

## **Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 17th May, 2023 at The Ballroom, Retford Town Hall, DN22 6DB**

Present: Councillor D Merryweather (Chairman)

Councillors:

C.L Adams	J.W. Naish
D.C Bamford	D.A. Naylor
J. P.Bowker	G.A.N. Oxby
H. M. Brand	S.H. Pashley
M.M. Carroll	D. G. Pidwell
M.R. Charlesworth	J. Potts
A.K. Coultate	D. R. Pressley
H. Digby	D. E. Pulk
L.A. Dixon	A. Rhodes
P.J. Ducey	M. Richardson
T.P. Eaton BCA	L.A. Sanders
C. Entwistle	N.J. Sanders
J. Evans	J.M. Sanger MBE
S. Fielding	B.L. Schuller
E.M Griffin	S. Scotthorne
D.J. Henderson	J. C. Shephard
J.M. Horrocks	J.G. Slater
J. A. Leigh	L A Stanniland
J.O. Manners	C. Tindle
F. McFarland	C. Troop
F. Merryweather	J. White

Officers in attendance: D Armiger, R Colebourne, L Dixon, C Hopkinson, C Taylor, M Wildman and S Wormald.

(The meeting opened at 6.30 pm.)

#### **1 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R B Carrington-Wilde, D Challinor, G Dinsdale and S E Shaw.

#### **2 Declarations**

There were no declarations received from Members or officers.

#### **3 Election of Chairman**

Proposed by Councillor A Rhodes and seconded by Councillor J Potts.

**Resolved** that Councillor D Merryweather be elected Chairman of Bassetlaw District Council for the 2023/24 municipal year.

The Chairman took and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Chairman thanked fellow Councillors for supporting the nomination. She thanked Councillor G Freeman for trusting her to be Chairman as due to personal circumstances Councillor G Freeman was unable to perform the duty of Chairman for 2023/24. It is with pride she accepts the nomination to represent Bassetlaw. She looks forward to working with all councillors. During her time as Chairman, she will do her utmost to champion people with mental health issues. She gave special thanks to her neighbours who were in attendance. She thanked Councillor M Richardson for her year of office and congratulated her on her good work throughout the year.

#### **4 Vote of Thanks**

Proposed by Councillor J Naish and seconded by Councillor J White.

The Chief Executive also gave his thanks to the retiring Chairman on behalf of officers and presented her with a gift of thanks.

**Resolved** that a vote of thanks be recorded to the retiring Chairman, Councillor M Richardson.

The retiring Chairman commented that it has been a great honour to represent Bassetlaw. She has attended 82 events and functions in Nottinghamshire and the surrounding area forging many friendships. She noted in particular Remembrance Day, the Mercian Freedom March, Tree Lighting Events, carol services and the Bassetlaw Achievers Awards. She commented that it was a privilege to attend the Queen's Jubilee Service, the proclamation after her passing and the remembrance service. She noted that she had met many dedicated volunteers over the year. She thanked her brother Graham and the Vice-Chairman for her friendship. She thanked the Civic Officer and Member Support Officers. She wished the incoming Chairman a successful year of office.

#### **5 Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

Proposed by Councillor J Naish and seconded by Councillor J White, it was

**Resolved** that Councillor Gillian Freeman be appointed Vice-Chairman of Bassetlaw District Council for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

The incoming Vice-Chairman accepted the appointment

#### **6 Minutes**

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 be approved.

#### **7 Communications**

##### **Chairman's Communications**

The Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and hoped they would join her for tea and cake after the meeting.

##### **Chief Executive's Communications**

The Chief Executive welcomed all new and returning Members.

