

## **Lichfield City Council**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Wednesday 14 May 2025 at 6.30 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors H Ashton, C Ball, J Blackman, R Bragger, J Christie, J England, M Field, A Fox, C Greatorex, R Harvey-Coggins, A Hughes, P Knight, J Madden, J Marshall, P McDermott, C Pinder-Smith, D Robertson, A Rushton, S Schafer, J Smith, M Warfield, B Watkins and R Yardley.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors D Baker, K Farrelly, A Lax, P Ray and E Strain.

#### **1 ELECTION OF MAYOR**

It was proposed by Councillor A Fox seconded by Councillor A Huges, and

***RESOLVED: That Councillor Claire Pinder-Smith be elected Mayor of the City to hold office until the election of a successor at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2026.***

The Mayor was invested with the Mayoral Chain and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Mayor then took the Oath of Allegiance and occupied the Chair.

#### **2 COUNCIL MINUTES**

***RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the City Council Meeting held on 14 April 2025 (nos. 103 – 115) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.***

#### **3 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

It was proposed by Councillor J Marshall, seconded by Councillor B Watkins and

***RESOLVED: That Councillor Rosemary Harvey-Coggins be appointed Deputy Mayor to hold office until the election of Mayor at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2026.***

The Deputy Mayor was invested with the chain of office and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### **4 ELECTION OF SHERIFF**

It was proposed by Councillor A Hughes, seconded by Councillor B Watkins, and

***RESOLVED: That Revd Ian Hayter be elected Sheriff of the City to hold office until the election of a successor at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2026.***

The Sheriff was invested with the Chain of Office and took the Oath of Fealty to the Crown.

#### **5 EXPRESSION OF THANKS**

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Sheriff each returned thanks for their election.

#### **6 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN**

The Mayor announced that Reverend Ian Hayter would be Mayor's Chaplain.

#### **7 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CADET**

The Mayor announced that Police Cadet Ella Hughes would be her Cadet and presented her with the Badge of Office.

**8 VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR**

It was proposed by Councillor C Ball, seconded by Councillor P Knight, and

***RESOLVED: That the best thanks of the citizens be accorded to Councillor Sam Schafer for his valuable and outstanding services as Mayor during 2024/25.***

Councillor Schafer responded in suitable terms, thanking those who had assisted and supported him during his time in office.

**9 VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING SHERIFF**

It was proposed by Councillor P Knight, seconded by Councillor R Bragger, and

***RESOLVED: That the best thanks of the citizens be accorded to Cathy Wood for her valuable and outstanding services as Sheriff during 2024/25.***

The Sheriff's Consort, Nigel Gann responded in suitable terms on behalf of the Sheriff, thanking those who had assisted and supported her during her time in office.

**10 PRESENTATION OF BADGES OF OFFICE**

The Mayor presented the Chain of Office to the Deputy Mayor's Consort and Sheriff's Consort.

**11 REPLICA BADGES OF OFFICE**

The retiring Mayor was presented with a replica badge of office. In the absence of the retiring Sheriff, the Sheriff's consort Nigel Gann accepted the replica badge of office on her behalf.

**12 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor S Schafer, seconded by Councillor J Blackman, and

***RESOLVED: That Councillor J Marshall be appointed Leader of Council for the ensuing year.***

**13 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor R Bragger, seconded by Councillor S Schafer, and

***RESOLVED: That Councillor A Hughes be appointed Deputy Leader of Council for the ensuing year.***

**14 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, PANELS, AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

***RESOLVED: That membership of Committees, Panels, and Advisory Committees be as detailed at APPENDIX 1 to these minutes.***

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS  
THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.20 PM**

**MAYOR**

## Council Minutes: 14 May 2025 APPENDIX 1

### COMMITTEE, PANEL, AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2025/26

<b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b> <b>(All members of Council)</b>			
<b>Chair</b>	E Strain	<b>Vice Chair</b>	P Knight
<b>Ward Representative</b>	Boley Park	R Yardley	
	Chadsmead	P Ray	
	Curborough	C Ball	
	Leomansley	J Christie	
	St Johns	D Baker	
	Stowe	P McDermott	

<b>AUDIT COMMITTEE</b> <b>8 members</b>			
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Reform UK</b>
A Lax	A Fox (Chair)	P McDermott	D Robertson
M Warfield	B Watkins (Vice Chair)	J Smith	
	E Strain		

<b>JOHNSON BIRTHPLACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> <b>9 members + 3 non-voting</b>			
<u>Johnson Society Appointments (non-voting)</u> P Jones & J Winterton		<u>Honorary Member (non-voting)</u> A Thompson	
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>Reform UK</b>
J Eagland	A Hughes (Chair)	J Christie	J Madden
R Yardley	J Anketell (Vice Chair)	P McDermott	
	M Field		
	E Strain		

<b>GRANTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> <b>9 members</b>		
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
D Baker	C Ball (Chair)	H Ashton
R Yardley	A Hughes (Vice Chair)	J Christie
	K Farrelly	
	P Knight	
	J Marshall	

<b>STAFFING COMMITTEE</b> <b>8 members</b>		
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
J Eagland	M Field (Vice Chair)	P McDermott (Chair)
A Lax	R Bragger	J Christie
	P Knight	
	S Schafer	

<b>TENDERS COMMITTEE</b> <b>[Comprising Leader, Deputy Leader, Mayor, Deputy Mayor]</b> <b>6 members</b>		
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
D Baker	J Marshall (Chair)	P McDermott
	A Hughes (Vice Chair)	
	C Pinder-Smith	
	R Harvey-Coggins	

<b>COMPLAINTS PANEL</b> <b>4 members</b>		
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
A Lax	A Fox (Chair)	P McDermott
	E Strain	

<b>MARKETS WORKING GROUP</b> <b>6 members</b>		
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
D Baker	J Blackman (Chair)	P McDermott
	R Bragger	J Smith
	S Schafer	

<b>CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY COMMITTEE</b> <b>6 members</b>		
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Liberal Democrat</b>
A Lax	J Blackman (Chair)	A Rushton (Vice Chair)
	R Harvey-Coggins	
	A Hughes	
	E Strain	