BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

ANNUAL COUNCIL

Minutes from the Meeting of Annual Council held on Thursday, 15th May, 2025 at 5.00 pm in the Assembly Room, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

PRESENT: Councillors Bland, Bullen, Bearshaw, Anota, Barclay, Beales, Bhondi, Blunt, Bone, Bubb, Coates, Colwell, Crofts, Dark, de Whalley, de Winton, Devulapalli, Dickinson, Everett, Heneghan, Humphrey, Jamieson, Jones, Kemp, Kirk, Kunes, Lawrence, Lintern, Long, Lowe, Moriarty, Morley, Nash, Osborne, Parish, Ratcliffe, Ring, Rose, Rust, Sandell, Sayers, Spikings, Squire, Storey and Ware.

C:1 **PRAYERS**

Prayers were led by Rev Canon Ling.

C:2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ayres, Collingham, Collop, Hodson and Ryves.

C:3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

C:4 **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were none.

C:5 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

C:6 **ELECTION OF A COUNCILLOR TO HOLD OFFICE AS MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK AND TO BE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025/2026**

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Councillor Beales proposed Councillor Andy Bullen for the position of Mayor and Chair of the Council for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year. This was seconded by Councillor Long. Both Members spoke in support of the proposal.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Andy Bullen be appointed as Mayor and Chair for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

C:7 **ELECTION OF A COUNCILLOR TO HOLD OFFICE AS DEPUTY MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK AND TO BE VICE-CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025/26**

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Councillor Bone proposed Councillor Steve Bearshaw as Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2025/2026. Councillor Ring seconded the proposal. Both Members spoke in support of the proposal.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Steve Bearshaw be appointed as Deputy Mayor and Vice Chair of the Council for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

C:8 **ADMINISTER OATH TO THE MAYOR**

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Councillor Bullen read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and informed the Council that his sister Jane would be his Consort.

Councillor Bullen informed the Council that the Mayor's Chaplain for the year would be Father Adrian Ling.

The Mayor also informed the Council of his appointed Mayor's Cadets and bestowed badges on the Cadets.

The Mayor informed the Council that the Mayor's Charities would be the Swan Project and 42 King's Lynn Air Cadets.

C:9 **ADMINISTER OATH TO THE DEPUTY MAYOR**

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Councillor Bearshaw read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and informed the Council that his wife would be his Deputy Mayoress.

C:10 **CONVEYANCE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND MAYORESS**

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Councillor Ring proposed a conveyance of thanks to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress.

C:11 **TO MAKE PRESENTATIONS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND MAYORESS AND RECEIVE RESPONSE**

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Council was informed that gifts and flowers for the outgoing Mayor and Mayoress were placed at the front of the stage.

Councillor Bland thanked Councillors, Council Officers, the Civics Team and the community for their support during the year.

He presented retiring Mace Bearer Roy Williamson with a retirement gift and thanked him for his service.

C:12 **PROPORTIONAL ALLOCATION OF SEATS**

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RESOLVED: The Committee Membership sheet which was tabled at the meeting (and attached) was agreed by Council.

C:13 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS**

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RESOLVED: Chairs and Vice Chairs were appointed as set out in the Council Body Membership sheet which was tabled at the meeting (a copy is also attached).

C:14 **MEMBERSHIP OF SUB GROUP/TASK GROUPS**

Click here to view the recording of this item on You Tube.

RESOLVED: That any members previously appointed to a sub group/task group continue to serve until the first meeting of their appointing body in the new Municipal Year.

C:15 **OUTSIDE BODY MEMBERSHIP**

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RESOLVED: That any Member appointed to an outside body the previous year continues to serve until the Cabinet meeting on 15 July 2025 or the Council meeting on 31 July 2025, as appropriate.

C:16 **PROPORTIONALITY OF TASK GROUPS**

Click here to view the recording of this item on You Tube.

RESOLVED: The following allocation for Task Groups was agreed:

Task Groups with 10 Members – 4 Independent Partnership, 3 Conservative, 1 Labour, 1 Progressive, 1 Reform

Task Groups with 9 Members – 4 Independent Partnership, 3 Conservative, 1 Labour and 1 Reform or 1 Progressive.

