

COUNCIL

18 MAY 2011

Present :- Councillor Helen Chuah (the Mayor) (Chairman)
Councillors Christopher Arnold (Former Mayor) ,
Nick Barlow, Lyn Barton, Kevin Bentley, Mary Blandon,
John Bouckley (Former Mayor) , Nigel Chapman
(Former Mayor) , Peter Chillingworth, Barrie Cook,
Nick Cope, Mark Cory, Beverly Davies, Tina Dopson,
John Elliott, Andrew Ellis, Margaret Fairley-Crowe
(Former Mayor) , Annie Feltham, Bill Frame,
Ray Gamble (Former Mayor) , Scott Greenhill,
Mike Hardy, Marcus Harrington, Dave Harris,
Pauline Hazell, Peter Higgins, Theresa Higgins,
Mike Hogg (Former Mayor) , Martin Hunt (Deputy
Leader) , John Jowers, Margaret Kimberley,
Justin Knight, Sonia Lewis (Former Mayor) ,
Michael Lilley, Sue Lissimore, Jackie Maclean,
Jon Manning, Richard Martin, Colin Mudie, Nigel Offen,
Beverley Oxford, Gerard Oxford, Philip Oxford,
Will Quince, Lesley Scott-Boutell, Paul Smith,
Henry Spyvee (Former Mayor) , Terry Sutton (Former
Mayor) , Colin Sykes, Laura Sykes, Anne Turrell
(Leader of the Council) , Dennis Willetts, Julie Young
and Tim Young

The Retiring Mayor, Councillor Sonia Lewis, chaired the meeting for item at minute no. 1.

The meeting was opened with prayers by the Mayor's Chaplain, the Reverend Richard Allen

1. Election of Mayor

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Gamble, SECONDED by Councillor Sutton and SUPPORTED by Councillors J. Young and G. Oxford and –

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that Councillor Helen Chuah be elected Mayor of this Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Chuah took the customary oath and made and subscribed the declaration of acceptance of office.

The Mayor then took the Chair and returned thanks for her election.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 16 March 2011 were confirmed as a correct record.

3. Election of Deputy Mayor

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Chapman, SECONDED and SUPPORTED by Councillors Turrell, T. Young and G. Oxford and –

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that Councillor Christopher Arnold be elected Deputy Mayor of this Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Arnold then made and subscribed the declaration of acceptance of office and returned thanks for his election as Deputy Mayor.

4. Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Kimberley, SECONDED and SUPPORTED by Councillors Turrell, T. Young and G. Oxford and –

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that the best thanks of the Council are due and are hereby accorded to Councillor Sonia Lewis for the admirable manner in which she had discharged the responsible duties of the Mayoralty during the past year and that a transcript of this resolution under the Common Seal be furnished to Councillor Sonia Lewis.

5. Mayor's Chaplain and Other Announcements

The Mayor intimated that she had appointed the Reverend Mark Thompson to be her Chaplain for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The Civic Service would take place on Sunday, 5 June 2011 at St Peter's Church. The "Mayor's Escort at Home" would take place on 28 May 2011.

The Mayor also indicated that she would be supporting the following charities:-

Army Benevolent Fund
Colchester Carers Centre
Colchester Samaritans
Phoenix Homes, Colchester
Colchester Scouts Band
Essex Foundation Trust
Hospice and Children's Home in Penang

6. Adjournment

RESOLVED that the meeting stand adjourned until 11.30 and be resumed in the Council Chamber.

RECONVENED MEETING

7. Appointment of the Leader of the Council

RESOLVED that Councillor Turrell be appointed Leader of the Council for the duration of her period of office.

8. Delegations made by the Leader of the Council

RESOLVED that the appointment of the Deputy Leader of the Council, the appointment of Cabinet members, the allocation of responsibility for Portfolios and the Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet members, as circulated at the meeting be noted.

9. Appointment of Panels, Committees and Sub-Committees

RESOLVED that:-

(i) in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the number of seats, Group Representation and membership of the Accounts and Regulatory Committee, Crime and Disorder Committee, Finance and Audit Scrutiny Panel, Licensing Committee, Local Development Framework Committee, Planning Committee, Policy Review and Development Panel and the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel for the ensuing municipal year be as circulated at the meeting.

(ii) in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the appointments of the Standards Committee and the Task and Finish Groups shall not be on a Group basis and membership shall be as circulated at the meeting and as appended to these minutes.

(iii) authority to approve the membership of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel be delegated to the Group Leaders.

10. Former Councillors

RESOLVED that the Council record its grateful thanks to former Councillors Fisher, Foster and Tod for the public service rendered by them to this Borough during their

period of office as Councillors and that a transcript of this resolution be furnished to each of them on parchment under the Common Seal of the Borough as a permanent record of the appreciation of the Council.

11. Section 151 Officer

RESOLVED that Sean Plummer be designated as the Council's Section 151 Officer with effect from Monday 6 June 2011.

12. City Status

Wendy Bailey, Vice Chair of Destination Colchester, addressed the Council pursuant to the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 6(2). She thanked Council for the support it had shown the bid at the meeting on 23 March 2011. There would be some minor drafting amendments and additions to the bid before it was submitted. She believed that this was a big opportunity for Colchester and the bid made a compelling case for City Status. It was primarily a community led bid with considerable support from the residents of the borough and the costs involved would be minimal.

RESOLVED that the bid by Destination Colchester for City Status be endorsed subject to any minor drafting amendments which may prove necessary and that the final bid be submitted by the Council to the Deputy Prime Minister (MAJORITY voted FOR).