

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL COUNCIL

3.30pm 22 MARCH 2012

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Meadows (Chair), Wells (Deputy Chair), Barnett, Bennett, Bowden, Brown, Buckley, Carden, Cobb, Cox, Davey, Deane, Duncan, Farrow, Fitch, Follett, Gilbey, Hawtree, Hyde, Jarrett, Jones, A Kitcat, J Kitcat, Lepper, MacCafferty, Marsh, Mears, Mitchell, Morgan, A Norman, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn, Pissaridou, Powell, Randall, Robins, Shanks, Simson, Smith, Summers, Sykes, G Theobald, Wakefield, Wealls and West.

PART ONE

1. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

- 1.1 The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that it had been specially convened to consider the appointment of Mr. Brian Oxley as an Honorary Alderman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMAN

- 3.1 The Mayor stated that the Council was asked to consider the appointment of previous councillors as Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen of the City of Brighton and Hove and that any such appointment was made in recognition of the service given by those past councillors to the Council, Wards they represented and the City. She therefore called on the Leader of the Council to move a motion that Mr. Brian Oxley should be appointed as an Honorary Alderman.
- 3.2 Councillor Randall stated that it had been a great pleasure to serve with former councillor Oxley during his time on the council and he was pleased to see him here today to be recognised for the service he had given to the council and the city. He stated that Brian had always been well mannered and dignified in the way he behaved in the chamber and in that, he was an object lesson to us all. Brian would be greatly missed both inside and outside the Council chamber, by colleagues; opponents and council officers and he had no hesitation in proposing Brian as an Honorary Alderman."

- 3.3 Councillor Theobald supported the Leader of the Council's comments and stated that Brian was devoted to his constituents and electors in Westbourne Ward as well as seeking to ensure that the council was as democratic and open as it possibly could be when it moved to the Leader and Cabinet system. I am very pleased to support Brian in becoming an Honorary Alderman. It is one of the highest if not the highest honour this council can give and so I think Brian, comes well within all those who have been made Honorary Aldermen in the past and I am sure he will acknowledge the pride of being an Alderman in this great city of ours."
- 3.4 Councillor Mitchell stated that the Labour & Co-operative Group fully supported the giving of the title of Honorary Alderman of Brighton and Hove to Brian Oxley. She stated that having worked with Brian on the current constitution and seen his desire to make it as open and transparent as possible, it was an honour that was richly deserved and wished Brian well for the future."
- 3.5 Councillor Cobb stated that she had been very fortunate to have Brian as a ward colleague and had enjoyed her time working with him to represent Westbourne. He had a wealth of knowledge on numerous subjects which he was always willing share and was a diligent, hard working politician respected and appreciated by residents, opposition councillors and fellow colleagues.
- 3.6 The Mayor noted the comments and stated that in accordance with the legislation, a motion to appoint Brian Oxley as an Honorary Alderman had been moved and she would therefore put it to the vote, bearing in mind that two-thirds of those voting needed to be in favour of the motion for it to be carried.
- 3.7 The motion was carried.
- 3.8 **RESOLVED:** That Mr. Brian Oxley be appointed as an Honorary Alderman.
- 3.9 The Mayor then invited Alderman Oxley to come forward to collect a certificate in recognition of his appointment and to address the council.
- 3.10 Alderman Oxley thanked the Mayor and the Members of the Council and stated that he was very honoured to have been recognised in such a way. He was particularly pleased that that the ceremony had been held in the Hove Council Chamber, as he had first joined the old Hove Borough Council in 1995 and been seated in the lower level of the then tiered chamber in front of esteemed colleagues. He was also pleased that his partner and close friends had been able to attend the ceremony and wanted to thank the Mayor for her support to the Tony Madgi appeal and attending the memorial ceremony, which was well remembered by those present on the day. He wished the Leader well and offered his best wishes to him in his forthcoming role as Mayor in May, he noted that he would be joining the 'former leaders' club'. He advised Councillor Kitcat to ensure his mobile was fully charged as the incoming Leader he would need it. He wished to thank Councillor Mitchell for her frank views during their working relationship as Leaders of their respective Groups and believed that they had always put the interests of the council and the city first and he could always trust her word. He thanked Councillor Theobald for his comments and stated that it had been a pleasure to work with and represent the Conservative Group on the council, it had been a pleasure to work with Councillor Mears and he was sure that Councillor Cox would become a first

class councillor for Westbourne Ward and the council. He wished to thank everyone in Westbourne Ward and asked the Chief Executive to pass on his thanks and appreciation to all the officers who had supported and worked with him.

- 3.11 The Mayor noted the comments and offered her congratulations to Aldermen Oxley on his appointment.

4. CLOSE OF MEETING

- 4.1 The Mayor then closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 3.50pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of