

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL HYBRID MEETING of **ANGUS COUNCIL** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 26 September 2024 at 2.00pm.

Present: PROVOST LINDA CLARK Councillors CHRIS BEATTIE, JULIE BELL, BRIAN BOYD, KENNY BRAES, DAVID CHEAPE, SERENA COWDY, JACK CRUICKSHANKS, LYNNE DEVINE, HEATHER DORAN, BILL DUFF, BRENDA DURNO, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, IAIN GALL, ROSS GREIG, MARK McDONALD, IAN MCLAREN, GEORGE MEECHAN, LLOYD MELVILLE, GAVIN NICOL, LOUISE NICOL, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, JILL SCOTT, MARTIN SHEPHERD, LOIS SPEED, TOMMY STEWART, DEREK WANN and BETH WHITESIDE.

PROVOST CLARK, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND STATEMENTS OF TRANSPARENCY

There were no declarations of interest or statements of transparency made.

3. PROPOSED CHANGES TO COMMITTEES TO COMPLY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY, DETAILS OF APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES ETC AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTE PROVOST

There was submitted Report No 296/24 by the Director of Legal, Governance & Change which noted the resignations of Councillors Boyd and Cowdy from the Administration Group, the effect those resignations had on political proportionality and setting out the current position in relation to Committee membership options to ensure the Council was compliant with the Scheme of Governance with regard to the principles of political balance. The Report also asked the Council to fill the Depute Provost vacancy following the election of Councillor Clark, the then current Depute Provost, to Provost.

Having considered the Report, the Council, at this stage, resolved:-

- (i) to note the resignations of Councillors Boyd and Cowdy from the Administration Group and the change in political composition as a consequence detailed in Section 4.2 of the Report; and
- (ii) to note the requirement to adhere to the principles of political balance in appointing members to Committees and the provisions generally relating to appointment to committees all as outlined in the Scheme of Governance, Standing Order 31 and in Section 4.5 of the Report.

Thereafter, Councillor Duff intimated proposed changes to the undernoted Committees from the Administration Group, the membership of each Committee to comprise:

Policy & Resources Committee: Councillors Duff, Meechan, Beattie, Bell, Cheape, Devine and McDonald.

Communities Committee: Councillors McDonald, Braes, Devine, Duff, Melville, Shepherd and Whiteside.

Family, Education & Justice: Councillors Devine, Melville, Bell, Duff, Meechan, Shepherd and Whiteside.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Duff seconded by Councillor Devine, moved that Councillor Melville be appointed as Vice-Convener of the Family, Education & Justice Committee.

The Council resolved to approve the appointment of Councillor Melville as the Vice-Convener of the Family, Education & Justice Committee.

Development Standards Committee: Councillors Cheape, Durno, Beattie, Braes, Duff and Melville.

Scrutiny & Audit Committee: Councillors Beattie, Bell, Devine and Shepherd.

Members noted that the non-aligned members of the undernoted Committees would now be as follows:-

Policy & Resources Committee: Councillors Boyd, Doran and Speed.

Communities Committee: Councillors Cowdy, Scott and Speed.

Family, Education & Justice: Councillors Doran, Scott and Speed.

Development Standards Committee: Councillors Cowdy and Doran.

Scrutiny & Audit Committee: Councillors Cowdy and Speed.

Councillor Wann advised that there were no proposed changes to the Opposition Group members for the Committees detailed above.

Thereafter, in relation to the Civic Licensing Committee, Councillors Duff and Wann intimated the following proposed changes from the Administration and Opposition Groups:

Civic Licensing Committee: Councillor Clark to leave this Committee and Councillor Stewart to join.

Councillor Speed intimated that Councillor Scott would remain as the non-aligned member with no further proposed changes.

In light of the above, and having noted the position outlined in paragraph 5.3 of the Report in relation to political proportionality for the Civic Licensing Committee, the Council resolved:-

- (i) that the current membership of the Committee of 10 members remain at this time; and
- (ii) that the changes in membership to the Civic Licensing Committee also be applied to Angus Licensing Board.

Election of Depute Provost

Councillor Duff, seconded by Councillor Melville, moved that Councillor Cheape be appointed Depute Provost of Angus Council.

Councillor Wann, seconded by Councillor Greig, moved that Councillor Fotheringham be appointed Depute Provost of Angus Council.