## 8 Confirmation of Leader

**Resolved** that Councillor J Naish be confirmed as the Leader of Bassetlaw District Council for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

The Leader congratulated all new and re-elected members and welcomed new members who had been elected for the first time. He commented that:

- There were 17 new councillors in total, making up 35% of this administration's intake. He thanked them for taking this step to serve the people of Bassetlaw.
- For those who needed it, for general guidance during the next few months, the Leader said that his phone and laptops are always nearby, and that he looks forward to working with all councillors over the coming months and years as they seek to build a positive future for Bassetlaw.
- He thanked Labour colleagues for their patience during the campaign period and said that he looked forward to continuing to build positive working relationships with them as they focus on delivering the commitments made to the electorate over recent weeks.
- He thanked officers present, especially Steve and Cara, for overseeing the recent elections which saw an increased turnout vs. 2019. He thanked the team for their efforts, especially given the challenges presented by new photo ID requirements. He said the Council's communication efforts on this matter were considerable and effective, so he also thanked the Council's Comms Team for their efforts.
- In response to an article on ConservativeHome written by the leader of the opposition, Cllr Stanniland, the Leader wryly commented on the balance of councillors in the room and noted that this didn't align with the narrative of the article which had appeared online. He said that the number of Labour Councillors had increased by 3 vs. the last meeting in March. The opposition's count had increased by 2. He noted that the number of Labour Councillors had reached a record high at 38, and said that this was only the fourth time since 1973 that the opposition had returned less than 10 councillors, having had 12 in 2015 and as many as 25 in 2010. The election results showed that Labour secured over 47% of the vote, the highest since all-out elections commenced in Bassetlaw in 2015.
- The Leader thanked the electorate for putting their trust in Labour to continue its record of delivering locally. He said that he was personally delighted to see so many colleagues returned having been endorsed by residents for the hard work and support that they provide to their respective communities, day in, day out. He congratulated and thanked them for their election efforts.
- The Leader noted that when he spoke about becoming Leader of the Labour Group in 2022, he told colleagues that "I want to show residents and businesses that we can build a fairer, better, more equal society". Now they have a four-year opportunity to deliver on that commitment.
- They have produced an optimistic vision for the future, a vision for 2040 which aligns with delivery of the STEP fusion energy programme. It is this vision which he and Labour colleagues took to the public in the 2023 local elections, and which they will directly consult residents and businesses about in the coming months.
- It is a vision where, despite the limited resources locally, Bassetlaw Labour wants to continue to create jobs and develop skills. A vision where fighting for the likes of the STEP

project becomes the norm. A vision where the Council will be leading by example, helping residents adapt to the impacts of climate change.

- Key to delivering this vision for 2040 will be setting-up for success. This is why the Leader said he had restructured the Cabinet so there is direct alignment between Cabinet portfolios and the priorities stated in the vision for 2040. There are six stated priorities are – identity, skills, business, environment, facilities for all and a healthy district.
- The Leader acknowledged that the vision won't be delivered in a single four-year election cycle – it is too big for that. However, he said that he recognised the need for a long-term vision and plan if the Council is to fully realise the potential of the District.
- He said that he hoped that no matter where Members were sitting, they would help to contribute to this ambition. The Leader confirmed that he will work hard for the good of residents and businesses across Bassetlaw, to realise the positive aspirations for the area to become the greenest, most sustainable district in which to live and work.

## **9 Committees**

Members were asked to appoint Committees and bodies as the Council considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither received by the Council nor are Cabinet functions, as per the tabled report.

**Resolved** that the membership of Committees be approved as follows:

### **AUDIT AND RISK SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 9  
Political Balance: 7-2

**Chair: Vacant**

**Vice-Chair: Councillor C Troop**

Councillor R B Carrington-Wilde  
Councillor L A Dixon  
Councillor C Entwistle  
Councillor J M Horrocks  
Councillor F Merryweather

Councillor E Griffin  
Councillor J Manners

Substitutes: Any Member except those appointed to Cabinet  
Lead Officer: Head of Finance and Property

### **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 12  
Political Balance: 10-1-1

**Chair: Councillor J Potts**  
**Vice-Chair: Councillor C Tindle**

Councillor M M Carroll  
Councillor T P Eaton BCA  
Councillor D J Henderson  
Councillor D Merryweather  
Councillor F Merryweather  
Councillor L A Sanders  
Councillor D A Naylor  
Councillor S E Shaw

Councillor A Coultate

Councillor J Sanger MBE

Substitutes: None  
Lead officer: Principal Solicitor (Licensing and Regulatory)

