

## **SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on  
Wednesday, 23 May 2018 at 2.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Dr. Douglas de Lacey – Chairman  
Councillor Anna Bradnam – Vice-Chairman

**Councillors:** Philip Allen, Henry Batchelor, John Batchelor, Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya, Tom Bygott, Dr. Martin Cahn, Nigel Cathcart, Grenville Chamberlain, Sarah Cheung Johnson, Gavin Clayton, Graham Cone, Dr. Claire Daunton, Clare Delderfield, Sue Ellington, Peter Fane, Neil Gough, Jose Hales, Bill Handley, Philippa Hart, Geoff Harvey, Dr. Tumi Hawkins, Pippa Heylings, Mark Howell, Steve Hunt, Alex Malyon, Tony Mason, Peter McDonald, Brian Milnes, Dawn Percival, Deborah Roberts, Judith Rippeth, Bridget Smith, Hazel Smith, Dr. Ian Sollom, Peter Topping, Aidan Van de Weyer, Bunty Waters, John Williams, Eileen Wilson and Nick Wright

<b>Officers:</b>	Beverly Agass	Chief Executive
	Alex Colyer	Executive Director
	Rory McKenna	Deputy Head of Legal Practice
	Kathrin John	Democratic Services Team Leader

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ruth Betson, Nick Sample and Heather Williams.

### **1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL 2018/19**

In the absence of the outgoing Chairman, the Chief Executive invited nominations for the office of Chairman of the Council for the 2018/19 Civic Year.

On the nomination of Councillor Bridget Smith, seconded by Councillor Nigel Cathcart, and there being no other nominations, Council

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Dr. Douglas de Lacey be elected as Chairman of the Council for the 2018/19 Civic Year.

Councillor Dr. de Lacey read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor Dr. de Lacey thanked Members for their support and confidence in him and indicated that he felt honoured to be elected as Chairman of the Council. Councillor Dr. de Lacey outlined his intentions in terms of conducting Council meetings and his expectations of Members' behaviour during those meetings. He advised that his charities for the coming year would be the Trussell Trust and the Carers Trust.

Finally, he paid tribute to former Councillor David McCraith, who had served as Chairman of the Council during the 2017/18 Civic Year, and thanked him for his work during his term of office. He noted that the former Chairman had been presented with a past Chairman's badge.

### **2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL 2018/19**

The Chairman invited nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chairman of the Council

for the 2018/19 Civic Year.

Councillor Anna Bradnam was nominated by Councillor Philippa Hart and this nomination was seconded by Councillor Deborah Roberts.

There being no other nominations, Council

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Anna Bradnam be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the 2018/19 Civic Year.

Councillor Bradnam signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Following her appointment Councillor Bradnam thanked Members for their support. She indicated that she was pleased to be working with such an experienced Chairman and hoped to be able to support him in his role.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of Members' interests were made.

**4. REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

Members were reminded that they were required to complete and return their Register of Financial and Other Interests within 28 days of being elected or re-elected. Members also needed to update their Register of Interests whenever their circumstances changed.

**5. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 February 2018 were confirmed as a correct record for signature by the Chairman, subject to amendment of minute 8 (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority) by the deletion of "O'Brian" and replacement with "O'Brien" in the fifth bullet point on page 18 of the minutes.

**6. REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER**

Council **RECEIVED** the report of the Returning Officer on the results of the District Council Elections held on 3 May 2018.

The Chairman welcomed all new Members who were invited to stand in their groups by way of introduction to the Council. He additionally extended a warm welcome to all re-elected Councillors.

**7. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2018 - 2022**

On the nomination of Councillor Aidan Van de Weyer, seconded by Councillor Deborah Roberts, and there being no other nominations, Council

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Bridget Smith be elected as the Leader of the Council for 2018 – 2022.