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 19(3)(i), Councillor Greig, seconded by Councillor Wann, moved that the vote be taken by ballot and the Council resolved accordingly.

At this stage in the meeting, the Council resolved to have a 15 minute recess. The meeting resumed at 2.24pm.

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 15(12), Councillors Whiteside and Braes requested that their dissent be recorded from the foregoing decision.

Having agreed that the vote be taken by ballot, the members voted:-

Councillor Cheape -	14 votes
Councillor Fotheringham -	12 votes
No Vote:	2 votes

Accordingly Councillor Cheape was appointed as Depute Provost of Angus Council.

4. REMUNERATION OF COUNCILLORS - UPDATE

There was submitted Report No 297/24 by the Director of Finance providing background information relating to the remuneration of Councillors and the Council's current remuneration structure for members information and to inform any proposed changes which have arisen following consideration of Item 3 above.

The Council resolved:-

- (i) to note the background details provided in relation to the remuneration of Councillors;
- (ii) to note the existing Angus Council remuneration structure for Councillors as was agreed by Council in June 2024; and
- (iii) to approve an updated remuneration structure for Councillors which complies with the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007, ("Regulations").

Angus Council Remuneration Structure for Elected Members					2024/25 Pay Rates Counted for Senior Councillor Constraints	
Proposed Revisions Effective from 26 September 2024					Posts	Pay (£)
Post	Councillor	Multiple Roles*	No. of Posts			
Leader of the Council	Cllr Duff	A	1		1	£42,698
Civic Head (Provost)	Cllr Clark		1		1	£27,753
Senior Councillor Posts - Remuneration						
Proposals						
Depute Leader	Cllr Meechan	B	1		1	£32,024
Depute Provost	Cllr Cheape	C	1		0	£0
Convener of Families, Education and Justice	Cllr Devine		1		1	£27,753
Convener of Civic Licensing	Cllr Meechan	B	1		0	£0
Convener of Communities	Cllr McDonald		1		1	£27,753
Convener of Development Standards	Cllr Cheape	C	1		1	£27,753
Convener of Policy & Resources	Cllr Duff	A	1		0	£0
Convener of Scrutiny & Audit	Cllr Fotheringham		1		1	£27,753
Vice Convener of Families, Education and Justice	Cllr Melville	D	1		1	£23,868
Vice Convener of Civic Licensing	Cllr Melville	D	1		0	£0
Vice Convener of Communities	Cllr Braes	E	1		1	£23,868
Vice Convener of Development Standards	Cllr Durno		1		1	£23,868
Vice Convener of Policy & Resources	Cllr Meechan	B	1		0	£0
Vice Convener of Scrutiny & Audit	Cllr Gavin Nicol		1		1	£23,868
Spokesperson - Finance	Cllr Duff	A	1		0	£0
Deputy Spokesperson - Finance	Cllr Beattie		1		0	£0
Spokesperson - Housing	Cllr Whiteside		1		1	£27,753
Spokesperson - Economic Development	Cllr Braes	E	1		0	£0
Spokesperson - Tourism & Environment	Cllr Shepherd		1		1	£23,868
Spokesperson - Welfare Rights, Poverty & Equalities	Cllr Meechan	B	1		0	£0
Sub-Total Senior Councillor Posts (excl Leader and Civic Head)			20		0	11
Senior Councillor Cap						13
						346,895
						Headroom £56,766
Basic Grade Councillors for Remuneration Purposes			15			£21,345
					n/a	320,175
TOTAL COST OF REMUNERATION PROPOSALS (excl. external posts and employer costs)						680,755
* - posts where an elected member will be carrying out multiple roles with additional responsibility						
External Posts (see below for more details and explanations)			Councillor			
Vice Convener - Tayside Contracts Joint Committee #			Cllr Durno			
Spokesperson - Tayside Joint Valuation Board #			Cllr Duff			
Angus Council rep on Tayside NHS Board ##			Cllr Bell			
Angus Council rep on Cairngorms National Park Authority Board ###			Cllr Beattie			
# - this role carries no remuneration						
## - role includes a fee payable by the NHS Board and is in addition to the basic councillor salary paid by Angus Council						
### - role includes a fee payable by the Park Authority and is in addition to the basic councillor salary paid by Angus Council						