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 12

Political Balance: 10-2

**Chair: Councillor J C Shephard**  
**Vice-Chair: Councillor M Richardson**

Councillor M M Carroll  
Councillor H J Digby  
Councillor P J Ducey  
Councillor J M Horrocks  
Councillor D A Naylor  
Councillor D R Pressley  
Councillor L A Sanders  
(Chair of Audit & Risk Scrutiny Committee)

Councillor D Bamford  
Councillor S Pashley

Substitutes: Any Member except those appointed to Cabinet  
Lead Officer: Head of Corporate Services

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 12

Political Balance: 9-2-1

**Chair: Councillor N J Sanders**  
**Vice-Chair: Councillor S J Fielding**

Councillor C L Adams  
Councillor J P Bowker  
Councillor D Challinor  
Councillor M R Charlesworth  
Councillor G Freeman  
Councillor G A N Oxby  
Councillor D G Pidwell

Councillor G Dinsdale  
Councillor F McFarland

Councillor H M Brand

Substitutes: None  
Lead Officer: Head of Regeneration

### **APPEALS COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 3  
Political Balance: 2-1

**Chair: Councillor J Evans**  
**Vice-Chair: Councillor C Entwistle**

Councillor L Stanniland

Substitutes: Any Member except a Member involved in making the decision which is the subject of the appeal  
Lead Officer: Chief Executive

### **APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 9  
Political Balance: 7-1-1

**Chair: Councillor J Naish**  
**Vice-Chair: Councillor J White**

Councillor R B Carrington-Wilde  
Councillor G J Evans  
Councillor J A Leigh  
Councillor A Rhodes  
Councillor S E Shaw

Councillor L Stanniland

Councillor H M Brand

Substitutes: Any Member  
Lead Officer: Chief Executive

## **CHIEF OFFICERS' INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Council)**

No. of Seats: 3  
Political Balance: 2-1

**Chairm: Councillor D E Pulk**  
**Vice-Chair: Councillor L Schuller**

Councillor L Stanniland

Substitutes: Any Member  
Lead Officer: As appropriate

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Cabinet)**

No. of Seats: 8  
Political Balance: 7-1

**Chair: Councillor D Challinor**

Councillor L A Dixon  
Councillor T P Eaton  
Councillor C Entwistle  
Councillor J Potts  
Councillor D R Pressley  
Councillor J C Shephard

Councillor J Manners

Substitutes: Any member drawn from the same area of representation  
as the member unable to attend  
Lead Officer: Safety and Resilience Manager

## **INTRODUCTORY TENANCIES APPEAL BOARD**

**(Reporting to Cabinet)**

No. of Seats: 8  
Political Balance: 7-1

Councillor M M Carroll  
Councillor H J Digby  
Councillor P J Ducey  
Councillor G Freeman  
Councillor F Merryweather  
Councillor J Potts  
Councillor L A Sanders

Councillor A Coultate

Substitutes: Any Member unless they were involved in making the decision  
which formed the subject of the appeal  
Lead Officer: Principal Solicitor (Licensing and Regulatory)

### **JOINT EMPLOYEE COUNCIL**

**(Reporting to Cabinet)**

No. of Seats: 6  
Political Balance: 4-1-1

Councillor P J Ducey  
Councillor N J Sanders  
Councillor M Richardson  
Councillor S Scotthorne

Councillor F McFarland

Councillor J Sanger MBE

Substitutes: Any member provided that the substitute is drawn from the same area of  
representation as the member unable to attend.  
Lead Officer: Head of People and Culture

### **STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE**

**(Reporting to Audit and Risk Scrutiny Committee)**

Members to be drawn from the Audit and Risk Scrutiny Committee

Lead Officer: Director of Corporate Resources

## **10 Outside Organisations**

Members were asked to review, and amend if necessary, appointments to Outside Organisations,  
as per the tabled report.

