

## Article 5 – Chairing the Council

### Role and Function of the Mayor

- 5.1 The Mayor will be elected by the Council annually. The Mayor and in his/her absence, the Deputy Mayor, will have the following roles and functions:
  - 5.1.1 to uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary;
  - 5.1.2 to preside over meetings of the Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of Councillors and the interests of the community;
  - 5.1.3 to ensure that the Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and the place at which Members who do not sit on policy committees or hold committee chairs are able to hold the members of the policy committees and committee chairmen to account;
  - 5.1.4 to promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
  - 5.1.5 to be the conscience of the Council;
  - 5.1.6 to attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council and he/she determines appropriate; and
  - 5.1.7 to represent the Borough with dignity and without party political partisanship.
- 5.2 While holding the position of Mayor or Deputy Mayor, a Councillor will not also hold the position of leader of a political group, party whip or chairman or vice chairman of a committee.