Councillor Smith thanked Members for their support. She announced the Members of the Cabinet and their respective roles, as follows:

Leader of the Council	Bridget Smith
Deputy Leader of the Council	Aidan Van de Weyer
Planning	Tumi Hawkins
Environmental Services and Licensing	Neil Gough
Housing	Hazel Smith
Finance	John Williams
Customer Services and Business Improvement	Philippa Hart

Councillor Smith then addressed the Council. She noted that half of the Members in the Chamber were new to politics and new to the Council and that for the first time ever, there were now four years before the next elections. Councillor Smith commented that these two factors presented a chance for the Council to work differently. There was an opportunity to work collaboratively for the benefit of residents, villages, South Cambridgeshire as a whole and the Council. She noted two steps already made towards that goal in offering the Chair of Scrutiny and Overview Committee to Councillor Chamberlain and the Chair of Council to Councillor Dr. de Lacey. Additionally she was pleased to learn that Councillor Ellington would continue to apply her experience of the health sector to the benefit of the Council. The support of the other Group Leaders for her Group to cede two committee places to Councillor Dr. de Lacey was also appreciated.

Councillor Smith outlined her plans to move to a system of pre-scrutiny rather than post-scrutiny, noting that this would give Members more influence over shaping decisions, policy and strategy. Cabinet members would focus on priority delivery rather than service areas and would take a whole cabinet approach to decision making. Cabinet meetings would be public and participation by Members and the public would be welcomed.

Councillor Smith then highlighted her three “day one” priority themes as follows:

**(i) Affordable homes – plans included:**

- Working to deliver good quality market housing, of the right mix, quickly and in the right places to meet the needs of all ages;
- Ensuring that all development was associated with the proper infrastructure;
- Recognising the impact of new communities on the immediate surrounding area, working closely with residents in neighbouring villages both when the developments were complete and when being built;
- Working to increase the amount of truly affordable housing; and
- Reviewing the overall housing strategy.

**(ii) Putting the environment first – proposals included:**

- Integration of a concern for the environment and sustainability into everything the Council did, both independently and through partnerships;
- Driving how the District dealt with climate change through the Council’s policies and actions;
- Using the opportunity with promotion of the Cambridge to Oxford corridor by playing a key role to ensure that investment in natural capital was central to the changes that this would bring;
- Working to ensure that each development left an associated positive environmental legacy; and
- Establishing a new Climate and Environment Advisory Committee to

oversee work under this priority area.

**(iii) Actively supporting business growth** – plans under this priority included:

- Working to give pro-active support for businesses ensuring that the Council's services were focused on their needs;
- Taking a lead on the impact of Brexit in South Cambridgeshire, supporting businesses with the staffing challenges faced; collaborating with business groups and others to understand how Brexit would impact on the area; and
- Establishing a new Brexit Working Group to co-ordinate these efforts, which it was hoped would include members from adjacent councils and all political groups on the Council.

In order to achieve these priorities, the Leader considered that there was a need to transform the way in which the Council worked to make its work transparent, responsive, open and honest. She outlined proposals to review the Council's grants system to ensure that grants given had the most impact on those in greatest need. A new Grants Advisory Committee would be set up to develop policy driven criteria for all applications. The Leader additionally commented on the need to find effective ways to manage shared services and noted that she had started discussions with Cambridge City Council on how a system of joint scrutiny of shared services could be set up.

The Leader concluded by outlining her vision to make the Authority a considerate and responsible Council that:

- Was green to its core in everything it did;
- Welcomed change for the benefit of residents and businesses; and
- Worked hard for those residents who were the least well off and who could not afford a home or were struggling to access essential services.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements were made.

## **9. POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY AND ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO COMMITTEES FOR 2018/19**

Council considered a report which sought approval to the establishment of committees; the allocation of seats on committees and the appointment of Members and substitute Members to committees. The report additionally requested the Council to appoint the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of committees and to re-appoint the Lead Independent Person and Deputy Independent Person.

