

## **TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of a meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, duly convened and held at the Council Chamber, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS, at 11.00 am on Wednesday, 24 May 2023

### **PRESENT:**

#### **The Mayor**

**Councillors Allen, Atkins, Barrass, Brice, Britcher-Allan, Chapelard, Dawlings, Ellis, Fitzsimmons, Hayward, Hill, Knight, Le Page, Lewis, Lidstone, Moon, Morton, Neville, Ms Palmer, Patterson (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Pope, Pound, Roberts, Rogers, Rutland, Sankey, Wakeman, Warne, Wormington, Curry, Francis, Munday, O'Connell, Opara, Osborne, Sharratt, Webster and Wilkinson**

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

FC6/23 Apologies were received from Councillors: Bland, Barrington-King, Fairweather, Goodship, Hall, Holden, Johnson, McMillan, March, Opara, and White

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

FC7/23 No declarations of pecuniary or significant other interest were made.

### **ELECTION OF THE MAYOR**

FC8/23 Councillor Warne Moved, and Councillor Chapelard Seconded, that Councillor Patterson be elected Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor took a vote on the motion by affirmation.

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor Patterson be elected Mayor of the Borough for the municipal year from 24 May 2023 to the date of the Annual Meeting in 2024.

Following the declaration, the meeting adjourned whilst the Mayor was robed and received the chain of office.

On the resumption of the meeting Councillor Patterson returned thanks for his election and announced that the Mayor's Charity would be MTW NHS trust Charity and Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre. The Rev. Dr Jeremy Ive, vicar of Capel United Church would be the Mayor's Chaplain.

The Mayoress, Mrs Sandra Patterson, received her badge of office.

### **APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR**

FC9/23 Councillor Sankey moved, and Councillor Chapelard seconded, that Councillor Nicholas Pope be appointed Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor took a vote on the motion by affirmation.

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor Pope be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the municipal year from 24 May 2023 to the date of the Annual Meeting 2024.

Councillor Pope made the declaration of acceptance of office.

Following the declaration, the Deputy Mayor was robed and received the chain of office.

The Deputy Mayor's Mayoress, Mrs Ingrid Pope, received her badge of office.

Councillor Pope returned thanks for his appointment.

### **RETURN OF PERSONS ELECTED TO THE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

FC10/23 The Chief Executive, as Returning Officer for the 4 May 2023 Borough Elections, submitted the return of persons elected to the Borough Council as set out in the agenda report.

### **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES & POLITICAL BALANCE 2023/24**

FC11/23 Councillor Chapelard moved, and Councillor Warne seconded, the recommendations set out in the report which were published as a supplement to the agenda.

Councillor Chapelard advised members that there had been some changes to the appointments to committees since the May elections, which had resulted in changes to his Cabinet, which were tabled at the meeting, and all changes would be given effect after the meeting through the normal process.

The Mayor took a vote on the motion by affirmation.

### **RESOLVED**

1. That the allocation of seats to committees, as set out Appendix A of the report, be approved;
2. That the appointments to the committees, as set out at Appendix B to the report, be approved; and
3. That the appointments to Cabinet portfolios, as set out in at Appendix C to the report, be noted.

### **URGENT BUSINESS**

FC12/23 There was no urgent business.

### **COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL**

FC13/23 **RESOLVED** – That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to any contract, minute, notice or other document arising out of the minutes or pursuant to any delegation, authority or power conferred by the Council.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

FC14/23      The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday 5 July 2023.

**NOTES:**

The meeting concluded at 11.35 am.