

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Council

**Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 6.02pm
at Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: His Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor Gavan (Chair);
Deputy Mayor, Councillor E M Giles;

Councillors Akpoteni, Anandou, Bhullar, Carmichael, Chambers, Chapman, Chidley, Crompton, Davies, Dhariwal, Dhatt, Dunn, Fenton, Fisher, Fitzgerald, J Giles, L Giles, S Gill, W Gill, Hackett, Hartwell, Hemingway, Hinchliff, Hughes, Hussain, Jalil, Johnston, Kalebe-Nyamongo, Kaur, Khan, Khatun, Lewis, Maycock, Mayo, Melia, Millar, Millard, Muflihi, Owen, Padda, Pall, Piper, Preece, Rahman, Randhawa, Rollins, Shaeen, J Singh, N Singh, Smith, Taylor, Tromans, Trumpeter, Uddin, Uppal, Webb, Weston, Wilkes and Williams.

Officers: Shokat Lal – Chief Executive; Mike Jones – Assistant Director Legal and Assurance and Monitoring Officer; Suky Suthi-Nagra – Democratic Services Manager; Connor Robinson – Democratic Services Officer, Anthony Lloyd – Democratic Services Officer and Kennedy Brown – Sergeant at Arms.

20/24 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Abrahams, K Allcock, M Allcock, Ashraf, Choudhry, Dhariwal, Kordala, Loan, Moore and Tipper.



21/24 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

22/24 **Nomination to the office of Honorary Alderman**

The Council considered the recommendation of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee, of 4 March 2024 (Minute No. 7/24 refers), in relation to a nomination for Honorary Alderman.

Resolved:-

- (1) that the office of Honorary Alderman of the Borough is conferred upon Mr Ahmadul Haque;
- (2) that the Assistant Director – Legal and Assurance, in consultation with the Mayor and the Leader of the Council, is authorised to make the appropriate arrangements to implement the decision set out in (1) above.

23/24 **Minute Silence**

The Council observed a minute silence to mark the passing of Alderman Martin Prestidge.

Alderman Prestidge had served as a Councillor for 28 years, initially representing the Rounds Green Ward of Warley Borough Council from 1971 to 1973. He later represented Sandwell's Soho and Victoria ward from 1973 to 1975 and Langley ward for 24 years from 1987 to 2011. Alderman Prestidge was a member of several boards and panels during his tenure including the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Panel from 2004 to 2005 and the Finance and Resources Scrutiny Panel from 2005 to 2011.

Additionally, he had served as the Mayor of the Borough from 2003 to 2004 and was bestowed the title of Honorary Alderman in July 2013.

Meeting ended at 6.19pm

Contact: democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk

