



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MELTON

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, MELTON MOWBRAY

9 MAY 2012

PRESENT :-

Councillor A. Freer-Jones (Outgoing Mayor),
Councillor J. Illingworth (Incoming Mayor)
P.M. Baguley, M.W. Barnes, G.E. Botterill, G. Bush
P.M. Chandler, P. Cumbers, J. Douglas, S. Dungworth,
, M. Gordon; M.C.R. Graham MBE, E. Holmes,
L. Horton, E. Hutchison, S. Lumley, V.J. Manderson, T. Moncrieff,
M. O'Callaghan, J.T. Orson, P.M. Posnett, J.B. Rhodes,
M.R. Sheldon, J. Simpson, N. Slater, D.R. Wright, J. Wyatt

Chief Executive
Strategic Director (Monitoring Officer) (CM), Strategic Director (KA),
Administrative Assistant (JW)

Young Mayor, Sarah Boyce

The Reverend Kevin Ashby offered prayers

CO1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor John Moulding.

CO3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS INCLUDING PRESENTATION
BY THE YOUNG MAYOR

- (a) The Mayor addressed the Council and outlined the Mayoral year and special moments including a Jubilee Lunch, the Parkside Opening, presenting an Aldermancy and having her own Wedding. Councillor Freer-Jones gave thanks for her chosen charity and the team behind; to her son, husband and family; to Revd. Kevin Ashby and also to Alan from Manor Taxis. Councillor Freer-Jones expressed sadness for the late Councillor Nigel Angrave.
- (b) The Young Mayor addressed the Council and thanked the outgoing Mayor for being so helpful and supportive. She advised Members that
- the recent bus prices for children petition had now been sent off;
 - preparations were well underway and a lot had been organised for the Jubilee Festival on Saturday 2 June 2012;
 - work had been going on with Melton in Bloom to design an Olympic Torch

display to be sited near the Co-operative store on Scalford Road.

CO4. ELECTION OF MAYOR

Councillor Rhodes proposed that Councillor Illingworth be elected Mayor for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013. In proposing Councillor Illingworth, Councillor Rhodes stated:

- John was born in Castleford in Yorkshire. His father served in the RAF and the family moved frequently around the country and abroad as John's father's postings determined;
- the family finally settled in Melton and John attended King Edward VII School and Melton College;
- in adult life he has lived in the rural area of the Borough including in the Goadby Marwood Parish and latterly in Melton Mowbray;
- he felt he qualified to be called a Meltonian;
- for the last 30 years he has been involved in the community especially in Lions. Last year he was President;
- since 2007 he has been a councillor for Sysonby Ward. He has served on the Development Committee, one of the most demanding for a councillor to undertake;
- for the past year he has been the Deputy Mayor of the Borough, an office he has filled conscientiously and with dignity;
- for the reasons given, he considered he was an ideal person to become our Mayor and it was a pleasure and privilege to propose him.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor O'Callaghan.

RESOLVED that Councillor Illingworth be elected Mayor of the Borough of Melton for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

CO5. INVESTITURE OF MAYOR AND CONSORT

(a) Councillor Illingworth read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor Freer-Jones invested him with the Chain of Office.

Councillor Freer-Jones then invested Mrs Sheila Randall with the Mayoress' Chain of Office.

(The new Mayor, Councillor Illingworth, in the Chair.)

(b) Councillor Illingworth gave thanks for his election and paid tribute to Councillor Freer-Jones who had been an excellent Mayor.

CO6. VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR AND CONSORT

Councillor Cumbers proposed and Councillor Posnett seconded a vote of thanks for the retiring Mayor and her Consort. Councillor Cumbers paid tribute to Councillor Freer-Jones as a highly respected and valued member of the Council

who had undertaken her busy year of Mayoral engagements with enthusiasm and care. On behalf of the Council, Councillor Cumbers thanked Councillor Freer-Jones and her Consort, Andy Jones, for all their hard work.

RESOLVED that a vote of thanks be recorded for the retiring Mayor and Consort.

CO7. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor O'Callaghan proposed that Councillor Gordon be elected Deputy Mayor for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Rhodes.

RESOLVED that Councillor Gordon be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Melton for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

CO8. INVESTITURE OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S CONSORT

(a) Councillor Gordon read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor, Councillor Illingworth, then invested Councillor Gordon with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office.

Mrs Sheila Randall invested Councillor Gordon's sister, Christine Rodrigues, with the Deputy Mayor's Consort Chain of Office.

(b) Councillor Gordon expressed her appreciation for the confidence the Council had shown in electing her and thanked her sister for agreeing to act as her Consort and the support of her friends and family.

