

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Tuesday 7 June, 2022 at 12.03 pm

PRESENT IN COUNCIL CHAMBER

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Alderman S Martin (Outgoing)
Councillor S Carson (Incoming)

Deputy Mayor
Councillor T Mitchell (Outgoing)
Councillor M Guy (Incoming)

Aldermen J Baird, W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale,
A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, A Grehan, M Henderson MBE,
S P Porter and J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, R T Beckett, F Cole, D J Craig,
J Gallen, A Givan, M Gregg, S Hughes, J Lavery BEM,
S Lee, H Legge, S Lowry, C McCready, A McIntyre,
R McLernon, U Mackin, S Mulholland, Jenny Palmer,
John Palmer, S Skillen, A Swan and N Trimble

PRESENT IN A REMOTE LOCATION

Councillors R Carlin, A Gowan and G McCleave

IN ATTENDANCE IN COUNCIL CHAMBER

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Director of Service Transformation
Acting PSCP/Member Services Manager
Member Services Officers
Technician
IT Officer

Pastor Y Wilkinson, Lagan Valley Vineyard Church

Commencement of Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Outgoing), Alderman S Martin, welcomed those present to the Annual Meeting of Council which was being live-streamed to enable members of the public to both hear and see the proceedings. He particularly welcomed all those in the public gallery and stated that it was good to have so many people able to be present in person at the meeting, as this had not been the case during the pandemic.

The Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Outgoing Mayor, Alderman S Martin, requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Outgoing Mayor, Alderman S Martin, welcomed newly-appointed Members Councillor S Mulholland (Killultagh DEA) and Councillor F Cole (Castlereagh South DEA). They had replaced Councillors D Honeyford and S Eastwood who had been elected as MLAs in last month's NI Assembly Elections and Alderman Martin wished them all the best for their time on Council.

At this point, the Outgoing Mayor expressed condolences in respect of the following bereavements:

- Martin, father of Sarah Parkinson, member of staff in the Environmental Health Service Unit;
- Jim McLaughlin, Chairman of Derriaghy Village Community Association, who was held in high esteem by Elected Members in the Lisburn North DEA.

Councillor D J Craig stated that, whilst the sudden death of Mr McLaughlin was a sad occasion for Elected Members who had worked with him during his 14 years as Chairman of Derriaghy Village Community Association, he was mindful of the great loss his passing was for his wife Ruth, son, daughter, their spouses, and his grandson. Councillor Craig stated that Mr McLaughlin was a larger-than-life character who had been very passionate about his local community. To his credit, he had fought for the past year to have Milltown estate resurfaced and that had been carried out in the last few months. He had also strived for the past decade to have the former Derriaghy Primary School site used to bring about a community facility for Milltown and had recently seen a major step forward in that programme. Earlier this year, Mr McLaughlin had received a Mayor's Award for Volunteering. The night before he passed away, he had been in attendance at the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Lighting event in Royal Hillsborough and was enormously proud to have been invited. Councillor Craig stated that thoughts and prayers were with the McLaughlin family at this sad time.

At this point, the Outgoing Mayor, Alderman S Martin, advised that his Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend C Meban, was unable to be present at the meeting. In her place, Alderman Martin welcomed Pastor Y Wilkinson, Lagan Valley Vineyard Church. Pastor Wilkinson thanked the Mayor for inviting her to attend and stated that it was a great joy and privilege to have the opportunity to be present. She gave an address, followed by prayer, and wished the Incoming Mayor well in their new position.

1. Business of The Right Worshipful The Mayor

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Outgoing), Alderman S Martin, and the Deputy Mayor (Outgoing), Councillor T Mitchell, since the last meeting of Council.

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Councillors A P Ewing and J McCarthy.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

4. Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 7 June, 2021

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 7 June, 2021, as adopted and signed at the Meeting of Council held on 22 June, 2021, were noted.

5. Election of Members to Positions of Responsibility 2022/2023

5.1 Election of Mayor 2022/2023

The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Outgoing) Alderman S Martin, stated that it had been an honour to have been Mayor over the last year. He had set out his Mayoral theme as 'Joining the Dots', with the aspiration of promoting inclusivity and equality for all in community life.

