

**Minutes of a meeting of Annual Council  
held on Wednesday, 24th May, 2023  
from 7pm.**

**Present:**

M Avery	AM Cooke	S Ellis
D Eggleton	C Wood	A Eves
C Cherry	L Carvalho	I Gibson
J Hitchcock	M Kennedy	S Hatton
G Zeidler	G Casella	J Henwood
L Farren	E Prescott	S Hicks
J Edwards	R Bates	T Hussain
J Russell	J Belsey	R Jackson
M Miah	M Belsey	J Knight
K Berggreen	A Bennett	G Marsh
C Hobbs	P Brown	J Mockford
D Pascoe	P Chapman	A Peacock
A Rees	R Clarke	C Phillips
P Kenny	M Cornish	D Sweatman
A Bashar	J Dabell	R Whittaker
P Lucraft	R Eggleston	

**Absent:** Councillors A Platts

**1 OPENING PRAYER.**

The Chairman read the opening prayer.

**2 TO APPOINT THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.**

Councillor Eggleston nominated Councillor Jackson for Chairman of the Council. This was seconded by Councillor Berggreen. As there were no other nominations, Councillor Jackson was confirmed as Chairman of the Council for 2023/24.

**Councillor Jackson in the Chair**

Councillor Eggleston nominated Councillor Henwood for Vice-Chairman of the Council. This was seconded by Councillor Hussain. As there were no other nominations, Councillor Henwood was confirmed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2023/24.

**RESOLVED**

That Councillor Jackson be elected Chairman of the Council and Councillor Henwood be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the 2023/24 Council year.

**3 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER AS TO THE PERSONS ELECTED TO SERVE AS DISTRICT COUNCILLORS FOR THE DISTRICT OF MID SUSSEX ON 5 MAY 2023.**

The Chairman moved the item and took Members to a vote on the recommendations contained in the report. These were approved with 45 in favour and 1 against.

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the persons elected as Councillors on 5th May 2023.

**4 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER: POLITICAL BALANCE: SECTION 15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989; THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (COMMITTEES AND POLITICAL GROUPS) REGULATIONS 1990.**

The Chairman moved the item and took Members to a vote on the recommendations contained in the report which were approved unanimously.

**RESOLVED**

Council received the report of the Monitoring Officer, setting out the political balance of the Council for the 2023/24 year and the recommended allocation of seats to committees.

**5 TO APPOINT THE EXECUTIVE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR A FOUR YEAR TERM.**

Councillor Bennett nominated Councillor Eggleston as Leader of the Council. This was seconded by Councillor Hatton. There were no other nominations. The Chairman took Members to a vote which was approved with 41 in favour, 3 against, and 3 abstentions.

In accepting the role, the Leader confirmed that the Liberal Democrats had formed a joint administration with the Independents led by Councillor Gibson which is underpinned by a formal agreement. He also outlined the roles of the Cabinet which will consist of 5 Members as follows:

- The Leader of the Council (with responsibility for the District Plan, Burgess Hill Town Centre Redevelopment, Burgess Hill Growth Area and Gatwick Airport.
- Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities and Communications – Councillor Bennett
- Cabinet Member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits – Councillor Cooke
- Cabinet Member for Leisure and Customer Services – Councillor Hobbs
- Cabinet Member for Sustainable Economy and Housing – Councillor Gibson

**RESOLVED**

Council appointed Councillor Eggleston as the Executive Leader of the Council for a term of 4 years ending on the date of the Annual Meeting in 2027; and noted the appointments to Cabinet positions and their portfolios.

## **6 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE NOMINATIONS TO COMMITTEES FOR 2023/24.**

The Chairman moved the item drawing Member's attention to the tabled report detailing the Nominations for Committees for the year 2023/24.

As there were no questions, the Chairman took Members to a vote on the recommendation to note the nominations, which was agreed unanimously.

### **RESOLVED**

The appointment of Members to Committees as set out below were noted:

#### **Audit Committee – 7 Members**

Simon Hicks	Lorraine Carvalho
Richard Bates	John Belsey
Christine Cherry	Rod Clarke
Matthew Cornish	

#### **Licensing Committee – 15 Members**

Janice Henwood	Gary Marsh
Christine Cherry	Jim Knight
Mike Kennedy	John Dabell
Cavan Wood	Mustak Miah
Anthony Platts	Lee Farren
Kristian Berggreen	Paul Kenny
Anne Eves	Peter Chapman
Julie Mockford	

#### **Scrutiny Committee for People and Communities – 11 Members**

Sue Hatton	Rod Clarke
David Eggleton	Jim Knight
Paul Lucraft	Sandy Ellis
Abdul Bashar	Jacque Russell
Duncan Pascoe	Julie Mockford
Paul Brown	

#### **Scrutiny Committee for Place and Environment – 11 Members**

Janice Henwood	Malcolm Avery
Richard Bates	John Belsey
Tofojjul Hussain	Adam Peacock

Alison Rees	Geoff Zeidler
Kristian Berggreen	John Hitchcock
Jenny Edwards	

**District Planning Committee – 12 Members**

Rodney Jackson	Dick Sweatman
Richard Bates	Rex Whittaker
Cavan Wood	Eric Prescott
Mike Kennedy	Malcolm Avery
Kristian Berggreen	Adam Peacock
Anne Eves	Christopher Phillips

**Planning Committee – 12 Members**

Mike Kennedy	Gary Marsh
Christine Cherry	Graham Casella
Tofojjul Hussain	Dick Sweatman
Janice Henwood	John Dabell
Abdul Bashar	John Hitchcock
Paul Brown	Paul Kenny

**Standards Committee – 6 MSDC Members**

Mike Kennedy	Margaret Belsey
Cavan Wood	Jacque Russell
Matthew Cornish	Christopher Phillips

**7 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE OUTCOME OF THE HORSTED KEYNES NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM.**

Councillor Eggleston moved the item. This was seconded by Councillor Bennett. The Chairman took Members to a vote on the recommendation which was agreed unanimously.

A Member paid compliment to the work of the Parish Councillors in bringing this to fruition.

**RESOLVED**

Council noted the outcome of the Horsted Keynes Neighbourhood Plan Referendum and agreed to formally 'make' the Horsted Keynes Neighbourhood Plan part of the Development Plan for the parish of Horsted Keynes.

The meeting finished at 7.22 pm

Chairman