

Values and Ethics Sub-Committee

Agenda



Date: Monday, 26 November 2018

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: The Library, 1st Floor - City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR

Distribution:

Adebola Adebayo - Independent Member, Councillors: Olly Mead, Anthony Negus, Liz Radford and Clive Stevens.

Copies to: Tim O'Gara (Director - Legal and Democratic Services), Nancy Rollason (Service Manager Legal), Allison Taylor (Democratic Services Officer), Lucy Fleming (Head of Democratic Engagement) and Louise deCordova (Democratic and Scrutiny Manager)

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Date: Friday, 16 November 2018

Agenda

1. **Welcome and apologies.**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

3. **Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting.

(Pages 3 - 4)

4. **Honorary Aldermen Nominations**

(Pages 5 - 11)



**Bristol City Council
Minutes of the Values and Ethics Sub-Committee**

18 September 2018 at 12.00 pm



Members present:-

Adebola Adebayo (independent member) - Chair

Councillors Olly Mead, Anthony Negus, Liz Radford and Clive Stevens

Officers present:-

Quentin Baker – Interim Director – Legal and Democratic Services

Nancy Rollason – Head of Legal Service and Deputy Monitoring Officer

Ian Hird – Democratic Services

1. Welcome and apologies

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.

2. Election of Chair

RESOLVED –

That Adebola Adebayo (independent member of the Audit Committee) be elected as Chair of the sub-committee.

3. Recommendations to inform first meeting of the sub-committee

The sub-committee considered a report of the Director – Legal and Democratic Services setting out recommendations for how the sub-committee could manage its work and meetings moving forwards.

Main points raised/noted in discussion:

- a. The sub-committee's terms of reference were noted.



- b. It was clarified that meetings of the sub-committee would generally be held in public, with agenda papers published in advance as per the requirements of the Council's constitution and access to information legislation. There may be occasions where the sub-committee would need to consider exempt business in private session.
- c. In terms of the remit of the sub-committee in relation to member training, this would be as specified within the terms of reference, i.e. essentially around member training on ethical standards.

In was then

RESOLVED:

- 1. That meetings of the sub-committee be held twice a year on a planned basis to consider regular business as set out in their terms of reference, including an annual review of the Member Code of Conduct, the procedure for dealing with allegations of breach, member dispensations (ahead of the Full Council budget meeting) and officer reports in relation to member training on ethical standards.**
- 2. That the next meeting of the sub-committee be held at 12 noon on Thursday 24 January 2019 (the agenda to include the consideration of member dispensations in advance of the Full Council budget meeting to be held on 19 February 2019).**
- 3. That additional meetings be held as required on an ad hoc basis to hear allegations of breaches of the Member Code of Conduct when referred to the sub-committee by the Monitoring Officer.**
- 4. That as part of the scheduled meetings, the sub-committee will receive and review a report setting out summaries of complaints received during the previous 6 months.**

Meeting ended at 12.15 pm

CHAIR _____



Values and Ethics Sub Committee

26th November 18



Report of: Tim O' Gara, Service Director – Legal and Democratic Services

Title: **Honorary Aldermen Nominations**

Ward: N/a

Officer Presenting Report: Louise deCordova, Democratic & Scrutiny Manager

Contact Telephone Number: 0117 92 26151

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee considers the nominations for Honorary Aldermen, which have been submitted by the respective political groups, and makes a recommendation to Full Council regarding the relevant appointments.

Summary

The report provides information to enable the Sub-committee to consider and decide which Alderman nominations should be recommended to Full Council for approval.

The significant issues in the report are:

As set out in the report and the appendix to the report.



Policy

1. This report is submitted in accordance with the Council’s policy on the arrangements to be followed in respect of the granting of Alderman status to former Members of the Council.

Consultation

2. The nominations were submitted by the party whips, on behalf of their respective groups.

Context

3. Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Full Council, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a meeting specially convened for the purpose, to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on a person who has, in the Council’s opinion, rendered eminent services to the Council as a past Member.
4. The Full Council has agreed that the Values and Ethics Sub-Committee of the Audit Committee, in its role of monitoring and ensuring ethical standards and probity within the Council, should ensure that all Honorary Alderman nominations meet the set criteria, and accordingly recommend appointments as appropriate.
5. The criteria governing the appointment of Aldermen was approved by Full Council on 17th January 17. Details as follows;
 - An individual will be eligible for nomination and appointment to the role of Honorary Alderman/woman provided that he/she is no longer a serving Councillor with Bristol City Council; and
 - has provided eminent service to the Council throughout a long and distinguished period of public service by:
 - a. Serving for a minimum period of two electoral terms as a Bristol City councillor (i.e. having been elected twice as a councillor).