**Resolved** that the appointments to Outside Organisations be approved as follows:

### **INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS MADE TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS 2023/24**

BASSETLAW ACTION CENTRE  
Councillor C Troop

BASSETLAW FOOD BANK  
Councillor M M Carroll



BASSETLAW TWINNING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(AGM in January)  
Councillors D Bamford, D Merryweather and J Shephard

BERSAHILL LTD.  
Councillor S Scotthorne

CHESTERFIELD CANAL TRUST PARTNERSHIP  
Councillor S J Fielding

FOCUS ON YOUNG PEOPLE IN BASSETLAW  
Councillor T P Eaton BCA

GOODWIN HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Councillors J Manners, D Naylor and C Troop

INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARDS  
Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Level Management Board  
Councillors H M Brand and J M Sanger  
Trent Valley Councillors S Shaw, J Slater and L Stanniland

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL  
Councillor M Richardson (Sub - Councillor L Schuller)

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY ACTION  
Councillor C L Adams (sub J Leigh)

PATROLJC (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London Adjudication Committee)  
Councillor D Pidwell  
Sub Councillor J White

ROBIN HOOD AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
Councillor D G Pidwell (Sub - Councillor J White)

RURAL SERVICES NETWORK  
Councillor S Fielding (Sub - Councillor J Naish)

STUART GOODWIN CHARITIES  
(a) Sir Stuart Goodwin Charity (Former Borough)  
(Incoming Retford Town Mayor)  
and Councillors J G Slater and C Troop  
(b) Sir Stuart and Lady Goodwin Charity (Former Rural)  
(Chairman of the District Council)  
and Councillors J Bowker, H M Brand, D E Pulk and J M Sanger MBE.

WORKSOP CHARITIES  
Councillor D R Pressley and N Sanders

## **ROLE BASED APPOINTMENTS MADE TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS 2023/24**

BASSETLAW CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU  
Cabinet Member for Corporate Services

**BASSETLAW PUBLIC AND THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIP**

Board – Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing (Sub - Shadow Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing)

**BASSETLAW COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SERVICE**

Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing (Sub - Shadow Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing)

**BASSETLAW, NEWARK AND SHERWOOD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing (Sub - Shadow Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing)

**DISTRICT COUNCILS' NETWORK ASSEMBLY**

Cabinet Member for Communications, Policy and Strategy (Sub - Cabinet Member for Skills and Business)

**DONCASTER AND BASSETLAW HOSPITALS TRUST**

Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing (Sub - Shadow Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing)

**EAST MIDLANDS MUSEUMS SERVICE**

Cabinet Member for Identity and Place and Museum Curator

**EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILS**

Cabinet Member for Communications, Policy and Strategy (Sub - Cabinet Member for Skills and Business)

Regional Employers Board - Cabinet Member for Skills and Business

Strategic Migration Board – Cabinet Member for Corporate Services

**NHS BASSETLAW PATIENT AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GROUP**

Shadow Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Health and Well-being Board - Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing (Sub - Shadow Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing)

Joint Economic Committee – Cabinet Member for Skills and Business (Sub – Shadow Cabinet Member for Skills and Business)

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST**

(Chairman of the District Council) (Honorary Vice-President)

**RETFORD AIR CADETS (1403 SQUADRON) – CIVILIAN COMMITTEE**

Chairman of the District Council

**ROTARY CLUB OF WORKSOP AND DUKERIES**

Chairman of the District Council (Honorary Member)

**ROYAL TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE**

Chair of Planning Committee

(Sub - Vice-Chair of Planning Committee)

**S80**

Cabinet Member for Corporate Strategy and S Scotthorne

**SHEFFIELD CITY REGION**

Sheffield City Region Combined Authority – Cabinet Member for Communications, Policy and Strategy (Sub - Cabinet Member for Skills and Business)

## **11 Meetings**

Members were asked to receive the programme of meetings for the Council for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

**Resolved** that the programme of meetings for the Council for the 2023/24 Municipal Year be received.

## **12 Any Other Business Which The Chairman Considers to be Urgent**

As there was no other urgent business to be discussed the Chairman closed the meeting.

(Meeting closed at 7.10 pm.)