The report particularly highlighted proposals to rename the Employment Committee as the "Employment and Staffing" Committee with revised terms of reference as set out in Appendix A to the report. It was additionally proposed to establish a new Grants Advisory Committee and a Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee, with terms of reference as set out in Appendix A.

Group Leaders had met to discuss nominations to committees, substitute places and committee chairmen and the updated nominations were tabled at the meeting. The allocation of seats included a proposal for the Liberal Democrat Group to cede a seat to Councillor Dr. Douglas de Lacey on each of the Civic Affairs and Joint Development Control Committees. Whilst this technically upset the political balance requirements these appointments could be made by the Council provided that no Councillor voted

against the alternative arrangements.

Councillor Bridget Smith, Leader of the Council proposed, and Councillor Dr. Tumi Hawkins seconded the approval of the recommendations in the report, subject to clarifying that Council was invited to approve the nominations of the Group Leaders to seats on committees and substitute places, as set out in the updated Appendix C which had been tabled at the meeting.

With the consent of the Council, the Chairman invited the Council to vote on the recommendations en bloc. Upon being put to the vote, with 42 Members voting in favour, none against and no abstentions, Council unanimously

**RESOLVED:**

1. To approve:-

- (a) The establishment of the Grants Advisory Committee and Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committees and their terms of reference, as set out in Appendix A to the report.
- (b) The abolition of the Partnerships Review Committee.
- (c) The renaming of the Employment Committee as the "Employment and Staffing Committee" and the revision of the terms of reference as set out in Appendix A to the report.
- (d) The allocation of seats on committees, joint and advisory committees as follows:

**Ordinary Committees:**

Committee	No. of seats	Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Independent	Labour
Civic Affairs	9	2	6	0	1
Audit and Corporate Governance	7	2	5	0	0
Employment and Staffing	7	2	5	0	0
Licensing	14	3	9	1	1
Planning	11	3	7	1	0
Scrutiny and Overview	14	3	9	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

### Joint and Advisory Committees

Committee	No. of seats	Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Independent	Labour
Joint Development Control Committee – Cambridge Fringes	6	2	4	0	0
Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committee	7	2	5	0	0
Grants Advisory Committee	5	1	4	0	0

(e) The nominations of the Political Group Leaders/Convenor to seats on committees and joint bodies, as set out below:

### Audit and Corporate Governance Committee

Liberal Democrat	Conservative	Independent	Labour
1. Tony Mason 2. Nick Sample 3. John Batchelor 4. Eileen Wilson 5. Brian Milnes	1. Mark Howell 2. Heather Williams		

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

1. Clare Delderfield 2. Dawn Percival	1. Nick Wright 2. Bunty Waters 3. Tom Bygott 4. Peter Topping 5. Grenville Chamberlain		
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**Civic Affairs Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Claire Daunton 2. Henry Batchelor 3. Martin Cahn 4. Bridget Smith 5. Aidan Van de Weyer	1. Peter Topping 2. Mark Howell	1. Douglas de Lacey ( <i>seat accepted from Liberal Democrats</i> )*	1. Nigel Cathcart

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Bill Handley 2. Geoff Harvey 3. Steve Hunt 4. Eileen Wilson	1. Bunty Waters 2. Nick Wright 3. Tom Bygott 4. Sue Ellington 5. Graham Cone		1. Gavin Clayton

**Employment and Staffing Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Henry Batchelor 2. Dawn Percival 3. Sarah Cheung Johnson 4. Philippa Hart 5. Clare Delderfield	1. Mark Howell 2. Peter Topping		

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

1. Aidan Van de Weyer 2. Bridget Smith.	1. Sue Ellington 2. Graham Cone 3. Nick Wright 4. Grenville Chamberlain 5. Bunty Waters		
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**Licensing Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Anna Bradnam 2. Eileen Wilson 3. Clare Delderfield 4. Peter Fane 5. Jose Hales 6. Bill Handley 7. Geoff Harvey 8. Steve Hunt 9. Peter McDonald	1. Mark Howell 2. Graham Cone 3. Heather Williams	1. Deborah Roberts	1. Nigel Cathcart