AND

- b. Holding a significant position of public responsibility with Bristol City Council, for a minimum period of one calendar year or one municipal year, as either:
 - Lord Mayor;
 - Elected Mayor;
 - Deputy or Assistant Mayor;
 - Leader of the Council;
 - Executive Member;
 - Any other position attracting the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance under the Council’s approved members allowance scheme (excluding attendance at the Appeals Committee).

OR

c. Long service as a Bristol City Councillor for an aggregate period of at least 10 years.

6. An Honorary Alderman may attend and take part in such civic ceremonies as the Council may from time to time decide. Aldermen are not entitled to receive any Member allowances or other payments of allowances, expenses etc. Whilst a person who is a serving city Councillor cannot be made an Honorary Alderman, the Act does appear to envisage that a person on whom this honour has been conferred may subsequently be re-elected as a councillor. In these circumstances, the Act specially provides that no Honorary Alderman shall, whilst serving as a city Councillor, be entitled to be addressed as Alderman or to attend or take part in any civic ceremonies of the Council as an Alderman.
7. Honorary Aldermen substitute for the Lord Mayor or Deputy Lord Mayor on a relatively infrequent basis. They are also invited to all major civic events, church services and Council meetings. They have no other formal role. Honorary Aldermen may, from time to time, be nominated to serve as the Council's representative on specific Outside Bodies.
8. The Council has agreed that the Honorary Aldermen's Association should be supported but that no support should be provided for Aldermen on an individual basis.

Proposal

9. Nominations received for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen are set out below.
 - The Labour group has nominated former Councillor Christopher Orlick.
 - The Liberal Democrat group has nominated former Councillor Claire Champion Smith.
10. Statements/ details in support of the nominations, as supplied by the political groups are set out in Appendix A.

Other Options Considered

11. Not applicable.

Risk Assessment

12. Not applicable.

Public Sector Equality Duties

Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following "protected characteristics": age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:

- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
- ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

As set out in the report.

Financial / Land / Human Resources

Not applicable.

Appendices:

Appendix A - Statements/ details in support of the Honorary Aldermen nominations, as supplied by the respective political groups.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None

Christopher Orlik was Councillor for Windmill Hill from 1995 to 2006.

During the early part of his term of office, Christopher was on Planning, Social Services and Leisure committees.

When the council moved to a Cabinet system, he was Deputy Executive Member for Corporate Services.

Christopher was Vice-Chair of Social Services and Health and Chair of Residential Care Sub-Committee.

From 1997 to 2006 Christopher was Chair of Public Rights of Way and Village Greens Committees.

Christopher was responsible for the Blue Plaque scheme which occurred after Full Council accepted the suggestion. He then worked with Civic Society and Planning to get people nominated for plaques. He carried out the wording and arranged all the opening ceremonies.

Alderman Nomination: Clare Champion-Smith

October 2018

Elected in 2006, served 12 years as Councillor for Henleaze and later Westbury on Trym & Henleaze.

Clare has had a distinguished career on the council, serving in two administrations' cabinets and serving a term as Lord Mayor.

In her time as councillor, Clare has made an active difference to the lives of her constituents, her accomplishments including her time as Cabinet member for Children's Services where, with great effect, she solved the acute shortage of primary school places in Bristol.

Clare was fully behind the second and successful bid to become European Green Capital and felt doubly delighted when her year as Lord Mayor covered half of Green Capital year.

At the local level, it gave Clare great pleasure to see the changes to Old Quarry Park and see Fallodon Way Playpark full of children and know that we achieved that working with the Henleaze Society.

In her time as councillor, Clare was the cabinet member for Children's Services – having been a mathematics teacher before – and became instrumental in creating 10,000 new primary school places in the city.

Lord Mayor of Bristol

2015 – 2016

- As Lord Mayor Clare's project was to raise the aspirations of primary school girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

Cabinet/ Chair/ Vice Chair, Committees:

2009-2010:

- Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
- Corporate Parenting Panel

2010-2011:

- Executive Member of Corporate Parenting Panel
- Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

2011-2012:

- Executive Member of Corporate Parenting Panel
- Cabinet for Children and Young People

2012-2013:

- Chair of Children's Services Scrutiny Commission
- Corporate Parenting Panel

2013-2014:

- Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Commission
- Development Control (S & E) Committee
- Corporate Safety Consultative Committee

2014-2015:

- Business Change & Resources Scrutiny Committee
- People Scrutiny Committee

2016-2017:

- Cabinet Member for People
- Corporate Health and Safety Consultative Committee
- Corporate Parenting Panel

2017-2018:

- Vice Chair People Scrutiny Commission. In this role she chaired the task and finish working group on Adult Social Care.

Over the years she has served on other committees and working groups including Licensing and on outside bodies including SACRE.