

Council

Tuesday, 14 May 2024

7.00 pm

Present:

The Worshipful the Mayor, Gurdip Ram Bungar
The Deputy Mayor, Daniel Adewale King

Councillors	Derek Ashenden	Jordan Meade
	Helen Ashenden	Lyn Milner
	Ejaz Aslam	Shane Mochrie-Cox
	Rajinder Atwal	Emma Morley
	Gurjit Bains	Karina O'Malley
	David Beattie	Leslie Pearton
	John Burden	Tony Rana
	Deborah Croxton	Alan Ridgers
	Lee Croxton	Christina Rolles
	Dakota Dibben	Lenny Rolles
	Emma Elliott	Peter Scollard
	Gary Harding	Benjamin Sizer
	Jo Hart	Lauren Sullivan
	Baljit Hayre	Ektaveen Thandi
	Leslie Hills	Narinderjit Singh Thandi
	Samir Jassal	Jenny Wallace
	Gavin Larkins	Frank Wardle
	Alan Metcalf	Alison Williams

Stuart Bobby	Chief Executive
Nick Brown	Director (Environment) & Deputy Chief Executive
Jamie Izzard	Director (Communities & Inclusive Growth)
Daniel Killian	Director (Housing)
Sarah Parfitt	Director (Corporate Services)
Vicky Nutley	Head of Legal Services
Simon Walsh	Assistant Director (Organisational Development & Democratic Support)
Andy Rayfield	Communications Manager
Carlie Simmonds	Committee Services Manager
Ben Clarke	Committee Services Officer
Karen Gingles	Committee Services Officer
Chloe Taylor	Committee Services Officer
Kirsty Gaunt	Community Involvement Officer

1. Prayer

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Mayor, Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar asked the Chaplain, Mrs Marion Fielder-White to say a prayer for the meeting.

2. Gravesham Civic and Community Awards

The Chief Executive stated that the Council had instituted an award scheme to recognise and honour individual and collective contributions to community life. Awards were presented by the Mayor to the under-mentioned persons/organisations:-

Civic and Community Awards:

- Helenna Shelley - Gravesham Pride
- Steve Nolan - Gravesham Safe Space Project
- Sheila Gibson - Litter Picking in Istead Rise
- Mandi Knight - Supporting Community Arts and Activities in Northfleet
- Michael Fitzimmons - Gravesend Regatta and Gravesend Rowing Club

Highly Commended Awards for their Contribution to the Community:

- Zoe Webber
- Dennis Usher
- River Church

Mayor's Special Award in Recognition of Achievements:

- Robert Sparks

Special Award in Recognition of Achievements:

- Northfleet Technology College

The Chief Executive advised that 2024 was a very special year for Gravesham Borough Council, as it marked 50 years since its formation in 1974.

To celebrate, the Council had made this year, its year of volunteering and were encouraging staff to donate a working day to support a local charity or good cause.

As the Council prepared to mark its own anniversary, it became aware of a number of local charities and organisations who were also celebrating significant milestones this year.

Certificates were presented by the Mayor to the under-mentioned local charities and organisations to mark their significant milestones/anniversaries:-

- Henry Pinnock and Victoria and Albert Memorial – 400 years
- Gravesend RNLI – 200 years
- Gad's Hill School – 100 years
- Elizabeth Huggins Cottages Charity – 100 years
- Gravesend Historical Society – 100 years

3. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Aaron Elliott.

4. Declaration of Interest

The Chief Executive advised that, in accordance with advice received from the Council's Monitoring Officer, Members only needed to declare interests which had not already been listed within their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form.

No declarations of interest were made.

5. Election of Mayor for the ensuing municipal year

It was moved by Councillor John Burden and seconded by Councillor Shane Mochrie-Cox that:-

Cllr Daniel Adewale King be elected Mayor of the Borough for the municipal year 2024/25.

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Daniel Adewale King be duly elected Mayor of the Borough for the municipal year 2024/25.

Cllr Daniel Adewale King made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office required by Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Mayor, in giving his acceptance speech, stated that his charities for 2024/25 would be Ellenor, Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Services and Waterside Parent's Centre.

6. Vote of thanks to Outgoing Mayor

It was moved by Cllr Daniel Adewale King that the best thanks of the Council be accorded to Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar for the manner in which he carried out the office of Mayor for the past municipal year.

Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar suitably replied and in doing so offered thanks to those who had assisted him during his year in office.