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Nick Sample	1. Sue Ellington 2. Nick Wright 3. Bunty Waters 4. Shrobona Bhattacharya 5. Ruth Betson	1. Douglas de Lacey	1. Gavin Clayton

**Planning Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. John Batchelor 2. Pippa Heylings 3. Martin Cahn 4. Peter Fane 5. Bill Handley 6. Brian Milnes 7. Judith Rippeth	1. Peter Topping 2. Grenville Chamberlain 3. Nick Wright	1. Deborah Roberts	



*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Henry Batchelor 2. Anna Bradnam 3. Eileen Wilson 4. Tumi Hawkins	1. Heather Williams 2. Mark Howell 3. Shrobona Bhattacharya 4. Sue Ellington 5. Graham Cone	1. Douglas de Lacey	

**Scrutiny and Overview Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Brian Milnes 2. Anna Bradnam 3. Martin Cahn 4. Sarah Cheung Johnson 5. Claire Daunton 6. Bill Handley 7. Peter McDonald 8. Dawn Percival 9. Eileen Wilson	1. Grenville Chamberlain 2. Graham Cone 3. Ruth Betson	1. Douglas de Lacey	1. Gavin Clayton

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Judith Rippeth 2. Geoff Harvey 3. Alex Malyon 4. Steve Hunt 5. Clare Delderfield	1. Peter Topping 2. Mark Howell 3. Shrobona Bhattacharya 4. Sue Ellington 5. Bunty Waters	1. Deborah Roberts	1. Nigel Cathcart

**ADVISORY COMMITTEES****Climate and Environment Advisory Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Pippa Heylings 2. Martin Cahn 3. Peter Fane 4. Peter McDonald 5. Jose Hales	1. Sue Ellington 2. Nick Wright		

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Eileen Wilson 2. Judith Rippeth	1. Heather Williams 2. Shrobona Bhattacharya 3. Graham Cone 4. Tom Bygott 5. Peter Topping		

**Grants Advisory Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Jose Hales 2. Claire Daunton 3. Clare Delderfield 4. Peter McDonald	1. Sue Ellington		

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Bill Handley 2. Martin Cahn 3. Sarah Cheung Johnson	1. Bunty Waters 2. Shrobona Bhattacharya 3. Ruth Betson 4. Heather Williams 5. Grenville Chamberlain		

**Joint Committees****Cambridge Fringes Joint Development Control Committee**

<b>Liberal Democrats</b>	<b>Conservatives</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Steve Hunt 2. Ian Sollom 3. John Williams+  + Spokesperson	1. Tom Bygott 2. Grenville Chamberlain	1. Douglas de Lacey ( <i>seat accepted from Liberal Democrats</i> )*	

*Substitutes in hierarchical order*

<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Independent Group</b>	<b>Labour</b>
1. Aidan Van de Weyer 2. Sarah Cheung Johnson 3. Philip Allen	1. Graham Cone 2. Mark Howell 3. Bunty Waters 4. Peter Topping 5. Sue Ellington		

(Note: \*The Council, with no one voting against, approved a departure from the rules of political proportionality, in accordance with Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in respect of the allocation of seats on the Civic Affairs Committee and the Joint Development Control Committee – Cambridge Fringes.)

(f) To appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees for 2018/19 as follows:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>
Audit and Corporate Governance	Cllr Tony Mason	Cllr Nick Sample
Civic Affairs	Cllr Douglas de Lacey	Cllr Claire Daunton
Employment and Staffing	Cllr Henry Batchelor	Cllr Dawn Percival
Licensing	Cllr Anna Bradnam	Cllr Eileen Wilson
Planning	Cllr John Batchelor	Cllr Pippa Heylings
Scrutiny and Overview	Cllr Grenville Chamberlain	Cllr Brian Milnes
Grants Advisory	Cllr Jose Hales	Cllr Clare Delderfield
Climate Change and Environment Advisory	Cllr Pippa Heylings	Cllr Martin Cahn

- (g) To re-appoint Grant Osbourn as the Council's Lead Independent Person and Gillian Holmes as the Council's Deputy Independent Person for a further year.
2. To request the Independent Remuneration Panel to consider whether chairing the Advisory Committees referred to in 1 (a) above should attract the award of a Special Responsibility Allowance.
3. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution required in order to reflect the amendments to the Council's Committee structure as proposed in the report.

