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## Minutes

**Meeting of** : Full Council  
**Date** : 21 January 2019  
**Meeting held in** : The Guildhall  
**Commencing at** : 6:30 pm

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Present:

Chair: Cllr M Osment

Vice Chair: Cllr J Walsh

Cllrs: J Baber MBE, S Berry, D Brown OBE, C Corbin, T Corbin, K Daley, B Dalton  
J Farquhar, A Foster, S Hocking, A Hoque, S Jackson, J Lindley, F Moody, C  
Rogers OBE, L Sirman and I Tomes.

Officers: Annie Child, Janine Whitty and Estelle Sherry

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### **849. Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Broom, M Dean, Dr M McClelland and J Nettle.

### **850. Public Questions/Statement Time:**

A statement was received from Mr E Hart which was read aloud to the Council by the City Clerk. The statement is attached to these minutes. The Chairman asked the City Clerk to provide Mr Hart with a written response.

### **851. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:**

There were no questions or statements submitted by Councillors.

### **852. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Full Council held on 24 September 2018 were approved and signed by the Chair.

**853. Declarations of Interest:**

No declarations of interest were received.

**854. Dispensations:**

No dispensations were requested.

**855. Chairman's Announcements:**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

855.1. The Chairman has attended 158 events so far this year as Mayor, with many highlights over the Christmas period, including attending the Princes Trust event with Learning Curve who provide work experience and employment to young people. The Chairman also attend The Chapel on Christmas Day where lunch was provided for homeless people and he would like to thank Tom Belk for his work on this event.

855.2. The Chairman also very recently attended the Spire FM Local Hero Awards at which he was delighted to present a Special Recognition Award to the Emergency Services in recognition for the work they carried out during the Novichok incidents last year.

855.3. The Chairman noted that the recent Maltings redevelopment planning application submitted to Wiltshire Council will be reviewed and discussed at SCC's next Planning Committee. The Chairman asked Councillors to consider whether they may wish to discuss this development further at Services Committee in due course. As Services Committee Chairman, Cllr Hocking confirmed that he is happy to discuss this further.

**856. Referral of Minutes:**

The Councillors reviewed and approved the minutes as listed below.

856.1. Planning Committee - 01 October 2018.

856.2. Finance and Governance Committee - 15 October 2018.

856.3. Planning Committee - 22 October 2018.

856.4. Planning Committee - 12 November 2018.

856.5. Planning Committee - 10 December 2018.

856.6. Services Committee - 17 December 2018.

856.7. Planning Committee - 07 January 2019.

856.8. Finance and Governance – 14 January 2019.

**857. Election of the Leader of the Council 2019/20;**

The Chairman called for nominations for this position, following the resignation of the previous Leader. It was

**Resolved:**

857.1. That Cllr J Nettle elected as the new Leader of the Council for 2019/20.

Cllr Brown gave a vote of thanks to Cllr Dean for his work during his time as Leader. On behalf of Cllr Nettle, Cllr Brown stated "Cllr Nettle is honoured to be

elected as Leader of Salisbury City Council especially as this year it is celebrating its 10th anniversary. He realises not only that this is a privilege, having also been Mayor but also a great responsibility and is looking forward to the challenge. He firmly believes that this Council must work closer with the Community to deliver services for the Community. He thanks everyone for their support and looks forward to working with you all."

**858. Leaders Report:**

858.1. In the absence of the new Leader the Chairman instructed the City Clerk to request an update on current activities of the Council be emailed by Cllr Nettle to all councillors within a month of this meeting.

**859. Reports from Outside Representatives:**

There were no reports from outside representatives.

**860. Nominations for Mayor 2019/2020 and Deputy Mayor 2019/20:**

The Chairman called for nominations for the Mayor Elect & Deputy Mayor Elect for 2019/20. It was

**Resolved:**

- 860.1. Cllr Tomes nominated Cllr John Walsh to be Mayor in 2019/20, this was seconded by Cllr Dalton. There were no further nominations. Councillor John Walsh's nomination to serve as Mayor for the municipal year 2019/20 was unanimously approved.
- 860.2. Cllr J Walsh nominated Cllr Caroline Corbin to be Deputy Mayor in 2019/20, this was seconded by Cllr Hoque. There were no further nominations. Councillor Caroline Corbin's nomination to serve as Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2019/20 was unanimously approved.

