

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

At a Meeting of the Council for the Borough of Slough held at the Council Chamber - Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, SL1 2EL on Tuesday, 26th April, 2022 at 7.00 pm

**Present:-** The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Nazir), in the chair; Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bal, Bains, Basra, Bedi, Begum, Brooker, Carter, A Cheema, H Cheema, Dhaliwal, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Kelly, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Mohammad, Muvvala, Pantelic, D Parmar, S Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu, Sharif, Smith, Strutton, Swindlehurst and Wright

**Apologies for Absence:-** Councillors R Davis, Dar and Hussain.

### 76. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bal declared that his daughters worked for Slough BC.

### 77. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council held on 27th January, 10th March and 11th April 2022

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the meetings held on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> March and 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be approved as a correct record.

### 78. To receive the Mayor's Communications.

The Mayor expressed that it had been a privilege to serve as the First Citizen of Slough, attending numerous events ranging from community engagements to planting a tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy project.

Referring to the forthcoming local election, the Mayor conveyed best wishes to those members seeking re-election and thanked members who were standing down for their commitment and service to the town.

The Mayor thanked his chaplain, Father Darcy, for his services throughout the mayoral year. Officers, including Democratic Services, the Mayor's Executive Assistant and Mace Bearer were also thanked for supporting the Mayor's Office. Councillors Anderson and Matloob were thanked for proposing Councillor Nazir as Mayor for 21/22.

Best wishes were conveyed for the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2022/23.

### 79. Questions from Electors under Procedure Rule 9.

One question had been received and a verbal reply provided. The questioner was in attendance and also asked a supplementary question.

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### **80. Recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting held on 7th April 2022**

It was moved by Councillor Gahir,  
Seconded by Councillor Begum,

“That the Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22, as set out in the appendix to the report, be endorsed.”

The recommendation was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

**Resolved** - That that the Annual Scrutiny Report 2021/22, as set out in the appendix to the report, be endorsed.

### **81. Calendar of Meetings 2022/23**

It was moved by Councillor Swindlehurst,  
Seconded by Councillor Mann,

(a) “That the Calendar of Meetings for the period May 2022 to May 2023, as set out in Appendix A of this report, be approved.

(b) That the Democratic Services Lead be authorised to make amendments to the Calendar throughout the year, including from those resulting from any constitutional changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.”

The recommendations were put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

**Resolved** -

(a) That the Calendar of Meetings for the period May 2022 to May 2023, as set out in Appendix A of this report, be approved.

(b) That the Democratic Services Lead be authorised to make amendments to the Calendar throughout the year, including from those resulting from any constitutional changes that may be agreed, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

### **82. To consider Motions submitted under procedure Rule 14.**

It was moved by Councillor Hulme,  
Seconded by Councillor Swindlehurst,

“This Council notes that cost of living increases are becoming a crisis for families across the country. With households in Slough paying an extra £36.9m from this month following the raising of the energy price cap; while food prices have risen by 27% and childcare costs by 50% since 2010.

The Council resolves to write to the government to press for further help for residents, including:

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- Expanding and increasing cold weather payments in time for the coming winter and extending the eligibility for winter fuel payments, to cover lower income working aged households;
- Restoring the £20 uplift to Universal Credit, introduced temporarily to help UC recipients during the covid pandemic but then subsequently removed;
- Revising the usual annual uplift to other benefit payments and the state pension to reflect current rates of inflation, given the steep rise in inflation over recent months and the continued predictions of its elevated trajectory;

with the above measures to be funded by a windfall tax on the recent bumper profits of companies in the oil and gas production and distribution chain.”

A prior request having been made for the record of the voting -

There voted for the motion:

Councillors Ajaib, Akram, Ali, Anderson, Bains, Bal, Basra, Begum, Brooker, Carter, A.Cheema, H.Cheema, Dhaliwal, Gahir, Gill, Grewal, Hulme, Kaur, Malik, Mann, Matloob, Minhas, Mohammad, Pantelic, D.Parmar, S.Parmar, Qaseem, Sabah, Sandhu, Sharif, Swindlehurst and The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Nazir ..... 32

There abstained from voting on the motion:

Councillors Bedi, Kelly, Muvvala, Smith, Strutton and Wright ..... 6

**Resolved –**

This Council notes that cost of living increases are becoming a crisis for families across the country. With households in Slough paying an extra £36.9m from this month following the raising of the energy price cap; while food prices have risen by 27% and childcare costs by 50% since 2010.

The Council resolves to write to the government to press for further help for residents, including:

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with the above measures to be funded by a windfall tax on the recent bumper profits of companies in the oil and gas production and distribution chain.

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**83. To note Questions from Members under Procedure Rule 10.**

None received.

**84. Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor**

Councillor Anderson moved and Councillor Matloob seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor for his service during the past municipal year. A number of other Members also added their thanks to the Mayor.

**85. Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Deputy Mayor**

Councillor Swindlehurst moved and Councillor S Parmar seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Deputy Mayor in supporting the Mayor during the past municipal year. A number of other Members also thanked the Deputy Mayor.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 7.00 pm and closed at 8.24 pm)