## 10. **APPOINTMENTS TO CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY**

Council considered a report setting out the appointments to the Combined Authority for the 2018/19 Civic Year. It was noted that the allocation of places available on the non-executive committees was in accordance with the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016, which required membership of those committees to reflect, so far as reasonably practical, the balance of the political parties of the constituent councils when taken together.

Councillor John Williams moved and Councillor Hazel Smith seconded the proposed appointments as set out on page 26 of the supplement to the agenda issued on 22 May 2018.

Council, by affirmation

### **RESOLVED:**

1. To approve appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for 2018/19 as set out below:
  - (a) Combined Authority

Councillor Bridget Smith

*Substitute:* Councillor Aidan Van de Weyer
  - (b) Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee

Councillor Tony Mason

*Substitute:* Councillor Peter Fane
  - (c) Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Philip Allen  
Councillor Grenville Chamberlain

*Substitutes:* Councillor Pippa Heylings (for Councillor Allen)  
Councillor Peter Topping (for Councillor Chamberlain)
2. To authorise the Chief Executive to make any amendments to the appointments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee, in

consultation with the Political Group Leaders, if the political balance is amended by the Combined Authority between now and the next Council meeting.

## 11. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE, JOINT AND OTHER MEMBER BODIES FOR 2018/19

Council received a report which invited the approval of appointments to outside bodies in accordance with the recommendations of the Group Leaders as set out in Appendix A to the report.

It was noted that the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Councillor Task and Finish Group established by the previous Council had requested that a review of the Council's representation on outside bodies should be conducted. Council representatives on the outside bodies and the outside bodies themselves had been consulted upon whether District Council representation on outside bodies was still required. Recommendations had been submitted to Group Leaders as to which bodies the Council should continue to appoint to and those which the Council should no longer appoint to. Appendix B to the report showed those bodies no longer recommended for Councillor representation.

Councillor Bridget Smith proposed approval of the proposed appointments to outside bodies, as set out in Appendix A, and Councillor Neil Gough seconded the proposal.

Councillor Sue Ellington noted that Appendix A indicated that substitutes were not permitted on the Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board but she did not believe that this was correct. The Chairman indicated that this point would be clarified and reported back to the next meeting of the Council.

Council, by affirmation

### RESOLVED:

- To approve appointments to outside bodies in accordance with the recommendations of the Group Leaders as follows:

#### Appointed by Council

Name	Proposed Representative(s)
Bassingbourn Village College Centre Management Committee	Nigel Cathcart
Cambridge Airport Consultative Committee	John Williams
Cambridge & District Citizens' Advice Bureaux Management Committee Trustee Board	Sarah Cheung Johnson
Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board	Geoff Harvey Substitute: <b>Vacancy</b>
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CAPALC)	Peter Fane
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Waste Partnership	1. Peter Fane Sub: Neil Gough