**861. Calendar of Meetings 2019/20:**

**Resolved to:**

861.1. Agree the calendar of meetings for 2019/20 as shown in the report.

**862. Salisbury Business Improvement District Re-ballot:**

The City Clerk had provided a report and the BID's business plan had been made available prior to the meeting. The Clerk noted that an amendment to the report was required, as Salisbury City Council now pay the BID levy on the Millstream Coach Park public toilets so the Council will have not 5 but 6 votes in the re-ballot. Following some discussion and questions which were answered by Mr D Spears, Vice Chairman of the BID, it was

**Resolved to:**

862.1. Note the draft BID Business Plan for 2019-2024 and instruct the City Clerk to vote in favour of the continuation of the BID

### **863. Budget & Precept setting 2019/20:**

The Responsible Finance Officer, Estelle Sherry, provided a summary of the report given at Finance and Governance Committee on 14 Jan 2019. The RFO reported that since that committee a change been made to the budget to include an annual contribution of £4,054 from Laverstock and Ford Parish Council towards the upkeep and maintenance of the Avenue Cemetery.

Cllr C Corbin asked for a report to be provided showing the costs of the old and the new staffing structure. The Clerk confirmed a report will be presented to the next meeting of the Personnel Committee.

It was noted that there had been a £90,000 loss of parking income during 2018/19 due to the Wiltshire Council led free parking initiative. Cllr Dalton asked whether Salisbury City Council will receive a refund from Wiltshire Council for this loss. The Clerk confirmed that there are currently ongoing discussions with Wiltshire Council that are not yet concluded.

Cllr Walsh highlighted the Labour Group's concerns regarding the costs for the City Safety Scheme. Cllrs I Tomes and C Corbin also raised their concerns regarding the amount spent on this service.

Cllr Hocking thanked councillors for their feedback concerning this scheme. He confirmed that security steward's project is being kept under review, noting that the outcome of the BID re-ballot may have an impact on city centre projects. He referred the Council to the report provided by Venture Security at the meeting of Services Committee in December 2108.

The Committee considered the report from the Responsible Finance Officer, and it was:

#### **Resolved to:**

- 863.1. Approve the recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee to note the capital and revenue budget proposals.
- 863.2. Approve the recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee to approve the revenue and capital base budgets for 2019/20.
- 863.3. Approve the recommendation from the Finance and Governance Committee to agree a precept for 2019/20 of £3,014,222 (this equates to a precept of £208 per Band D Property) to enable the council to deliver its programme of service commitments whilst maintaining a prudent level of reserves.

### **864. Neighbourhood Development Planning (NDP) – Task and Finish Group:**

The City Clerk introduced the report and it was.

#### **Resolved to:**

- 864.1. Note the procurement of specialist support for NDP.

864.2. Agree that Cllrs Corbin T, Farquhar, Foster, Hoque and Jackson will form the NDP T&F Group

864.3. Agree that the NDP T&F Group will report to the Planning Committee.

**865. Matters, if any, which by reason of special circumstances the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency**

No matters were raised.

There were 5 members of the public and 2 members of the press present.

The meeting closed at 19.43.

## **PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

### **Mr Eric Hart**

To all Members of Salisbury City Council:

It has been announced through local media that the Salisbury Business Improvement District (BID) limited company has put itself forward to local businesses for re-selection.

The finance of the BID is collected as if a tax from local businesses by Wiltshire Council using public funding. The use of the money collected is managed by Salisbury City Council.

The Salisbury electorate has absolutely no say whatsoever in any part of this formal process.

Where the money collected is allocated to the limited company, Salisbury BID, to carry out council work that company is in breach of legislation the determines that BIDs may only carry outwork this is NOT council work.

Where Salisbury City Councillors have been appointed, over time, as Directors of the BID limited company and are on Companies House records there are serious concerns about conflicts of interest where no information whatsoever is made openly available to the Salisbury electorate.

Also there is clearly a serious conflict of interest for all of Salisbury City Council where this council solely responsible for the distribution of funds to the Salisbury BID.

Could the council explain how it intends to address such serious failure to ensure open public accountability and how it will ensure that full details of the activities of the unelected limited company will be made available to the public in future to ensure full and transparent accountability.