CO9. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Chandler proposed that Councillor Rhodes be appointed Leader of the Council for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013. In so doing, Councillor Chandler referred to the Council's sound financial position that Councillor Rhodes had inherited from his predecessor Councillor Graham and the breadth of the vision which would take time to achieve. She expressed the view that Councillor Rhodes possessed the determination and political will to see that these ambitions were achievable. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Wyatt. Following a vote, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that Councillor Rhodes be appointed Leader of the Council for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

CO10. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader, Councillor Rhodes, gave the following report to the Council he:

(a) extended congratulations to Councillor Illingworth on his election as Mayor and wished him a successful and enjoyable year;

(b) referred to the completion of the first year of this Council and the five months since his election of Leader and what had been accomplished in that period:

- The Council was now established in Parkside and thanks to the hard work of the volunteers at Melton in Bloom, the outside of the building looked wonderful;
- The Council had been well served by its officer team and commended the lead individuals personally who had managed the introduction of the new waste collection system, set up the troubled families programme which was leading in the county, professionally managed the LDF programme, ensured that the Council was awarded Achieving Council status following the Equalities Peer Group Review, and contributed to the Council being awarded the Silver standard in the recent Investors in People inspection;
- The Council had taken a number of very important decisions during the past year, some of which had been controversial. The Council was now debt free on its General Expenses account and had capital available to fund the current capital programme. After buying out of the Tenants tax system introduced by the Labour Government, the Housing Revenue Account would soon be generating a surplus which would enable the Council to build a number of council houses again for the first time in 30 years. On 15 February 2012, the Council approved the Core Strategy of the LDF which was a key milestone for the authority. As part of the budget setting process, the Council decided to change the waste collection system and to start charging for green waste collection; there were now more than 5000 members of the Green Waste Club in Melton.

(c) stated that the Council had stood firm on these tough decisions sometimes in the face of harsh and aggressive criticism. The result was that this Council was well placed to meet the very significant challenges expected in the next few years;

(d) outlined how it was intended to meet these challenges to budget pressures: changes to the Government grant settlement and the National Non Domestic rate system will determine the size of the revenue budget for the next 10 years. Added to this, the Council would have to shoulder the responsibility for paying Council Tax benefits and eventually Universal benefits out of fixed settlements which would be certainly less than now. The key to future financial salvation will be economic development to bring in more income and improve the prosperity of all our citizens. This Council would be competing for investment with other councils and it must be our policy to make Melton one of the most innovative and energetic in order to succeed. To do this the Council must work with partners and the business community and therefore economic development was the top priority for the Melton Community Partnership;

(e) referred to the real difference the Council and the Melton Community Partnership could make by:

- inviting new members to join the Board. The contribution made by Councillor O'Callaghan as Chairman of the Melton Food Partnership in promoting the areas as the Rural Capital of Food was acknowledged;
- seeking developer contributions from new housing and possible commercial development towards a bypass for the town and being ready to respond to when Government funding becomes available as this is key to bringing more investment to the Borough.

(f) mentioned the other schemes that the Council was actively progressing, in particular:

- a new Leisure Centre and sports facility
- improvements to the Burton Street car park;
- improvements to the Cattle Market;
- working with the Leicestershire County Council to bring super speed broadband to our rural communities.

(g) referred to the ambitions challenges ahead but that the Council had the means, determination, and the talent to get the job done. He invited those who criticised the Council to work with the authority and not against it to make Melton a great place.

CO11. ELECTION OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Wright proposed that Councillor Posnett be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013. In so moving his nomination of Councillor Posnett, Councillor Wright stated that she had proved to be very capable, not only as the Deputy Leader but also for all her other council work, including Lead member for People, her work with children, the Young Mayor and as prime mover of the Councillors' Saturday Market Stall, that brought valued information and comments to the Council.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Manderson. Following a vote the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that Councillor Posnett be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the period until the Annual Meeting in 2013.

CO12. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced his Mayor's Appeal for 2012/13 which would be

- Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland & Air Ambulance;
- Rainbows Hospice; and
- Macmillan Nurses

He considered these charities are very well known to local people and hoped there was agreement that they deserved all the support that could be given.

He asked for generosity and support from local people and colleagues for his fundraising events during his Mayoral Year.

Finally, he considered he would make some mistakes and asked colleagues to bear with him safe in the knowledge that "he meant well."