Cambridgeshire County Council Health Committee	1. Geoff Harvey Sub: Alex Malyon
Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel	1. Claire Daunton Sub: Hazel Smith
Carers Trust Cambridgeshire	Pippa Heylings
Comberton Village College Governing Body Sub-Committee	Ian Sollom
Conservators of the River Cam	Peter Fane
Cottenham Village College Sports Centre Management Group	Eileen Wilson Neil Gough
County Advisory Group on Archives & Local Studies	Claire Daunton
Emmaus Cambridge Community	Judith Rippeth
Ermine Street Housing Ltd	1. John Batchelor 2. Ian Sollom
Farmland Museum Trustees	Anna Bradnam
Francis John Clear Almshouses, Melbourn	Philippa Hart
Gamlingay Village College GVC Leisure Ltd	Bridget Smith
Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board	1. Aidan Van de Weyer  Sub: 1. Bridget Smith
Natural Cambridgeshire	Peter Fane
Needingworth Quarry Liaison Committee	Bill Handley
North Herts & District Citizens Advice Bureau	Philippa Hart
Old West Internal Drainage Board	1. Peter Fane 2. Neil Gough 3. <b>Vacancy</b>
Over & Willingham Internal Drainage Board	Bill Handley
Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Alex Malyon
Responsive Repairs Partnership Management Board	1. Bunty Waters 2. Jose Hales 3. Eileen Wilson
Sawston Patient Reference Group	Clare Delderfield
Shifting Offered Furniture Around	Peter Fane

(SOFA)	
Swaffham Internal Drainage Board	John Williams
Swavesey Byeways Advisory Committee	1. Sue Ellington 2. Tumi Hawkins
Swavesey Internal Drainage Board	1. Bill Handley 2. <b>Vacancy</b>
Swavesey Village College Community Committee	Sue Ellington
Waterbeach Level Internal Drainage Board	1. Anna Bradnam 2. Hazel Smith
Cambridgeshire Community Covenant Board	Hazel Smith
East West Rail Consortium	Aidan Van de Weyer
Cambridgeshire and District Blue Plaque Scheme	Geoff Harvey

Northstowe Transport Working Group – officers to investigate whether this body is still active.

#### **Appointed by Leader**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Proposed Representative(s)</b>
East of England Local Government Association	Bridget Smith
Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly	1. Ian Sollom 2. Eileen Wilson 3. Peter Topping
South Cambridgeshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	1. Claire Daunton 2. Anna Bradnam
Greater Cambridge Living Well Partnership	Sue Ellington

- To note that, in accordance with Article 4(g) and paragraph 31 of the Scheme of Delegation in Table 2B of Part 3 of the Constitution, the Leader of the Council is authorised to make appointments to outside bodies where the appointment is an executive function.
- To authorise the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Group Leaders, to appoint Members to any vacancies on outside bodies exercising non-executive functions remaining to be filled.

**12. AGREEMENT OF SCHEME OF DELEGATION OF COUNCIL FUNCTIONS**

Council was invited to agree the Scheme of Delegation of Council Functions as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution. The relevant section was Table One (Responsibility for Council Functions) which was appended to the agenda.

The Chairman moved the approval of the Scheme of Delegation of Council Functions and Councillor Van de Weyer seconded the proposal.

Council, by affirmation

**RESOLVED:**

To approve the Scheme of Delegation of Council Functions as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution.

**13. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

No questions from the public had been received.

The Chairman commented on his intention to seek an amendment to the Constitution with a view to enabling the public to make statements at Council meetings without notice.

**14. JOINT SCRUTINY & OVERVIEW COMMITTEE AND PARTNERSHIPS REVIEW COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

Councillor Grenville Chamberlain proposed receipt of the joint Scrutiny and Overview Committee and Partnerships Review Committee Annual Report for 2017/18. In so doing he drew the Council's attention to the following corrections needed to the report:-

- Page 53 – First paragraph – replace “2017/19” with “2017/18” in first sentence.
- Page 54 – List of substitutes – replace “Andrew Johnson” with “Peter Johnson”.

Council **RECEIVED** the Joint Scrutiny and Overview Committee and Partnerships Review Committee Annual Report for 2017/18.

**15. CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

The Chairman of the Council proposed receipt of the Civic Affairs Committee Annual Report for 2017/18.

Council **RECEIVED** the Civic Affairs Committee Annual Report for 2017/18.

