

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD AT ST MARY IN THE CASTLE, HASTINGS
ON 4 JUNE 2014**

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Bruce Dowling) in the Chair; Councillors Atkins, Batsford, Beaney, Beaver, Birch, Cartwright, Charlesworth, Charman, Chowney, Clark, Cooke, Davies, Dowling, Fitzgerald, Forward, Hodges, Howard, Lee, Lock, Poole, Pragnell, Roberts, Rogers, Sabetian, Scott, Sinden, Street, Turner, Webb, Westley and Wincott

Apologies for absence were notes for Councillor Edwards

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

Councillor Scott proposed that Councillor Bruce Dowling be elected Mayor of the Borough of Hastings for the current municipal year, which was seconded by Councillor Westley.

Councillor Lock proposed that Councillor Maureen Charlesworth be elected Mayor of the Borough of Hastings for the current municipal year, which was seconded by Councillor Lee.

Both Councillors Charlesworth and Dowling withdrew from the meeting and the vote was conducted by show of hands. 6 members having voted for Councillor Charlesworth and 23 for Councillor Dowling, it was declared: -

That Councillor Bruce Dowling is elected Mayor of the Borough of Hastings for the current municipal year.

Councillor Dowling made the declaration prescribed by Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972 and addressed the meeting.

2. PRESENTATION TO RETIRING MAYOR

The Right Worshipful the Mayor proposed that the thanks of the council be extended to Councillor Alan Roberts for the services rendered by him to the council and the inhabitants of the Borough during his term of office as Mayor from May 2012 until today, which was seconded by Councillor Birch.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor presented Councillor Roberts with his past mayoral badge.

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Clark proposed that Councillor Judy Rogers be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Hastings for the current municipal year, which was seconded by Councillor Poole. There were no further nominations.

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RESOLVED - that Councillor Judy Rogers is elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Hastings for the current municipal year.

Councillor Rogers made the declaration prescribed by Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972

4. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16 APRIL 2014

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2014 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record of the proceedings.

5. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Mayoral announcements at the meeting.

6. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Hodges proposed that Councillor Jeremy Birch be elected Leader of the Council for a four year term of office, which was seconded by Councillor Sinden. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED (by 24 votes for 0 against with 7 abstentions) that: - Councillor Jeremy Birch is elected Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

7. TO RECEIVE THE LEADERS REPORT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Birch announced that Councillor Peter Chowney had been appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council and Regeneration Portfolio Holder for the new municipal year.

8. TO RECEIVE THE LEADER'S REPORT ON THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED TO THE CABINET AND THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF CABINET APPOINTED

Councillor Birch reported that: -

- (1) membership of the council's Cabinet would be 9 Councillors; and
- (2) the seats on Cabinet be allocated 7 to the Labour group (to include the Chair of the Charity Committee) and 2 to the Conservative group and members be appointed in accordance with the nomination of the groups as shown in Schedule A.

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9. TO RECEIVE THE LEADER'S REPORT ON THE CABINET PORTFOLIOS AND THEIR ALLOCATION TO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Councillor Birch reported that the allocation of responsibilities to Cabinet Lead Members would be as follows: -

<u>Cabinet Lead Member</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
Councillor Birch	Leader of the Council and Budget Portfolio Holder
Councillor Chowney	Deputy Leader of the Council and Regeneration Portfolio Holder
Councillor Cartwright	Corporate Services (including revenues and benefits) Portfolio Holder
Councillor Forward	Housing and Community Services Portfolio Holder
Councillor Westley	Environment & Safety
Councillor Poole	Leisure and Amenities Portfolio Holder
Councillor Hodges	Charity Committee Chair

10. TO AGREE THE APPOINTMENT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED – that Overview and Scrutiny Committees be appointed with the following key areas of responsibility: -

Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Services

Strategy Targets, reviewing progress on the implementation of Cabinet decisions, policy development work with Portfolio Holders, officers and partners and service reviews.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Resources

Collection of Council Tax and other charges, payment of benefits, management of resources, public sector efficiency programmes, progress on the implementation of Cabinet decisions, policy development work with Portfolio

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Holders, officers and partners, service reviews and cross cutting issues.
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11. TO APPOINT THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL, TO DETERMINE THE REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL GROUPS ON THOSE COMMITTEES, TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THOSE COMMITTEES AND TO APPOINT THE CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS (AS INDICATED) FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014-15

Councillor Birch proposed a motion regarding the appointment of committees as set out in the resolution below.

RESOLVED – that the Council adopt the following arrangements for the appointment of committees: -

(1) that membership of the Council's committees be as follows: -

	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Non-Councillors</u>
Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Services	7	-
Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Resources	7	-
Audit Committee	5	-
Standards Committee	5	-
Licensing Committee	15	-
Council Appointments Committee	5	2
Employment Committee	4	-
Employment Appeals Committee	4	-
Planning Committee	10	-
Environment and Safety Committee	5	-

(2) Following a review of the political balance on the Council, the seats on the committees of the Council be allocated to political groups and members be appointed to those committees in accordance with the nominations of the political groups as shown in Schedule A;

(3) the Chairs and Vice – Chairs of the committees be appointed as shown on schedule A.

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(The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 4.40 pm and the remaining business stood referred to the re-convened meeting to be held on 4 June 2014 at 6 pm)

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**RE-CONVENED ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HASTINGS BOROUGH COUNCIL
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12. THE YEAR'S PROGRAMME

In accordance with the Constitution Rule 1.1 (xii) the Leader of the Council outlined proposals for the ensuing municipal year.

RESOLVED – (by 24 votes for 0 against with 7 abstentions) that the Council agrees the programme for the ensuing municipal year as proposed by the Leader of the Council.

13. COUNCIL MEETINGS 2014-15

RESOLVED – that meetings of the Council be held on the following dates: -

6.00pm Wednesday, 23 July 2014

6.00pm Wednesday, 22 October 2014

6.00pm Wednesday, 17 December 2014

6.00pm Wednesday, 18 February 2015

6.00pm Wednesday, 25 February 2015 (Budget meeting) (Provisional Date)

6.00pm Wednesday, 15 April 2015

11.00am Wednesday, 20 May 2015 (Annual Council - first part)

6.00pm Thursday, 21 May 2015 (Annual Council - second part)

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.40 pm)