7. Presentation of the Past Mayor's Badge

The Worshipful the Mayor presented Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar with a Past Mayor's Badge.

8. Presentation of the Past Mayoress's Badge

The Worshipful the Mayor presented Nanjo Bungar with a Past Mayoress's Badge.

9. Mayoress

The Mayor stated that the Mayoress would be Jokotade Arinola King and invested her with the Mayoress's Chain.

10. Appointment of the Civic Chaplain

The Worshipful the Mayor stated that the Civic Chaplain would be Mrs Marion Fielder-White and invested her with the Civic Cross.

11. Election of Deputy Mayor for the ensuing municipal year

It was moved by Cllr John Burden and seconded by Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox that:-

Cllr Jenny Wallace be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the municipal year 2024/25.

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Jenny Wallace be duly elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal year 2024/25.

Cllr Jenny Wallace made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office required by Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

12. Deputy Mayor's Escort

The Deputy Mayor stated that the Deputy Mayor's Escort will be Alexander Wallace and invested him with the Deputy Mayor's Escort Chain.

13. Presentation of Bouquets

Bouquets were presented to the Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and outgoing Mayoress.

14. Minutes of the meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16 April 2024

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 16 April 2024 were signed by the Mayor.

15. Confirmation of the arrangements in respect of the Cabinet - for information

The Council noted the arrangements put in place for the Cabinet and the names of the Members that would comprise the Cabinet:-

Cllr John Burden (Leader)

Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox (Deputy Leader) - Strategic Environment Portfolio

Cllr Emma Morley - Operational Services Portfolio

Cllr Karina O'Malley - Housing Services Portfolio

Cllr Lauren Sullivan - Community & Leisure Portfolio

Cllr Narinderjit Singh Thandi - Performance and Administration Portfolio

Cllr Lenny Rolles will be undertaking a Non-Cabinet/Advisory position and will chair the 'Special Cabinet Advisory Committee' which will oversee activities such as Commercial Activities, Property Investment, Climate Change and Outside Bodies and Partnerships.

The following items (Minute 16 to 20) were moved by Cllr John Burden, seconded by Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox and agreed en-bloc unanimously.

16. Representation on Political Groups on Committees

1. Having reviewed the representation of the political groups on Council Committees and Boards, that the allocation of seats thereon to the political groups be determined as follows:-

Planning Committee	9 Members
Labour Group	5 seats
Conservative Group	4 seats
Licensing Committee	15 Members
Labour Group	8 seats
Conservative Group	7 seats
Finance and Audit Committee	9 Members
Labour Group	5 seats
Conservative Group	4 seats
Overview Scrutiny Committee	9 Members
Labour Group	5 seats
Conservative Group	4 seats
Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee	15 Members
Labour Group	8 seats
Conservative Group	7 seats
Appointments Board	15 Members
Labour Group	8 seats
Conservative Group	7 seats
Standards Committee	9 Members
Labour Group	5 seats
Conservative Group	4 seats
Appeals Sub-Committee	3 Members
Labour Group	2 seats
Conservative Group	1 seat
Appointments Panel	3 Members
Labour Group	2 seats
Conservative Group	1 seat

Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee 3 Members

Labour Group	2 seats
Conservative Group	1 seat

Licensing Panel 3 Members

Labour Group	2 seats
Conservative Group	1 seat

2. That each political group may appoint substitute Members for all of the above Committees and Boards in accordance with Procedural Rule 7.

17. Appointment of Members to Committees and Boards

1. That the Committees and Boards of the Council be appointed as set out below so as to give effect to the wishes of the political groups as notified to the Assistant Director (Organisational Development & Democratic Support) and that the Chairs and Vice-Chairs be as shown.

Planning Committee – 9 SeatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Lee Croxton (Chair)
 Cllr Rajinder Atwal (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Deborah Croxton
 Cllr Lyn Milner
 Cllr Peter Scollard

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Ejaz Aslam
 Cllr Gary Harding
 Cllr Samir Jassal
 Cllr Alan Metcalf

Licensing Committee – 15 SeatsLabour Group (8 seats)

Cllr Baljit Hayre (Chair)
 Cllr Jo Hart (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Gurdip Bungar
 Cllr Deborah Croxton
 Cllr Lee Croxton
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi
 Cllr Rajinder Atwal
 Cllr Tony Rana

Conservative Group (7 seats)

Cllr Derek Ashenden
 Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Jordan Meade
 Cllr Gary Harding
 Cllr Alan Metcalf
 Cllr Leslie Pearton
 Cllr Frank Wardle