CO13. APPROVAL OF THE CONSTITUTION 2012/13

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report seeking approval to amend the

Constitution in line with the changes that were referred from Policy, Finance and Administration Committee on 17 April 2012, in respect of the creation of a Governance Committee (as set out at Appendix A to the report) and further amendments authorised by Full Council on 18 April 2012. Members were also asked to consider the changes required in relation to the Localism Act 2011, in respect of standards. The revised Constitution incorporating full highlighted changes was enclosed at Appendix B to the report.

Councillor O'Callaghan expressed concern that the papers were not received in a sufficient amount of time to read and digest the information correctly. A concern was also expressed in regards to Article 14 which states that amendments to the constitution have not been through Overview, Scrutiny and Audit Committee as outlined in this article which felt that the Council had not followed its own procedures. It was confirmed that the Monitoring Officer had taken advice from the Solicitor to the Council and that she was satisfied with the abolition of the Overview, Scrutiny and Audit Committee but there was a procedural issue and therefore with a small amendment, this legal advice allowed the proposed motion to be taken forward.

It was proposed by Councillor Rhodes and seconded by Councillor Posnett to approve the recommendations contained in the Monitoring Officer's report.

A vote was taken on the motion which resulted in 18 votes in favour, 8 votes against, and one abstention. The motion was therefore carried.

RESOLVED:

- (1) To approve the creation of a Governance Committee and its associated terms of reference, as referred from Policy Finance and Administration Committee on 17th April 2012, the changes in respect of which have been incorporated into Appendix B to the report;
- (2) To approve the amendments to the Constitution as set out at Appendix B to the report with the exclusion of those changes brought about by the abolition of the Overview, Scrutiny & Audit Committee and that these changes be submitted to the Governance Committee for comment before subsequent referral to Full Council;
- (3) To delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to update the Constitution on 1 July 2012 in line with the changes implemented in the Localism Act 2011 in respect of the Standards regime, as highlighted in the appended Constitution and any further consequential changes.

CO14. ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES, MEMBERSHIP OF FORUMS, PARTNERSHIPS, WORKING GROUPS, OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND APPOINTMENT OF LEAD MEMBERS

The Chief Executive

- (a) submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) which asked the Council to consider and determine the allocation of seats on Committees and a Sub-Committee in accordance with the political balance rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act

1989, S15-17 (as amended) and receive nominations of Councillors to serve on each Committee and Sub-Committee for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2013;

- (b) explained that the following table showed the number of Councillors in each political group, the percentage of representation within the Council and the allocation of seats over the 6 Committees that required to be politically balanced :-

| Group | No. of Councillors | Percentage | Allocation of Seats over 6 Committees |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Conservative | 19 | 67.86% | 38.68 = 39 |
| Labour | 7 | 25.00% | 14.25 = 14 |
| Independent | 2 | 7.14% | 4.07 = 4 |
| Totals | 28 | 100% | 57 seats |

- (c) explained that the following table showed the majority of the allocation of seats in accordance with political balance given the percentages involved:-

| 2012/13 | APP | CSA | DEV | GOV | PFA | REEA | TOTALS |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Conservative | 4 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 39 |
| Labour | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 14 |
| Independent | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Totals | 5 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 57 |

- (d) contained the proposals of the political groups as notified to the Chief Executive prior to the meeting for positions and membership in respect of the following:-

- Appendix A : Committees and a Sub-Committee
- Appendix B. : Chairmen and Vice Chairmen
- Appendix C : Forums, Partnerships and Working Groups
- Appendix D : Outside Organisations
- Appendix E : Lead Members

- (e) advised that political balance was not required for the Licensing or Standards Committees;

- (f) explained that where political balance rules applied, the Council may vary the requirements by resolution provided that no Member of the Council voted against the recommendation.

Councillor Rhodes moved the recommendations contained in the report and accompanying appendices. The motion was seconded by Councillor Posnett

RESOLVED that

- (1) the political balance percentages and number of seats allocated to each political group over the Committees be approved as follows :-

| 2012/13 | APP | CSA | DEV | GOV | PFA | REEA | TOTALS |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Conservative | 4 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 39 |
| Labour | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 14 |
| Independent | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Totals | 5 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 57 |

- (2) it be noted that political balance is not required for the Licensing and Standards Committees;
- (3) it be noted that in accordance with the political balance rules set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, S15-17 (as amended) political balance is to be achieved in total across all the Committees and within all individual Committees requiring political balance, the same applies to the Sub-Committee;
- (4) the following Members be appointed to Committees and the Sub-Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013 :-

