

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors J Anketell, H Ashton, C Ball, J Blackman, R Bragger, J Christie, M Field, A Fox, R Harvey-Coggins, A Hughes, P Knight, J Marshall, P McDermott, C Pinder-Smith, D Robertson, J Smith, E Strain, B Watkins, and R Yardley.

APOLOGIES: Councillors D Baker, J Eagland, C Greatorex, A Lax, J Madden, P Ray, A Rushton, S Schafer, and M Warfield.

1 ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor A Hughes seconded by Councillor J Marshall, and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Rosie Harvey-Coggins be elected Mayor of the City to hold office until the election of a successor at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2027.

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 20 April 2026 (nos. 101 – 109) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was proposed by Councillor C Ball, seconded by Councillor A Hughes and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Russ Bragger be appointed Deputy Mayor to hold office until the election of Mayor at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2027.

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 B Watkins, seconded by Councillor R Bragger, and

RESOLVED: That Councillor A Fox be elected Sheriff of the City to hold office until the election of a successor at the Annual Meeting of Council in May 2027.

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 Royal Air Force Cadet Amelia Wooldridge would be her Cadet and presented her with the Badge of Office.

8 VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

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

RESOLVED: That the best thanks of the citizens be accorded to Councillor C Pinder-Smith for her valuable and outstanding services as Mayor during 2025/26.

Councillor C Pinder-Smith 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 A Hughes, seconded by Councillor B Watkins, and

RESOLVED: That the best thanks of the citizens be accorded to Revd Ian Hayter for his valuable and outstanding services as Sheriff during 2025/26.

The Sheriff's responded in suitable terms, thanking those who had assisted and supported him during his time in office.

10 PRESENTATION OF BADGES OF OFFICE

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

11 REPLICA BADGES OF OFFICE

The retiring Mayor and Sheriff were presented with replica badges of office.

12 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor C Pinder-Smith, seconded by Councillor E Strain, 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 A Fox, 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 7.25 PM**

MAYOR

Council Minutes: 13 May 2026 APPENDIX 1

COMMITTEE, PANEL, AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2026/27

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

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

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

GRANTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE		
10 members		
Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
D Baker	C Ball (Chair)	H Ashton
R Yardley	A Hughes (Vice Chair)	J Christie
	B Watkins	
	C Pinder-Smith	
	P Knight	
	J Marshall	

STAFFING COMMITTEE		
7 members		
Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
J Eagland	C Pinder- Smith (Vice Chair)	P McDermott (Chair)
A Lax	M Field	J Christie
	A Fox	

TENDERS COMMITTEE		
[Comprising Leader, Deputy Leader, Mayor, Deputy Mayor]		
6 members		
Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
D Baker	J Marshall (Chair)	P McDermott
	A Hughes (Vice Chair)	
	R Bragger	
	R Harvey-Coggins	

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

COMMERCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE		
6 members		
Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
D Baker	J Blackman (Chair)	P McDermott
	R Bragge r(Vice Chair)	H Ashton
	J Marshall	

CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY COMMITTEE			
6 members			
Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Green
A Lax	C Pinder Smith (Chair)	A Rushton (Vice Chair)	J Anketell
	J Blackman		
	A Hughes		