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Rutland County Council

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Minutes of the 249th (**ANNUAL**) **MEETING** of the **COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham on Monday, 22nd May, 2023 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:	Jeff Dale (Outgoing Chairman)	Councillor N Begy (Outgoing Vice-Chairman)
	Councillor A Brown	Councillor T Carr
	Councillor P Browne	Councillor M Chatfield
	Councillor G Clifton	Councillor K Corby
	Councillor H Edwards	Councillor D Ellison
	Councillor M Farina	Councillor S Harvey
	Councillor K Heckels	Councillor O Hemsley
	Councillor A Johnson	Councillor S Lambert
	Councillor A MacCartney	Councillor S McRobb
	Councillor K Payne	Councillor R Payne
	Councillor R Powell	Councillor R Ross
	Councillor T Smith	Councillor L Stephenson
	Councillor G Waller	Councillor D Wilby
	Councillor C Wise	Councillor H Zollinger-Ball

OFFICERS	Mark Andrews	Chief Executive
PRESENT:	Dawn Godfrey	Strategic Director for Children and Families
	Kirsty Nutton	Strategic Director for Resources
	Kim Sorsky	Strategic Director for Adults and Health
	Angela Wakefield	Strategic Director for Law and Governance
	Sarah Khawaja	Head of Legal and Democratic Services
	Mathew Waik	Communications Service Manager
	Tom Delaney	Democratic Services Manager
	Jane Narey	Scrutiny Officer
	Kate Haworth	Civic Officer

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Jeff Dale, outgoing Chairman of the Council, welcomed Members to the first meeting of the Council following elections held on 4 May 2023.

Nominations were invited for the position of Chairman of the Council for the 2023-24 municipal year.

A motion to appoint Councillor A Brown was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 26 votes in favour and 1 abstention the motion was carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor A Brown be **APPOINTED** as Chairman of the Council for the 2023-24 municipal year.

Councillor A Brown was invested with the Chairman's Chain of Office and took the Chair. The Chairman thanked Members for their support and set out his intention to serve the Council and county to the best of his ability and ensure Council meetings were efficient and chaired fairly but firmly. Members were reminded that meetings of the Council and Committees were recorded and available for the public to view.

The Chairman proceeded to invest Jeff Dale with a Past Chairman's Badge and thanked him for his two years of service to the county as Chairman, over 20 years as a Councillor, and numerous voluntary activities as a private citizen.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Nominations were invited for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Council for the 2023-24 municipal year.

A motion to appoint Councillor S Harvey was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 26 votes in favour and 1 abstention, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor S Harvey be **APPOINTED** as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the 2023-24 municipal year.

Councillor Harvey was invested with the Vice-Chairman's Chain of Office by the outgoing Vice-Chairman of the Council. The Vice-Chairman thanked Members for their support and thanked Councillor N Begy for his years of service as the Vice-Chairman of the Council.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed Members he had no announcements of his own but confirmed the previous Chairman had attended a church service at All Saints Church, hosted by the Lord-Lieutenant of Rutland, to mark the coronation of HM King Charles III.

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

There were no announcements from the Head of Paid Service.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

7 ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Nominations were invited for the position of Leader of the Council for a 4-year term up to the Annual Meeting of the Council following the next set of ordinary whole Council elections.

A motion to appoint Councillor G Waller was moved by Councillor A MacCartney and seconded. A motion to appoint Councillor R Powell was moved by Councillor N Begy and seconded. Both Councillors were provided with the opportunity to set out their suitability for the role and intentions should they be appointed.

Upon being put to the vote, with 12 votes in favour of Councillor Powell and 15 votes in favour of Councillor Waller, Councillor Waller was duly appointed.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor G Waller be **APPOINTED** as Leader of the Council for a term of four years until the next Annual Meeting after ordinary whole Council elections.

The Leader thanked Members for their support and set out her priorities for her term of office. Members were also welcomed to the Council and thanks were expressed to all candidates for their participation in the recent local elections and to those Councillors who had stood down or lost their seats at the elections.

8 NOTIFICATION BY THE LEADER OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE

Councillor G Waller set out her appointments to the Cabinet as follows:

- Councillor G Waller – Leader of the Council
- Councillor A Johnson – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources
- Councillor Paul Browne – Portfolio Holder for Planning and Property
- Councillor Diane Ellison - Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health
- Councillor Raymond Payne – Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services, Homelessness and Housing Policy
- Councillor Christine Wise – Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and the Environment.

A full list of Portfolio Holders and their responsibilities are appended to the minutes.

RESOLVED

- a) That the appointments to Cabinet, including the Deputy Leader, be **NOTED**

9 SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Report No. 72/2023 was introduced by Councillor G Waller, Leader of the Council, the report requested Council approval for the Scheme of Delegation for 2023/24 as required by the Council’s Constitution.

A motion to approve the recommendations of Report No. 72/2023 was moved by Councillor G Waller and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **APPROVED** the Scheme of Delegation, Part 3 of the Constitution, as amended and set out in Appendix A.
- b) **NOTED** that a full review of the Scheme of Delegation would take place in the 2023-24 municipal year.

10 POLITICAL BALANCE CALCULATION AND ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS

Report No. 69/2023 was introduced by Councillor G Waller, Leader of the Council, the report set out a number of decisions for Council to determine related to political balance and appointments to Committees. It was noted appendices had been circulated via an agenda supplement containing the political balance calculations, allocations of seats on Committees to political groups, and nominations of political groups to those seats.