Political balance required:

| Committee | Membership 2012/13 |
|---|---|
| <u>Appeals</u> 5 Members Political Balance : Required 4 Conservative 1 Labour | Conservative P. Cumbers S. Lumley V.J. Manderson N. Slater Labour 1 seat |
| <u>Community & Social Affairs</u> 10 Members Political Balance : Required 7 Conservative 2 Labour 1 Independent | Conservative P.M. Chandler J. B. Rhodes M.C.R. Graham MBE J. Wyatt V.J. Manderson P.M. Posnett D.R. Wright Labour 2 seats Independent E. Holmes |

| Committee | Membership 2012/13 |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Development</u></p> <p>11 Members</p> <p>Political Balance : Required</p> <p>7 Conservative 3 Labour 1 Independent</p> | <p>Conservative P. Baguley G.E. Botterill P.M. Chandler P. Cumbers J. Douglas A. Freer-Jones J. Simpson</p> <p>Labour 3 seats</p> <p>Independent E. Holmes</p> |
| <p><u>Governance</u></p> <p>10 Members</p> <p>Political Balance : Required</p> <p>7 Conservative 3 Labour</p> | <p>Conservative J. Douglas M.C.R. Graham MBE V.J. Manderson S. Lumley J.T. Orson M.R. Sheldon N. Slater</p> <p>Labour 3 seats</p> |
| <p>Policy, Finance & Administration</p> <p>10 Members</p> <p>Political Balance : Required</p> <p>7 Conservative 2 Labour 1 Independent</p> | <p>Conservative M.W. Barnes P. Cumbers A. Freer-Jones P.M. Posnett J.B. Rhodes D.R. Wright J. Wyatt</p> <p>Labour 2 seats</p> <p>Independent E. Hutchison</p> |

| Committee | Membership 2012/13 |
|--|---|
| <p>Rural, Economic and Environmental Affairs</p> <p>11 Members</p> <p>Political Balance : Required</p> <p>7 Conservative 3 Labour 1 Independent</p> | <p>Conservative P. Baguley M.W. Barnes G.E. Botterill J.T. Orson J.B. Rhodes M.R. Sheldon J. Simpson</p> <p>Labour 3 seats</p> <p>Independent E. Hutchison</p> |
| <p>Council Business Development Sub-Committee</p> <p>6 Members</p> <p>Political Balance : Required</p> <p>4 Conservative 2 Labour</p> | <p>Conservative M.C.R. Graham MBE P.M. Posnett J.B. Rhodes D.R. Wright</p> <p>Labour 2 seats</p> |

Political Balance – Not Required:

| Committee | Membership 2012/13 |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Licensing</u></p> <p>10 Members</p> <p>Political Balance : Not required</p> | <p>Conservative M.W. Barnes P. Baguley P.M. Chandler P. Cumbers P.M. Posnett N. Slater J. Wyatt</p> <p>Labour 2 seats</p> <p>Independent E. Holmes</p> |

| Committee | Membership 2012/13 |
|---|--|
| <u>Standards</u> until 01.07.12 4 Members Political Balance : Not required | Conservative P.M. Chandler P. Cumbers Labour S. Dungworth J. Moulding |

- (5) in accordance with delegated authority, the Chief Executive put in place the requests of the Labour Group for seat allocation in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;
- (6) the following be appointed as the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Committees and the Sub-Committee until the Annual Meeting in 2013 :-

| Committee | Chairman | Vice-Chairman |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Appeals | P. Cumbers | S. Lumley |
| Community & Social Affairs | D.R. Wright | V.J. Manderson |
| Development | P.M. Chandler | P. Cumbers |
| Licensing | M.W. Barnes | J. Wyatt |
| Governance | M.C.R. Graham M.B.E. | J. Douglas |
| Policy, Finance & Administration | J.B. Rhodes | P. M. Posnett |
| Rural, Economic & Environmental Affairs | J.T. Orson | M.R. Sheldon |
| Council Business Development Sub-Committee | J.B. Rhodes | D.R. Wright |

- (7) the following be appointed as the Council's representatives on Forums, Partnerships and Working Groups until the Annual Meeting in 2013 and where political balance is required in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Chief Executive put in to place the wishes of the Labour Group in accordance with delegated authority :-

| Forums | No. of Cllrs. | Appointments 2012/13 |
|---|----------------------|--|
| Leicestershire County Council Highway Forum | 4 | P.M. Chandler J. Douglas S. Lumley J. Wyatt |
| Seniors' Forum | 4 | P. Cumbers N. Slater |
| Tenants' Forum | 4 | P.M. Chandler V.J. Manderson P.M. Posnett D.R. Wright |

