (9)
 - (e) Community Safety, Crime and Policing Select Committee (9)
 - (f) Constitution Commission (3)
 - (g) Corporate Affairs and Performance Select Committee (9)
 - (g) Corporate Parenting Panel (7)
 - (h) Development Control Committee (9)
 - (i) Economy, Growth and Regeneration Select Committee (9)
 - (j) Environment and Transport Select Committee (9)
 - (k) Executive Scrutiny Panel (9)
 - (l) Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (9)
 - (m) Health and Wellbeing Board (7)
 - (n) Housing and Communities Select Committee (9)
 - (o) Joint Negotiating Committee (Employer’s Side) (7)
 - (p) Licensing Committee (15)
 - (q) Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (7)
 - (r) Regulatory Committee (15)
 - (s) Standards Committee (9)”
2. That the Appeals Commission, Chief Officer Appointments Panel and the Constitution Commission be treated as not needing to comply with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
3. That Group Leaders be given delegated authority to appoint Members to Appointment Panels for Service and Assistant Directors on a one member per Political Group basis, to include a member of the Cabinet, and for Corporate Directors, a Panel of 5 Members on a 2:2:1 member per Political Group basis, to include a member of the Cabinet.

4. That all Members of the Council, with the exception of Cabinet members (unless they are substituting for another Cabinet member), be appointed as substitutes to all bodies listed above, noting the requirement for Members to be trained before participating in meetings of the Appeals Commission, Development Control Committee, Licensing Committee and Regulatory Committee.”

Councillor Bald moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Councillor D McCall:

“That the following additional clauses be added to the motion:

- ‘5. That this Council:
 - (a) places a high value on the role of overview and scrutiny as a means of engaging all members in developing an effective organisation that is responsive to the current and future needs of Milton Keynes citizens;
 - (b) applauds the many examples of high calibre overview and scrutiny undertaken in recent years and thanks those members and officers who have contributed their time and expertise to this activity; and
 - (c) notes that the pace of change in Milton Keynes and our ambition to maximise the effectiveness of overview and scrutiny means we should subject our arrangements to regular review to ensure they align to our changing context and reflect what we learn from good practice.
6. That a Future of Overview and Scrutiny Working Group, comprising 6 Members (2:2:2) to undertake a review of the Council’s overview and scrutiny structure and inform any independent review of Members’ Allowances.
7. That Group Leaders be invited to nominate Members to comprise the Working Group.
8. That the review includes identifying:
 - (a) the strengths and weaknesses of the current system;
 - (b) the aims and purpose of Council’s overview and scrutiny structure (what it is trying to achieve); and
 - (c) a structure which delivers the aims and purpose, which includes:
 - (i) the required frequency of meetings;
 - (ii) the level and type of officer support; and
 - (iii) the role of Members and the levels of special responsibility undertaken by Members.

9. That the Working Group be required to report to the Council setting out its recommendations for a 'fit for purpose' overview and scrutiny structure by no later than the Council meeting on 22 October 2014.”

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.6(c), the Mayor moved a procedural motion, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, requesting the Council to determine whether the amendment could be offered to the mover of the motion.

The Council's agreement was given by acclamation.

The Mayor, as the mover of the motion, accepted the amendment.

The Mayor also moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded:

“That the Committees and Panels comprise the Members reported to the Council”.

On being put to the vote the motions were declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

- “1. That the following Committees and Panels be appointed for the Council Year 2014/15, with the number of members as detailed in brackets, in accordance with the political proportionalities on the Council, where applicable:

- (a) Appeals Commission (15)
- (b) Audit Committee (7)
- (c) Chief Officer Appointments Panel (3/5)
- (d) Children and Young People Select Committee (9)
- (e) Community Safety, Crime and Policing Select Committee (9)
- (f) Constitution Commission (3)
- (g) Corporate Affairs and Performance Select Committee (9)
- (g) Corporate Parenting Panel (7)
- (h) Development Control Committee (9)
- (i) Economy, Growth and Regeneration Select Committee (9)
- (j) Environment and Transport Select Committee (9)
- (k) Executive Scrutiny Panel (9)
- (l) Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (9)
- (m) Health and Wellbeing Board (7)
- (n) Housing and Communities Select Committee (9)