**16. ERMINE STREET HOUSING LIMITED**

Councillor Hazel Smith proposed the re-appointment of Stephen Hills as Director of the Council's housing company, Ermine Street Housing Limited. In so doing, she noted that Mr. Hills would be leaving the Council on 20 July 2018 and the Council at its meeting on 19 July 2018, would need to consider an alternative appointment. Councillor Dr. Tumi Hawkins seconded the proposal.

By affirmation, Council



**RESOLVED:**

To approve the re-appointment of Stephen Hills, as Director of the Council's housing company, Ermine Street Housing Limited, until 20 July 2018.

**17. CAMBRIDGE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY**

The Council noted reports prepared by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority summarising the work of the Authority during March 2018.

Councillor John Batchelor, who had served as Chairman of the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee during the previous Civic Year, gave an update on the work of that committee during the past year. He observed that the scrutiny process had been difficult. There had been one call in of a decision regarding the officer and support structure of the Combined Authority. A Task and Finish Group had been set up to review the mass rapid transit proposals for the City. Whilst acknowledging that the Combined Authority had attracted additional funding from the Government, he expressed the view that the capacity of the Combined Authority to manage that funding; deliver a range of complex projects and meet the highest standards of governance required remained open to question.

Council **RECEIVED** the reports summarising the work of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority in March 2018.

**18. MAJOR OPPOSITION GROUP LEADER'S ANNUAL STATEMENT**

Councillor Peter Topping, Leader of the Opposition, presented his annual statement.

Councillor Topping congratulated those Members who had been successful in the recent elections and Councillor Bridget Smith on becoming Leader of the Council. He particularly welcomed two newly elected Conservative Councillors, Councillor Heather Williams and Shrobona Bhattacharya and was pleased to note that women made up half of the Conservative Group's representation.

Looking back at the previous year, Councillor Topping particularly paid tribute to the work of three Members who had been unsuccessful in the recent elections and were no longer available to the benefit of the Council and its residents: Neil Davies, who had worked hard as mental health and well being champion; Simon Edwards whose legacy to the Council was a fiscally secure future and Sebastian Kindersley whose expertise on planning matters would be missed by all.

Councillor Topping wished to highlight the following points:

- 588 affordable homes, or 85% of the total number of affordable houses granted so far by the Combined Authority £100m, would be built in South Cambridgeshire.
- As from two days earlier, the Council had a five year land supply making it harder for developers to put in speculative bids.
- The income stream generated by Ermine Street Housing for this Council had seen nearly £1.7m last year going into front line services that would otherwise have needed to be cut or council taxes increased.

In terms of challenges facing the Council and its residents, Councillor Topping highlighted the importance of:

- Balancing the desire of many young families to have a home in South

Cambridgeshire with the need to keep the rural and green aspect of the district;  
and

- Balancing the need for people to get to work, with the desire to keep the rural and green aspect of the district.

Councillor Topping concluded by indicating his interest in seeing where the new administration would take the Greater Cambridge Partnership. He indicated that his Group would not oppose proposals for the sake of opposition, but would seek to hold the administration to account.

Council **RECEIVED** the Major Opposition Leader's Annual Statement.

## **19. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION UNDER ARTICLE 15.03**

The Council was invited to note changes to the Constitution under Article 15.03, details of which were set out in an appendix for Members' information.

Attention was drawn to typographical errors in the submitted document and specifically, the need to replace "councilors" with "councillors" wherever it appeared in Articles 2.01(a), 2.02 and 9.01.

Council **NOTED** changes made under the provisions of Article 15.03 of the Constitution, which authorised the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Monitoring Officer, to agree and incorporate into the Constitution factual changes and changes required by new legislation which the Council had no choice but to make.

## **20. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

### **20 (a) Question from Councillor Sue Ellington**

*In the past, Members played a significant role in the activities of Parklife at Milton Country Park which is on July 1<sup>st</sup> this year. Will the Leader be encouraging her Members to continue this tradition?*

The Customer Service and Business Improvement Portfolio Holder responded that the answer to the question was "yes".