| Partnerships | No. of Cllrs. | Appointments 2012/13 |
|--|----------------------|--|
| Leicestershire Household Waste Management Steering Group | 1 | J.T. Orson M.R. Sheldon |
| Leicestershire Rural Partnership | 1 | M.C.R. Graham MBE |
| Melton Area Safer Communities Partnership | 4 | P. Cumbers V.J. Manderson N. Slater D.R. Wright |
| Melton Community Partnership | 1 | J.B. Rhodes |
| Welland Partnership Board | 2 + 1 | J.B. Rhodes P.M. Posnett J. Wyatt |
| Welland Joint Committee | 2 + 2 subs | J.B. Rhodes P.M. Posnett J. Wyatt |

| Working Groups | No. of Cllrs. | Appointments 2012/13 |
|---|----------------------|---|
| Budget & Strategic Planning Working Group <i>Political Balance required: 4 Conservative 2 Labour</i> | 6 | M.C.R. Graham MBE J.B. Rhodes D.R. Wright J.T. Orson |

| Working Groups | No. of Cllrs. | Appointments 2012/13 |
|---|----------------------|--|
| Cattle Market Working Group <i>Political Balance required: 5 Conservative 2 Labour 1 Independent</i> | 8 | P.M. Chandler M.C.R. Graham MBE J.T. Orson P.M. Posnett J. Simpson J. Wyatt |
| Joint Staff Working Group <i>Political Balance required: 5 Conservative 2 Labour</i> | 7 | P. Cumbers J. Douglas A. Freer-Jones P.M. Posnett J. Simpson |
| Planning Enforcement Working Group | 5 | P. Baguley G.E. Botterill P.M. Chandler P. Cumbers A. Freer-Jones |
| Waterfield Leisure Pools Working Group | 5 | M.W. Barnes M.C.R. Graham MBE P.M. Posnett N. Slater D.R. Wright |

(8) the following be appointed as the Council's representatives on Outside Organisations until the Annual Meeting in 2013 :-

| Organisation | No. Cllrs | Appointments 2012/13 |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| De Montfort University Court | 2 | J. Illingworth |
| East Midlands Leaders' Board | 1 | J.B. Rhodes P.M. Posnett (Sub) |
| Fairtrade Steering Group | 1 | A. Freer-Jones |
| Friends of Carnegie Museum | 1 | A. Freer-Jones |
| Grantham Canal Partnership | 1 | P.M. Chandler |
| Homestart Management Committee | 1 | P. Cumbers |

| Organisation | No. Cllrs | Appointments 2012/13 |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------|
| LGA – General Assembly | 1 | J.B. Rhodes |
| LGA – Performance Management | 1 | M.C.R. Graham MBE |
| LGA – Rural Commission | 1 | M.C.R. Graham MBE |
| LGA – Urban Commission | 1 | P. Cumbers |
| Leicestershire and Rutland Playing Fields Association | 1 | P.M. Chandler |
| Melton & Oakham Waterways Local Authority Working Group | 1 | P. Cumbers |
| Melton & District Furniture Project | 1 | P. Cumbers |
| Melton Young Singles Trust (MYST) | 1 | P.M. Posnett |
| Police and Crime Panel | 1 | J.B. Rhodes |
| Sir John Sedley Educational Foundation | 1 | M.C.R. Graham MBE |
| Voluntary Action Melton | 1 | P.M. Posnett |

(9) the following be appointed as the Council's Lead Members until the Annual Meeting in 2013:-

| | | 2012/13 |
|-------|---|------------------------|
| Place | Affordable Housing Economic Development Neighbourhoods Transport Environment/Waste Arts/Heritage | Councillor D.R. Wright |

| | | 2012/13 |
|------------------------|---|---|
| People | Youth/Vulnerable People Health Seniors/Older People Community Safety | Councillor P.M. Posnett |
| Resources | Assets Efficiencies Procurement Training/Culture/Workforce Strategic Finance | Councillor J.B. Rhodes |
| Regulation | Planning Regulation | Councillor P.M. Chandler |
| Town Centre | | Councillor P. M. Posnett |
| Access | | Councillor N. Slater |
| Performance Management | | Councillor M.C.R. Graham |
| Equalities | | Councillor P.M. Posnett Councillor N. Slater |
| Risk | | Councillor J. Douglas |
| Customer Services | | Councillor D. Wright |
| Twinning | Relevant Mayor | Councillor P.M. Posnett |

CO15. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2012/13

Members had before them the calendar of meetings for 2012/13 previously circulated with the agenda. Councillor Rhodes proposed that the calendar of meetings as presented be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Posnett. Following a vote, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that the Calendar of Meetings for 2012/13 be approved.

The meeting which commenced at 7 p.m., closed at 8.30 p.m.

Mayor