

Employees' Consultative Forum

Minutes

3 December 2020

Present:

Chair: Mr D Searles

Councillors: Camilla Bath
Philip Benjamin
Pamela Fitzpatrick
Angella Murphy-Strachan
Mina Parmar
Varsha Parmar
Adam Swersky

**Teacher
Representatives:** Ms A Lyons - NAHT
**Unison
Representatives:** Mr J Royle
Mr M Hernandez

**GMB
Representative:** Ms P Belgrave
Ms A Jones

**Apologies
received:** Louise Crimmins
Gary Martin

45. Attendance by Reserve Members

Having received apologies on behalf of Gary Martin, Unison, the Forum noted the attendance of Morgan Hernandez, Unison, as a substitute for the purposes of the meeting.

RESOLVED: To note the attendance at this meeting of the following duly appointed Reserve Members:-

Ordinary Member

Reserve Member

Councillor Graham Henson

Councillor Varsha Parmar

46. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

RESOLVED: (1) To note that Davis Searles (Unison) had been appointed by the Employees' side as the Chair of the Forum for the Municipal Year 2020/21;

(2) That Councillor Adam Swersky be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Forum for the Municipal Year 2020/21.

47. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: To note that there were no declarations of interests made by Members.

48. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2020 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

49. Petitions

RESOLVED: To note that no petitions were received at this meeting under the provisions of the Executive Procedure Rule 49 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

50. Deputations

RESOLVED: To note that no deputations were received at this meeting under the provisions of Executive Procedure Rule 48 (Part 4D of the Constitution).

51. Public Questions

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions were received.

Resolved Items

52. Annual Health and Safety Report

The Forum received a report which summarised the Council's health and safety performance for the year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, provided an update of activities and information on outcome measures. The report also provided information about Occupational Health, as this did not sit within the Corporate Health and Safety remit, and also included the Health & Safety Strategy, Corporate Health and Safety Plan and Policy.

The Employees' side representatives indicated that they had not had sufficient time to read the report as there had been issues with accessing the agenda electronically. Following a request from the Employees' side for hard copies of agendas to be provided, the Corporate Director of Resources advised the Forum that the Council was moving away from paper copies but these could be provided as an exception.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the report be deferred to the next meeting.

53. Employees' Side report

The Chair advised the Forum that Unison had submitted a report for consideration but that it had been rejected.

The Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development (HROD) advised that the submitted report had not been acceptable in terms of content for the reasons set out in a letter to Unison from the Director of Legal and Governance Services. She added that Unison had been invited to amend and re-submit the report but had not done so to date.

The Employees' side representatives stated that the agenda should have indicated that a report had been submitted but was rejected with the reasons specified. This was acknowledged by the Council side representatives.

Members requested that their thanks and gratitude be conveyed to staff for their hard work and commitment during the pandemic.

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 6.41 pm, closed at 7.27 pm).

(Signed) Davis Searles
Chair