It had been a particular honour to be Mayor when Royal Status had been conferred on Hillsborough Village and to be able to represent the people of Lisburn & Castlereagh as part of those celebrations. Alderman Martin referred to a number of other significant events that had occurred during this term in office, such as awarding Freedom of the City to HSC staff at a Garden Party in Castle Gardens and participating in a number of Centenary-related activities

Alderman Martin was proud to have been the first Mayor of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council to welcome members of the Rainbow Project to a reception at Lagan Valley Island. His chosen Mayoral Charities had been MACS and ADD-NI, whose work in supporting children and young people who faced additional challenges was exceptional. Alderman Martin had also brought about the installation of multi-coloured umbrellas across Lisburn City Centre and he hoped people would see those as a reminder of the valuable contribution that everyone made to a positive and happy community. The theme of umbrellas and rainbows for brighter days ahead had been carried through to the Mayor's Parade. The Outgoing Mayor had been privileged to recognise the work of local heroes through the Mayor's Community Awards. Local community and voluntary groups had demonstrated what could be achieved to support each other through difficult times. Throughout the year, Alderman Martin had celebrated the lives and work of many local people and organisations. He had hosted International Nurses Day, recognised the work of St John's Ambulance, nurses and midwives and raised a flag for NHS and Front Line Workers Day. He had also celebrated 40 years of integrated education with some very talented young people from integrated schools.

5.1 Election of Mayor 2022/2023 (Contd)

It had been a privilege to be in office during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, which had provided a much-welcomed opportunity to come together to celebrate and this would live long in Alderman Martin's memory.

Alderman Martin paid tribute to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, his wife Michelle and his children, for their support and help over the past year, especially to the Deputy Mayor for stepping in when the Mayor had Covid-19. He paid tribute to the Chief Executive and Directors for their support and invaluable advice during his term in office. Alderman Martin further paid tribute to the Head of Corporate Communications and Administration, as well as the team in the Mayor's Office, for their hard work through challenging times. He thanked all those who had supported him, attended events and been involved with his Mayoral Charities.

Finally, the Outgoing Mayor paid tribute to his wife, Joanna, his three daughters and wider family circle. He stated that the Mayoress also wished to pass on her gracious thanks and appreciation for the support received in the last year.

The Outgoing Mayor, Alderman S Martin, now invited the Outgoing Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, to address the meeting. Councillor Mitchell thanked Alderman Martin for his kind words and stated that it had been an honour and privilege to serve the community of Lisburn & Castlereagh over the last 12 months. Three occasions that had stood out for Councillor Mitchell had been representing the Council at the Ulster Tower Commemoration in autumn 2021, hosting an event for International Nurses Day and representing the Council at various events associated with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Councillor Mitchell extended his thanks to the Outgoing Mayor and his family for their support; the Chief Executive, Directors, staff in the Mayor's Office and the Head of Corporate Communications and Administration. Finally, he thanked his wife and family for the support they had given him during the last year.

On behalf of their parties, a number of Members paid tribute to the Outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor, namely Alderman J Tinsley, Alderman A Grehan, Councillor N Trimble, Councillor S Lee, Councillor J Gallen, Councillor R Carlin and Councillor N Anderson. Reference was made to the fact that the Chains of Office for Mayor and Deputy Mayor had been carried with distinction by Alderman Martin and Councillor Mitchell; they had worked harmoniously together and had both represented the Council very well. Alderman Martin had been a 'Mayor for everyone', provided strong leadership and had been ably assisted by Councillor Mitchell.

At this point, The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Outgoing), Alderman S Martin, declared the offices of Mayor and Deputy Mayor vacant. Alderman Martin and Councillor Mitchell removed their Chains of Office. Councillor Mitchell vacated his seat at the top table.

The Outgoing Mayor having sought nominations for the position of Mayor of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council for 2022/23, Alderman J Tinsley (Nominating Officer for the DUP) stated that it gave him great pleasure in nominating Councillor S Carson. He had known Councillor Carson as a friend and Council colleague for

5.1 Election of Mayor 2022/2023 (Contd)

quite a lot of years and had no doubt that he would be an ambassador for the Council. This proposal was seconded by Alderman A G Ewart and agreed.

The Outgoing Mayor, having declared Councillor S Carson elected as Mayor for 2022/23, vacated his seat at the top table.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, put on the Mayoral Chain, signed the Declaration of Office and took his seat at the top table.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, began by thanking the Outgoing Mayor and Mayoress and their family for having had a very successful and busy year. He stated that Alderman Martin had chaired meetings with fairness and had represented the Council with distinction. It was with pleasure that Councillor Carson now presented the Outgoing Mayor with his Past-Mayor's Jewel for his year in office.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, stated that to have been elected to this Council had been a very humbling experience and he thanked the electorate of Lisburn North for their support and faith in him. He further thanked his party colleagues and, in particular, Alderman J Tinsley, for having nominated him now for the position of Mayor, as well all those who had encouraged him in politics through the years. To assume the position of First Citizen was the most prestigious accolade in local government and one that Councillor Carson looked forward to with eagerness. He stated that he was proud to come from Lisburn, proud of its history, its people and what it had achieved. He wanted to see that continue this year and into the future. Councillor Carson went on to explain his involvement in politics since 2006 and stated that he was very grateful to the many individuals who had offered timely advice, practical assistance and gentle encouragement.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, thanked his wife, Ruth, for being by his side and looked forward to having her with him as much as possible in her capacity as Mayoress. He also spoke about his daughters Isabella and Penelope and stated that he was very pleased to have family and friends along with him today, for whose support he was grateful.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that his Mayor's Chaplain for the year ahead would be Reverend Roger Higginson, Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church.