It was noted that following publication of Appendix B the Liberal Democrat and Green group had decided to gift two seats to non-aligned Councillor T Carr from their allocations on the Conduct Committee and the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee respectively.

A motion to approve the first four and sixth recommendations was moved by Councillor G Waller and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **APPROVED** the political balance calculation the Council should adopt for 2023/24 contained within Appendix A.
- b) **APPROVED** the subsequent allocation of seats on Committees to Political Groups, as determined by the vote on political balance calculation, as set out in Appendix B.
- c) **NOTED** the political group nominations for membership of the Council's Committees as set out in Appendix B.
- d) **AUTHORISED** the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee to co-opt five Members on education matters only, in accordance with the Constitution and the Local Government Act 2000.

- e) **NOTED** that the Portfolio Holders with responsibility for health and children's services were automatically the appointed Members to the Health and Wellbeing Board, with the former assuming the role of Chair.

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The Chairman then explained that he would invite nominations for the position of Chair for each Committee in turn. Nominations were first invited for the position of Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

A motion to appoint Councillor K Payne was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor K Payne be **APPOINTED** as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee for the 2023-24 municipal year.

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Nominations were then invited for the position of Chair of the Conduct Committee.

A motion to appoint Councillor O Hemsley was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor O Hemsley be **APPOINTED** as Chair of the Conduct Committee for the 2023-24 municipal year.

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Nominations were then invited for the position of Chair of the Constitution Commission.

A motion to appoint Councillor O Hemsley was moved by Councillor D Wilby and seconded and a motion to appoint Councillor G Waller was moved by Councillor P Browne and seconded. Both Councillors were provided with the opportunity to set out their suitability for the role and intentions should they be appointed.

Upon being put to the vote, with 12 votes in favour of Councillor Hemsley and 15 in favour of Councillor Waller, Councillor Waller was duly appointed.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor G Waller be **APPOINTED** as Chair of the Constitution Commission for the 2023-24 municipal year

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Nominations were then invited for the position of Chair of the Employment and Appeals Committee.

A motion to appoint Councillor S Harvey was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor S Harvey be **APPOINTED** as Chair of the Employment and Appeals Committee for the 2023-24 municipal year.

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Nominations were then invited for the position of Chair of the Planning and Licensing Committee.

A motion to appoint Councillor N Begy was moved by Councillor G Waller and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor N Begy be **APPOINTED** as Chair of the Planning and Licensing Committee for the 2023-24 municipal year.

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Nominations were then invited for the position of Chair of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

A motion to appoint Councillor L Stephenson was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded and a motion to appoint Councillor R Ross was moved by Councillor S McRobb and seconded. Both Councillors were provided with the opportunity to set out their suitability for the role and intentions should they be appointed.

Upon being put to the vote, with 15 votes in favour of Councillor R Ross and 12 in favour of Councillor L Stephenson, Councillor Ross was duly appointed.

RESOLVED

- a) That Councillor R Ross be **APPOINTED** as Chair of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2023-24 municipal year.

11 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

Report No. 70/2023 was introduced by Councillor G Waller, Leader of the Council, the report set out for approval proposed appointments of Members to represent the Council on various organisations. It was set out these appointments provided a valuable opportunity to represent and be an ambassador for the Council and the county's interests.

It was noted that an updated appendix with nominations to organisations had been circulated via an agenda supplement and that the Leader had decided to appoint

Councillors D Wilby and T Carr to the positions of Armed Forces Champion and Looked After Childrens Champion respectively.

A motion to approve the proposed appointments and note the appointment of Member Champions was moved by Councillor G Waller and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **APPROVED** the appointments of Members to Outside Organisations as listed in Appendix A, including **DELEGATION** of authority to the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee to appoint an additional Member and substitute to Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee from among its membership.
- b) **NOTED** the appointment of Member Champions as announced by the Leader.

12 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2023/24

Report No. 71/2023 was introduced by Councillor G Waller, Leader of the Council, the report sought Council approval for the dates and times of ordinary meetings of Council (and its Committees) for the coming Municipal Year.

A motion to approve the recommendations of Report No. 71/2023 was moved by Councillor G Waller and seconded. Upon being put to the vote, with 27 votes in favour the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a) **APPROVED** the Programme of Meetings for 2023/24 at Appendix A.
- b) **NOTED** that meeting dates for May and June 2024 were subject to revision by Annual Council in May 2024.

13 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business for consideration.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING


The next meeting of Council was confirmed to be 10 July 2023.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.47 pm.

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<p>Cllr Gale Waller</p> 	<p>Leader of the Council</p> <p>Policy, Strategy and Partnerships Communications & Resident Engagement Levelling Up Grant & Economic Development Leisure and Culture Legal and Democratic Services</p>
<p>Cllr Andrew Johnson</p> 	<p>Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources</p> <p>Finance Human Resources Equality and Diversity Performance Management Revenues and Benefits Quality and Audit Transformation and Change Digital IT and Customer Services Commissioning</p>
<p>Cllr Paul Browne</p> 	<p>Portfolio Holder for Planning and Property</p> <p>Development Management Planning Policy Property Services</p>
<p>Cllr Diane Ellison</p> 	<p>Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health</p> <p>Health Public Health Community Care Services Adult Social Care Adult Safeguarding</p>

Cllr Raymond Payne



Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, Homelessness and Housing Policy

Children's Safeguarding
Children's Social Care
Special Educational Needs
Learning and Skills
Homelessness
Housing Policy

Cllr Christine Wise



Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport, and the Environment

Highways
Transport
Environment & Waste
Climate Change
Public Protection and Community Safety