- (o) Joint Negotiating Committee (Employer's Side) (7)
 - (p) Licensing Committee (15)
 - (q) Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (7)
 - (r) Regulatory Committee (15)
 - (s) Standards Committee (9)"
2. That the Appeals Commission, Chief Officer Appointments Panel and the Constitution Commission be treated as not needing to comply with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
 3. That Group Leaders be given delegated authority to appoint Members to Appointment Panels for Service and Assistant Directors on a one member per Political Group basis, to include a member of the Cabinet, and for Corporate Directors, a Panel of 5 Members on a 2:2:1 member per Political Group basis, to include a member of the Cabinet.
 4. That all Members of the Council, with the exception of Cabinet members (unless they are substituting for another Cabinet member), be appointed as substitutes to all bodies listed above, noting the requirement for Members to be trained before participating in meetings of the Appeals Commission, Development Control Committee, Licensing Committee and Regulatory Committee."
 5. That this Council:
 - (a) places a high value on the role of overview and scrutiny as a means of engaging all members in developing an effective organisation that is responsive to the current and future needs of Milton Keynes citizens;
 - (b) applauds the many examples of high calibre overview and scrutiny undertaken in recent years and thanks those members and officers who have contributed their time and expertise to this activity; and
 - (c) notes that the pace of change in Milton Keynes and our ambition to maximise the effectiveness of overview and scrutiny means we should subject our arrangements to regular review to ensure they align to our changing context and reflect what we learn from good practice.
 6. That a Future of Overview and Scrutiny Working Group, comprising 6 Members (2:2:2) to undertake a review of the Council's overview and scrutiny structure and inform any independent review of Members' Allowances.

7. That Group Leaders be invited to nominate Members to comprise the Working Group.
8. That the review includes identifying:
 - (a) the strengths and weaknesses of the current system;
 - (b) the aims and purpose of Council's overview and scrutiny structure (what it is trying to achieve); and
 - (c) a structure which delivers the aims and purpose, which includes:
 - (i) the required frequency of meetings;
 - (ii) the level and type of officer support; and
 - (iii) the role of Members and the levels of special responsibility undertaken by Members.
9. That the Working Group be required to report to the Council setting out its recommendations for a 'fit for purpose' overview and scrutiny structure by no later than the Council meeting on 22 October 2014."
10. That the Committees and Panels comprise the Members as set out in the **Annex** to these Minutes.

CL11

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED PERSONS

The Council considered the appointment of voting co-opted persons to the Children and Young People Select Committee and the Health and Community Wellbeing Select Committee for the Council Year 2014/15.

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded:

"That the co-optees as set out in the agenda be appointed".

RESOLVED -

1. That the following be co-opted to the Children and Young People Select Committee for the Council Year 2013/14, with the Committee being authorised to fill any current vacancies or vacancies which occur during the year:
 - (a) 1 representative of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education - Vacant
 - (b) 1 representative of the Northampton Diocesan School Commission - Vacant
 - (c) 1 representative of parent governors in primary schools - Vacant
 - (d) 1 representative of parent governors in secondary schools - Vacant
 - (e) 1 representative of parent governors in special schools - Dr S Chakrabarti.

2. That Ms H Kirkwood (HealthWatch) be appointed as a co-opted member of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee and that the Committee be authorised to fill any vacancy which might occur during the year.

CL12 APPOINTMENTS TO BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND MILTON KEYNES FIRE AUTHORITY

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded the following motion:

“That Councillors Dransfield, Exon, Morris, Webb and Wilson be appointed to the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Combined Fire Authority.”

RESOLVED -

That Councillors Dransfield, Exon, Morris, Webb and Wilson be appointed to the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Combined Fire Authority.

CL13 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

The Mayor moved and the Deputy Mayor seconded the following motion:

“That the Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services), in consultation with Group Leaders, be authorised to agree the appointment of Members to Outside Organisations, with the exception of those appointed by the Cabinet.”

RESOLVED -

That the Service Director (Legal and Democratic Services), in consultation with Group Leaders, be authorised to agree the appointment of Members to Outside Organisations, with the exception of those appointed by the Cabinet.

CL14 DESIGNATION OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER

The Council considered the designation of an officer to the statutory roles of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer as a result of the imminent retirement of the postholder who currently held the designations.

RESOLVED –

That consideration of the appointments to the roles of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, be deferred to the meeting of the Council scheduled for 16 July 2014.

CL15 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2014/15

The Council noted the Calendar of Meetings for 2014/15, including noting that the start time for the Council meeting scheduled for 22 October 2014, should be 19:30, rather than 19:00.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8:20 PM