

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting of General Purposes Committee

Date: Thursday, 9th February, 2023

Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor A Line (Chair)
Councillors A Jones (Vice-Chair), J Courtenay, T Cox, M Dent,
K Evans, D Jarvis and M Kelly

*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

In Attendance: Councillors
R Harris

Start/End Time: 6.30 - 7.30 pm

676 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Thompson (no substitute).

677 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

678 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 5 October 2022

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 5 October 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

679 Review of the Constitution

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director (Strategy, Change and Governance) presenting the revised Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for adoption by Council.

The Rules had been reviewed following consultation with the political groups on the Council and the non-aligned Councillors and in the light of the feedback from the Informal meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 16th January 2023. The report also presented the terms of reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel and dealt with the appointment of Deputy Electoral Registration Officers.

Resolved:

1. That the revised Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules and Council Procedure Rules (Appendices A and B to the submitted report), be adopted for implementation at the beginning of the Municipal Year 2023/24

2. That the Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel (Appendix C to the report), be approved.

3. That the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) be authorised to appoint Deputy Electoral Registration Officers to carry out his powers and duties either in full or part in accordance with section 52(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.

4. That the Council's Constitution be amended accordingly (to include the transfer of the relevant provisions in the existing Council Procedure Rules to other parts of the Constitution as appropriate).

680 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business set out below, on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

681 Freedom of the City Nomination

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director (Strategy, Change and Governance) relating to a nomination received from a member of the public, supported by the Group Leaders, to confer the Freedom of the City of Southend-on-Sea to Mr David Stanley BEM who has rendered eminent service to the City.

The Committee also considered a nomination to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Mr Andrew Moring who had served for at least 15 years and who had rendered eminent services to the Council.

Resolved:

1. That, pursuant to Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman Mr Andrew Moring. Further that a Special Council meeting be convened at a date to be determined, to confer the honour and present the Honorary Alderman badge.

2. That pursuant to Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council be recommended to confer the Freedom of the City of Southend-on-Sea on Mr David Stanley BEM in recognition of the eminent and outstanding service he has rendered to the City of Southend-on-Sea. Further that a Special meeting of the Council be convened at a date to be determined, to confer the honour and to present the ceremonial scroll.

Chairman: _____