Finance and Audit Committee – 9 SeatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Gavin Larkins (Chair)
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Jo Hart
 Cllr Jenny Wallace
 Cllr Lee Croxton

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Derek Ashenden
 Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Aaron Elliott
 Cllr Samir Jassal

Overview Scrutiny Committee – 9 SeatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Deborah Croxton (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Gavin Larkins
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi
 Cllr Lee Croxton
 Cllr Tony Rana

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Jordan Meade (Chair)
 Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Emma Elliott
 Cllr Leslie Hills

Crime and Disorder Committee – 15 SeatsLabour Group (8 seats)

Cllr Baljit Hayre (Chair)
 Cllr Jo Hart (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Deborah Croxton
 Cllr Lee Croxton
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi
 Cllr Christina Rolles
 Cllr Tony Rana
 Cllr Peter Scollard

Conservative Group (7 seats)

Cllr Derek Ashenden
 Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Ejaz Aslam
 Cllr Aaron Elliott
 Cllr Gary Harding
 Cllr Leslie Pearton
 Cllr Frank Wardle

Appointments Board – 15 SeatsLabour Group (8 seats)

Cllr John Burden (Chair)
 Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Gurdip Bungar
 Cllr Lee Croxton
 Cllr Lyn Milner
 Cllr Lenny Rolles
 Cllr Lauren Sullivan
 Cllr Jenny Wallace

Conservative Group (7 seats)

Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Ejaz Aslam
 Cllr Leslie Hills
 Cllr Jordan Meade
 Cllr Alan Ridgers
 Cllr Ben Sizer
 Cllr Frank Wardle

Standards Committee – 9 SeatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Lenny Rolles (Chair)
 Cllr Lyn Milner (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Rajinder Atwal
 Cllr Gurdip Bungar
 Cllr Deborah Croxton

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Jordan Meade
 Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Leslie Hills
 Cllr Frank Wardle

Appeals Sub-Committee – 3 seatsLabour Group (2 seats)

Cllr Jo Hart (Chair)
Cllr Lyn Milner (Vice Chair)

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Cllr Jordan Meade

Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee – 3 seatsLabour Group (2 seats)

Cllr John Burden (Chair)
Cllr Lee Croxton (Vice Chair)

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Cllr Jordan Meade

Appointments Panel (3 seats) - The panel's membership is drawn from available Appointments Board Members and will consist of two Labour Members and one Conservative Member.

Licensing Panel (3 seats) - The panel's membership is drawn from available Licensing Committee Members and will consist of two Labour Members and one Conservative Member.

Joint Arrangements with other Local Authorities**Joint Transportation Board – 5 seats**Labour Group (4 seats)

Cllr Deborah Croxton (Vice Chair)
Cllr Tony Rana
Cllr Alison Williams
Cllr Peter Scollard

Conservative Group (1 seats)

Cllr Aaron Elliott

South Thames Gateway Building Control Joint Committee – 1 seat (plus substitute)Labour Group (1 seats)

Cllr John Burden (Chair)
Cllr Lee Croxton (Substitute)

Conservative Group (0 seats)**Cabinet Committees****Special Cabinet Advisory Committee – 9 seats**Labour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Lenny Rolles (Chair)
Cllr Alison Williams (Vice Chair)
Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar
Cllr Tony Rana
Cllr Lee Croxton

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Samir Jassal
Cllr Jordan Meade
Cllr Leslie Pearton
Cllr Alan Ridgers

Community & Leisure Cabinet Committee – 9 seatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Lauren Sullivan (Chair)
 Cllr Deborah Croxton (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar
 Cllr Christina Rolles
 Cllr Peter Scollard

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Helen Ashenden
 Cllr Ejaz Aslam
 Cllr Ben Sizer
 Cllr Alan Metcalf

Housing Services Cabinet Committee – 9 seatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Karina O'Malley (Chair)
 Cllr Christina Rolles (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar
 Cllr Lyn Milner
 Cllr Lee Croxton

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Ejaz Aslam
 Cllr Leslie Pearton
 Cllr Emma Elliott
 Cllr Jordan Meade

Operational Services Cabinet Committee – 9 seatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Emma Morley (Chair)
 Cllr Lee Croxton (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi
 Cllr Peter Scollard
 Cllr Gurdip Ram Bungar

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Derek Ashenden
 Cllr David Beattie
 Cllr Leslie Pearton
 Cllr Alan Ridgers