Councillor Ellington referred to interviews given by the Leader following the election and, as a supplementary question, asked whether the Leader intended to continue with the annual awards ceremonies for tenants' gardens; village heroes and the various community awards. The Leader of the Council responded that all non statutory expenditure was currently under review. It was intended that in future discretionary expenditure should be targeted at people most in need. She indicated that she was happy to discuss the matter further outside of the meeting with Councillor Ellington if it was felt that there was a strong case for retaining such initiatives. However, it was reiterated that all non statutory expenditure was currently being reviewed and the outcomes of the review would be reported in due course.

### **20 (b) Question from Councillor Ruth Betson**

Owing to the absence of Councillor Betson from the meeting due to illness, it was agreed to defer this question to the next meeting of the Council.

**20 (c) Question from Councillor Nick Wright**

*The Leader has been clear in the past that the local plan is a Conservative document. Is it her intention to withdraw it and remove parts such as the development at Bourn Airfield or Waterbeach and have a new local plan?*

The Deputy Leader of the Council responded that he did not intend to pre-empt the conclusions of the planning inspector which were expected shortly. When the inspector's report was received, it would be carefully assessed having regard to the advice of officers. The question about whether the 5,000 or so houses which had been granted planning permission due to the lack of 5 year housing land supply could be taken into account in terms of a revision of housing allocations in the local plan would continue to be asked. The Deputy Leader acknowledged the concerns previously expressed by his Group in relation to the emerging local plan but noted that the Council would need to be mindful of the risks of rejecting the local plan at the last hurdle in terms of returning to the problems associated with the lack of a 5 year housing land supply. He assured the Council that the judgment would be made solely on the basis of what was best for the whole of South Cambridgeshire.

Councillor Wright referred to the opposition previously expressed by the administration in relation to the local plan and, as a supplementary question, asked why it was not therefore proposed to withdraw the local plan which he suggested would be consistent with the opposition previously expressed.

The Deputy Leader reiterated that the decision would be made having regard to the conclusions of the planning inspector and to the best interests of South Cambridgeshire. He commented that it was important to recognise that the Council was coming to the end of the local plan process and that it would be necessary to weigh up all the implications in reaching the conclusion as to what was in the best interests of the District.

**20 (d) Question from Councillor Peter Topping**

*Does the Leader support the aspiration of this Council to build key worker flats for nurses at Northstowe?*

The Leader of the Council responded that she did indeed support this initiative, referring to her earlier comment that affordable housing was a key priority for the administration.

Councillor Topping, as a supplementary question, asked what the timescale was for the delivery of the affordable flats.

The Leader of the Council noted that she had written to the Mayor seeking grant investment from the Combined Authority for key worker housing in Northstowe. She was unable to indicate at this stage whether approval might be forthcoming from the Combined Authority for such a scheme or what the timescales might be if approval was to be given. However she noted that the Mayor was obligated to provide 2,000 additional affordable houses. The Leader recognised the ground work which had been undertaken by Councillor Topping in seeking to achieve the provision of this affordable housing and indicated that she would keep him up to date on any positive developments.

**21. DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2018/19**

Council **NOTED** and **ENDORSED** the following dates for meetings in 2018/19:

Thursday, 19 July 2018 – 2.00pm

Thursday, 27 September 2018 – 2.00pm  
Thursday, 29 November 2018 – 2.00pm  
Thursday, 21 February 2019 – 2.00pm\*  
Thursday, 4 April 2019– 2.00pm  
Thursday, 16 May 2019 (Annual Meeting) – 2.00pm

(\* Note: Moved from Thursday, 28 February 2019 in order to facilitate the billing process).

**22. CHAIRMAN'S ENGAGEMENTS**

Council **NOTED** those engagements attended by the former Chairman and former Vice-Chairman of the Council since the last Council meeting.

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**The Meeting ended at 3.15 p.m.**

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