

COUNCIL

5 October 2020

Minutes of the Council meeting held remotely on Monday 5 October 2020 at 7:30pm.

Committee Members present: Councillors B.J. Drayson (Chairman), J. Barnes (MBE), Mrs. M.L. Barnes, R.K. Bird, J.H.F. Brewerton, G.S. Browne, T.J.C. Byrne, J.J. Carroll, C.A. Clark, S.J. Coleman, Mrs V. Cook, K.P. Dixon, Mrs D.C. Earl-Williams, S.J. Errington, K.M. Field, A.E. Ganly, P.J. Gray, K.M. Harmer, A.K. Jeeawon, J.M. Johnson, Mrs E.M. Kirby-Green, L.M. Langlands, C.A. Madeley, C.R. Maynard, A.S. Mier, M. Mooney, D.B. Oliver, P.N. Osborne, S.M. Prochak, G.F. Stevens, R.B. Thomas, H.L. Timpe and J. Vine-Hall.

Advisory Officers in attendance: Chief Executive Designate, Assistant Director Resources, Democratic Services Manager and Democratic Services Officer.

Also Present: Dr Anthony Leonard and 13 members of the public via the YouTube live broadcast.

C20/43. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C.A. Bayliss, P.C. Courtel and G.C. Curtis.

C20/44. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were made in the Minutes as indicated below:

Mr Johnston Agenda Item 3 – Personal and Prejudicial Interest as the Chief Executive Designate.

C20/45. TRIBUTES TO DR ANTHONY LEONARD

Members paid personal thanks and tributes to Dr Anthony Leonard for the significant contribution he had made to Rother District Council and the residents of the Rother district during his 27 years tenure at the Council. Dr Leonard had been instrumental in delivering a number of key projects including amongst others the Joint Waste Partnership, the De La Warr Pavilion, Next Wave regeneration of the Bexhill-on-Sea promenade and Colonnade to name a few. Members were grateful for his support and wisdom over the years and his knowledge and drive would be sorely missed. Lastly, the Chairman thanked Dr Leonard on behalf of all past and present Chairmen who had relied on him for guidance and support.

TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL - APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

At the full Council meeting on 21 September 2020, a new senior management structure was agreed with the deletion of the two Executive Director Posts and the establishment of a new post of Chief Executive.

It was also agreed that subject to being able to agree a mutually acceptable severance deal between the Council and one of the Executive Directors then the remaining Executive Director would become designate Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service from Monday 28 September when the new structure commenced. A mutually acceptable severance deal had been agreed and signed between the Council and Dr Tony Leonard and Malcolm Johnston had therefore become the Chief Executive designate on 28 September 2020.

The appointment of Chief Executive was a full Council decision and it was therefore recommended that Malcolm Johnston be appointed to the post of Chief Executive and designated as the Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, for an initial period of one year with effect from Monday 28 September 2020. It was noted that under the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) Regulations 1193 (SI No. 202) in relation to the appointment of the Head of Paid Service, none of the Executive Members of the Council had objected to the appointment.

It was moved by Councillor J. Barnes and duly seconded that the Motion be amended by the insertion of the following words:

“that the Council place on record its warm thanks to Dr Tony Leonard for his immense services to Rother; and”

(The Amendment to the Motion was taken with the substantive Motion).

It was moved by Councillor Field and duly seconded:

RESOLVED: That the Council place on record its warm thanks to Dr Tony Leonard for his immense services to Rother; and that Malcolm Johnston be appointed to the post of Chief Executive and designated as Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, for an initial period of one year with effect from Monday 28 September 2020.

(Mr Johnston declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this matter as the Chief Executive Designate and left the remote meeting room during the consideration thereof).

CHAIRMAN

The meeting closed at 8:12pm.