Performance and Administration Cabinet Committee – 9 seatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Narinderjit Singh Thandi (Chair)
 Cllr Gavin Larkins (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Christina Rolles
 Cllr Jo Hart
 Cllr Rajinder Atwal

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr David Beattie
 Cllr Gary Harding
 Cllr Leslie Hills
 Cllr Benjamin Sizer

Strategic Environment Cabinet Committee – 9 seatsLabour Group (5 seats)

Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox (Chair)
 Cllr Alison Williams (Vice Chair)
 Cllr Rajinder Atwal
 Cllr Gavin Larkins
 Cllr Baljit Hayre

Conservative Group (4 seats)

Cllr Ejaz Aslam
 Cllr Gurjit Bains
 Cllr David Beattie
 Cllr Jordan Meade

Climate Change Advisory Board - 5 seatsLabour Group (4 seats)

Cllr John Burden (Chair)
 Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox
 Cllr Deborah Croxton
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Cllr Dakota Dibben

Rosherville Shareholder Advisory Board - 5 seatsLabour Group (3 seats)

Cllr Lenny Rolles (Chair)
 Cllr Alison Williams (Vice-Chair)
 Cllr Ektaveen Thandi

Conservative Group (2 seats)

Cllr Samir Jassal
 Cllr Benjamin Sizer

18. Appointment of representatives to Outside Bodies

1. That appointments to outside bodies be made in accordance with the following list:-

Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Services	Cllr Jo Hart
Charity of Knights Almhouses (4 year term)	Cllr John Burden
Citizens Advice (North West Kent)	Cllr Deborah Croxton
CCTV – Lay Panel of Visitors	Cllr Lyn Milner Cllr Jenny Wallace Cllr Ejaz Aslam Substitute: Cllr John Burden Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox Cllr Frank Wardle
Council for Voluntary Service North West Kent	Cllr Alison Williams
Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust Stakeholder Council	Cllr John Burden
Ebbsfleet UDC Board	Cllr John Burden
Elizabeth Huggins Cottages Charity (4 year term)	Ms Karen Hurdle
Gravesend & District Mencap Society	Cllr Lee Croxton Cllr Helen Ashenden

Gravesend Regatta Committee	Ms Sue Fletcher Mr Toby Cook Cllr Jordan Meade
Gravesham Access Group	Cllr Lauren Sullivan
Gravesham Community Investment Partnership	Cllr Lenny Rolles Cllr Alison Williams
Gravesham Community Leisure Limited	Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox Cllr Jo Hart
Gravesham Community Safety Partnership	Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox Cllr John Burden (Substitute)
Gravesham Rights of Way Committee	Cllr Lee Croxton Mr Ben Archell Cllr Leslie Hills
Greater North Kent	Cllr John Burden
Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Joint Committee	Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox
Dartford, Gravesham & Swanley Health & Care Partnership (Extension to ICP)	Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox
Kent & Medway Police & Crime Panel	Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox
Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Local Government Association	Cllr Gavin Larkins Cllr John Burden
Local Government Information Unit	Cllr John Burden
Meopham Sports and Leisure Association (MSLA) Management Committee	Mr Toby Cook Cllr Ejaz Aslam
North Kent Marshes Internal Drainage Board	Cllr Lee Croxton Cllr Jenny Wallace Cllr Gary Harding
North Kent Relate	Cllr Christina Rolles
North West Kent Volunteer Centre	Cllr Peter Scollard

Northfleet Harbourside Steering Group	Cllr Lenny Rolles Cllr Alison Williams
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) Adjudication Joint Committee	Mr Brian Sangha
South East Employers	Cllr John Burden Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox (Substitute)
Strategic Access Management & Monitoring Strategy (SAMMS)	Cllr Lee Croxton Cllr Lauren Sullivan (Substitute)
The Gr@nd Community Interest Company	Cllr Alison Williams Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox
Town Twinning Association	Cllr Lyn Milner Cllr Alan Ridgers

19. Scheme of Delegation

That the Council reaffirms the scheme of delegations relating to the Council's functions, other than Cabinet functions, contained within Annexes 1.2, 1.3, 1.13, 1.14 and 1.15 of the Constitution.

20. Timetable of meetings for the forthcoming municipal year

That the timetable of meetings for the forthcoming municipal year be adopted.

21. Questions

No questions had been received.

Close of meeting

The meeting ended at 8.09 pm.