Councillor Carson advised of a previous period of ill-health that his daughter had experienced, when she had received treatment in the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, and spoke of the support provided to him and his wife by the Atlas Centre in Lisburn at that time. For those reasons, The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that his Mayoral Charities would be the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children and the Atlas Centre. He would welcome the support of Elected Members, staff and the public in his fundraising efforts for these charities during the course of the year ahead.

Councillor Carson stated that, as Mayor, his door would always be open. Regardless of political party, he advised all Members that if they had an event or a

5.1 Election of Mayor 2022/2023 (Contd)

group they wished to bring in, his door would be open to that. He encouraged them to come forward at any stage and stated that he wanted to be a Mayor for all Members of Council.

5.2 Election of Deputy Mayor 2022/2023

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, sought nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year 2022/2023.

Alderman A Grehan (Nominating Officer for the APNI) stated that it gave her great pleasure to nominate Councillor M Guy for the position of Deputy Mayor of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council for 2022/23. She stated that, since her election to Council in 2019, Councillor Guy had thrown herself into the role of Councillor for Castlereagh South and had been a real asset to the APNI group; her level-headedness and insight was very much valued. She was not only a colleague, but a friend to Alderman Grehan. Councillor Guy had shown great leadership as Chairman of the Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP and had championed inclusivity and accessibility across all services of the Council. This proposal was seconded by Councillor A McIntyre and agreed.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, put on the Deputy Mayoral Chain, signed the Declaration of Office and took her seat at the top table.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, congratulated Councillor Guy on her appointment to the position of Deputy Mayor and stated that he looked forward to getting to know her more and working with her at engagements they would share during the coming year.

Councillor Guy thanked The Right Worshipful the Mayor for his words and congratulated him on his appointment to the position of Mayor today, which was a really special day for him and his family. In her capacity as Deputy Mayor, Councillor Guy would be delighted and committed to supporting Councillor Carson. She would embrace all opportunities and assist with fundraising for the Mayoral charities. She also commended the Outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their very successful year in office and stated that they had set a high bar for herself and Councillor Carson. Alderman Martin had been inclusive, positive and hard-working.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, stated that she was sincerely grateful to her party colleagues for nominating her for this position. Embarking on the journey as Councillor had pushed her out of her comfort zone and that had been a good thing. This role as Deputy Mayor would be challenging her again. Councillor Guy was delighted to have her husband, children and parents in attendance at today's meeting. She stated that she was grateful for their patience and support. Councillor Guy thanked her friend and mentor, Paula Bradshaw MLA, as well as Alderman A Grehan, both of whom were very much her kind of politicians. They were focussed on work and without their example and encouragement, Councillor Guy would not be here in any capacity today. The Deputy Mayor referred to her 'Team of 9' APNI colleagues and welcomed newly-appointed Members Councillors

5.2 Election of Deputy Mayor 2022/2023 (Contd)

F Cole and S Mulholland, who had replaced former Councillors S Eastwood and D Honeyford, to that team. On behalf of the party, she congratulated them on their appointments and welcomed them.

Finally, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, thanked Council Officers, particularly the Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager who had briefed her on today's proceedings.

5.3 Election of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for 2022/2023

The Right Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor S Carson, invited the Nominating Officers as set out below to advise of their party nominations for the posts of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Standing Committees for 2022/2023:-

DUP	Alderman J Tinsley
UUP	Councillor N Trimble
APNI	Alderman A Grehan
Green Party	Councillor S Lee

Arising from the nominations made by the Nominating Officers, the following appointments of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for 2022/2023 were agreed on a proposal made by Councillor A Givan and seconded by Councillor N Anderson:

(i) Planning Committee

Chairman	Alderman J Tinsley
Vice-Chairman	Councillor John Palmer

(ii) Governance & Audit Committee

Chairman	Alderman D Drysdale
Vice-Chairman	Councillor Jenny Palmer

(iii) Leisure & Community Development Committee

Chairman	Councillor A McIntyre
Vice-Chairman	Councillor A Gowan

(iv) Environmental Services Committee

Chairman	Councillor M Gregg
Vice-Chairman	Councillor C McCready

(v) Development Committee

Chairman	Alderman A G Ewart
Vice-Chairman	Alderman A Grehan

(vi) Corporate Services Committee

Chairman	Councillor S Hughes
Vice-Chairman	Councillor U Mackin

(vii) Capital Projects Committee

Chairman	Councillor S Lowry
Vice-Chairman	Councillor S Lee

6. Election of Members to Committee Positions 2022/2023

The Right Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor S Carson, invited the Nominating Officers as set out below to advise of their party nominations for membership of the Standing Committees for 2022/2023:-

