

# Sandwell

Metropolitan Borough Council

## General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

Thursday, 11 April, 2019 at 6.00 pm  
in Committee Room 2,  
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury

### Agenda

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.
3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019 as a correct record.

#### **Matter Not Delegated to the Committee**

4. Nominations for the Offices of Civic Mayor and Deputy Civic Mayor of Sandwell for the 2019/2020 Municipal Year.

**J Britton**  
**Chief Executive**

Sandwell Council House  
Freeth Street  
Oldbury  
West Midlands

**Distribution:**

Councillor Dhallu (Chair);  
Councillor P Davies (Vice-Chair);  
Councillors S Crumpton, Y Davies, S Hosell, Melia and Tagger.

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**Please note that this meeting may be filmed by members of the public and press, and may be filmed by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast on the Council's web site**

## **Apologies**

To receive any apologies from members

## **Declarations of Interest**

Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

**Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee**

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 5.00 pm  
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor Dhallu (Chair);  
Councillors P Davies and Tagger.

**Apologies:** Councillors S Crumpton, Y Davies and  
S Hosell.

1/19 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

**Matter not delegated to the Committee**

2/19 **Changes to Polling Places for use at Local Elections 2019**

The Committee were informed of proposed changes to two polling stations in the Bristnall and Wednesbury South wards as the current stations were no longer available. This arrangement would be for the election in May 2019.

**Bristnall Ward**

Members were advised that in respect to the polling station in Bristnall, which covered polling district BRB/BRC, the existing provision was not available for this year's election.

As part of the consultation process, local ward members had recommended Moat Farm Infant School as an alternative provision to be considered for use as the polling place. The walking distance from the existing polling place to Moat Farm Infant School was 8 minutes (0.4 miles) via Bristnall Hall Road.

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The school was considered to be a suitable building with good access.

The cost for using Moat Farm Infant School would be free of charge to the Returning Officer other than the cost for heating and lighting.

The proposal was supported by all ward members.

### Wednesbury South

Members were advised that in respect of the polling place in Wednesbury South, which covered polling district WSA/WSB, the existing provision had been damaged during a flood and building works and the car park would not be completed in time for the Local Elections in May 2019.

Officers had investigated the area and there were no other suitable venues available. The proposal was to place a portable unit on the grassed area opposite the Church to use as the polling station.

The cost of the portable unit was £1,400.00

Ward members had been consulted and no adverse comments had been received.

Following consideration of both options, the Committee was minded to recommend the proposal to use Moat Farm Infant School as a polling station for Bristnall ward and that a portable unit be used as a polling station sited opposite the former polling place, for Wednesbury South ward.

#### **Resolved to recommend to Council that:-**

- (1) the polling station in respect of polling district Bristnall ward BRB/BRC be relocated to Moat Farm Infant School, Brookfields Road, Oldbury, B68 9QR for the Local Election on 2 May 2019;

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- (2) the polling station in respect of polling district Wednesbury South ward WSA/WSB be relocated to a portable unit sited opposite the former polling place at Leabrook Methodist Church, Leabrook Road North, Wednesbury, WS10 7LY for the Local Election on 2 May 2019.

(Meeting ended at 5.13 pm)

Contact Officer: Shane Parkes  
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## General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

**11 April 2019**

<b>Subject:</b>	Nominations for the Offices of Civic Mayor and Deputy Civic Mayor of Sandwell for the 2019/2020 Municipal Year
<b>Director:</b>	Director of Law and Government & Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
<b>Contribution towards Vision 2030:</b>	
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b>	Trisha Newton Principal Democratic Services Officer Trisha_newton@sandwell.gov.uk

### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

**That the Committee:**

1. recommends to Annual Council the nominations for the offices of the Civic Mayor and Deputy Civic Mayor of Sandwell for the Municipal Year 2019/2020.

#### 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Committee is invited to consider the nomination of Elected Members to the offices of the Civic Mayor and the Deputy Civic Mayor of Sandwell for the Municipal Year 2019/2020.
- 1.2 The Council, at its meeting on 8 January 2013, approved the process for the selection of the Civic Mayor based on the following criteria:-
  - nominees shall be serving members of Sandwell Council who have not previously served as Civic Mayor;
  - nominees shall have given notable service to the Borough of Sandwell as a councillor and/or within the local community;
  - each nomination shall be submitted by a serving member of the Council supported by five other serving members of the Council, regardless of political party.



- 1.3 All members of the Council have been invited to submit nominations for the office of Civic Mayor. Valid nominations received will be reported at the meeting.
- 1.4 The nomination for the office of Deputy Civic Mayor will also be reported at the meeting.

## **2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION**

- 2.1 As the first citizen of Sandwell, the Civic Mayor and Deputy Civic Mayor are ambassadors of the Council, thus promoting and thereby contributing to all of the Council's ambitions.

## **3 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The Council makes financial provision annually to enable the functions of the Mayoralty to be undertaken. Staff support is provided by the Mayor's Office.

## **4 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 The Council is legally required to appoint a ceremonial Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2019/20 municipal year.
- 4.2 The General Purposes and Arbitration Committee has the responsibility under its terms of reference to make recommendations to the Council on nominations for the Civic Mayor of the Council.
- 4.3 The role and responsibilities of the Civic Mayor are contained within Article 5 of the Council's Constitution.

## **5 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 An equality impact assessment is not required.

## **6 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 A data protection impact assessment is not required.

## **7 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 There are no crime and disorder issues arising from this report.

## **8 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS**

8.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

## **9 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)**

9.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

## **10 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND**

10.1 There is no impact on any Council managed property arising from this report.

**Surjit Tour**

Director of Law and Governance  
& Monitoring Officer

Three valid nominations received for Mayor 2019/20:-

Councillor Bawa

Councillor Eaves

Councillor Dr Jaron