DUP	Alderman J Tinsley
UUP	Councillor N Trimble
APNI	Alderman A Grehan
SDLP	Councillor J Gallen
SF	Councillor R Carlin
Green Party	Councillor S Lee

Whilst nominations for SF places had been submitted previously by the SF Nominating Officer, Councillor R Carlin, the nominations were put forward at the meeting by Councillor G McCleave. Arising from the nominations made by the Nominating Officers, the following appointments for Committee membership were agreed on a proposal made by Councillor A Givan and seconded by Councillor N Anderson:

6.1 Planning Committee

Councillor D J Craig
 Alderman W J Dillon
 Alderman D Drysdale
 Alderman O Gawith
 Councillor M Gregg
 Alderman A Grehan
 Councillor J McCarthy
 Councillor U Mackin
 Councillor A Swan

6.2 Governance & Audit Committee

Alderman J Baird
 Councillor D J Craig
 Councillor J Gallen
 Alderman O Gawith
 Councillor S Lowry
 Alderman S Martin
 Councillor J McCarthy

6.2 Governance & Audit Committee (Contd)

Councillor G McCleave
Councillor C McCready
Councillor John Palmer
Alderman S P Porter
Councillor A Swan
Alderman J Tinsley

It was noted that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, were ex-officio Members of the above Committee.

6.3 Leisure & Community Development Committee

Councillor N Anderson
Councillor R T Beckett
Councillor R Carlin
Councillor D J Craig
Alderman A Grehan
Alderman M Henderson
Councillor J Laverty
Councillor H Legge
Alderman S Martin
Councillor T Mitchell
Councillor S Mulholland
Councillor Jenny Palmer
Councillor S Skillen

It was noted that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, were ex-officio Members of the above Committee.

6.4 Environmental Services Committee

Alderman J Baird
Councillor F Cole
Alderman D Drysdale
Councillor A P Ewing
Councillor A Givan
Alderman M Henderson
Councillor S Lee
Councillor S Lowry
Councillor A McIntyre
Councillor R McLernon
Councillor T Mitchell
Alderman S P Porter
Councillor S Skillen

It was noted that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, were ex-officio Members of the above Committee.

6.5 Development Committee

Alderman J Baird
Councillor F Cole
Alderman W J Dillon
Alderman D Drysdale
Councillor J Gallen
Councillor A Givan
Councillor A Gowan
Councillor H Legge
Councillor G McCleave
Councillor C McCready
Councillor U Mackin
Councillor S Mulholland
Councillor A Swan

It was noted that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, were ex-officio Members of the above Committee.

6.6 Corporate Services Committee

Councillor R Carlin
Alderman A G Ewart
Councillor A P Ewing
Alderman O Gawith
Alderman M Henderson
Councillor J Lavery
Councillor S Lowry
Councillor J McCarthy
Alderman S Martin
Councillor T Mitchell
Alderman S P Porter
Alderman J Tinsley
Councillor N Trimble

It was noted that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, were ex-officio Members of the above Committee.

6.7 Capital Projects Committee

Councillor R T Beckett
Alderman D Drysdale
Alderman A G Ewart
Councillor A Gowan
Councillor M Gregg
Alderman A Grehan
Councillor S Hughes
Councillor J Lavery
Councillor H Legge
Councillor G McCleave

6.7 Capital Projects Committee (Contd)

Councillor R McLernon
Councillor N Trimble

It was noted that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, were ex-officio Members of the above Committee.

7. Partnership Panel

Councillor N Trimble, Nominating Officer for the UUP, advised that the Replacement Nomination on the Partnership Panel was Alderman M Henderson. This information was noted.

8. Lisburn & Castlereagh Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Chairman 2022/2023

In accordance with the Justice (NI) Act 2011 under which the position of Chairman of the Policing & Community Safety Partnership was rotated in turn by each of the four largest parties represented on the Council immediately after the last local general election, it was noted that the Chairman of the Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP for 2022/2023 was an SDLP Member.

Councillor J Gallen, Nominating Officer for the SDLP, advised that he would be Chairman of the Lisburn & Castlereagh PCSP for 2022/2023. This information was noted.

Councillor N Trimble, Nominating Officer for the UUP, advised that Councillor John Palmer would be replacing Councillor R McLernon on the PCSP. This information was noted.

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, thanked those present for their attendance and, there being no further business for consideration, the meeting concluded at 1.20 pm.

Mayor