Task Groups with 7 Members – 3 Independent Partnership, 3 Conservative, 1 Labour

Task Groups with 5 Members – 2 Independent Partnership, 2 Conservative, 1 Labour.

The meeting closed at 5.48 pm

COUNCIL BODY MEMBERSHIP 2025/2026

Key to Groups:
(IP) – Independent Partnership (22), (C) – Conservative (19), (L) – Labour (7),
(PG) – Progressive Group (2), (R) - Reform UK (2), Non aligned – (1)
and 2 vacancies

CABINET
(Leader + 7 Members)

Chair - Leader – A Beales (IP)
Deputy Leader– S Ring (IP)
S Lintern (IP)
J Moriarty (IP)
C Morley (IP)
J Rust (IP)
S Squire (IP)
M de Whalley (IP)

AUDIT COMMITTEE
(9 Members – 5 Ind, 3 Con, 1 Lab)

Chair – A Ryves (IP)
Vice-Chair – to be confirmed at 1st meeting

S Bearshaw (IP)
P Bland (IP)
S Dark (C)
P Devulapalli (IP)
B Jones (L)
B Long (C)
T de Winton (C)
S Nash (IP)

LICENSING COMMITTEE
(Licensing Act 2003 & Gambling Act)
(13 Members – 5 Ind, 5 Con, 1 Lab, 1 Prog, 1 Ref)

Chair – J Bhondi (IP)
Vice-Chair – S Everett (L)

B Anota (IP)
B Ayres (C)
A Bubb (C)
R Coates (C)
C Crofts (C)
A Kemp (PG)
J Kirk (R)
J Moriarty (IP)
T Parish (IP)
J Rust (IP)
D Tyler (C)

APPOINTMENTS BOARD/INVESTIGATING AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
(9 Members – 4 Ind, 3 Con, 2 Lab)

Chair – A Beales (IP)
Vice-Chair – A Ware (IP)

F Bone (L)
R Blunt (C)
B Long (C)
C Morley (IP)
S Ring (IP)
S Sandell (C)

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
(7 Members – 3 Ind, 3 Con, 1 Lab)
(2 Parish, 1 Ind person)

Chair – A Ware (IP)
Vice Chair – S Sandell (C)

B Ayres (C)
S Bearshaw (IP)
J Osborne (L)
S Ring (IP)
D Tyler (C)

LICENSING AND APPEALS BOARD
(All other Licensing and Appeals matters)
(13 Members – 5 Ind, 4 Con, 2 Lab, 1 Prog, 1 Ref)

Chair – B Jones (L)
Vice-Chair – C Rose (PG)

B Anota (IP)
B Ayres (C)
J Bhondi (IP)
T Bubb (C)
R Coates (C)
C Crofts (C)
S Everett (L)
J Kirk (R)
S Nash (IP)
T Parish (IP)
S Squire (IP)

PLANNING COMMITTEE
(15 members – 6 Ind, 5 Con, 2 Lab, 1 Prog, 1 Ref)

Chair – F Bone (L)
Vice-Chair – V Spikings (C)

B Anota (IP)
T Barclay (C)
R Blunt (C)
A Bubb (C)
P Devulapalli (IP)
S Everett (L)
J Kirk (R)
S Lintern (IP)
C Rose (PG)
A Ryves (IP)
M Storey (C)
M de Whalley (IP)
T de Winton (C) Gifted by IP

REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL
(12 Members – 5 Ind, 4 Con, 2 Lab, 1 Ref)

Chair: T Parish (IP)
Vice-Chair – to be confirmed at 1st meeting

P Beal (IP)
P Bland (IP)
R Blunt (C)
F Bone (L)
A Bubb (C)
J Collingham (C)
R Colwell (IP)
C Crofts (C)
P Hodson (R)
J Osborne (L)
J Ratcliffe (IP)

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY PANEL
(12 Members – 5 Ind, 5 Con, 2 Lab)

Chair – S Collop (L)
Vice-Chair – to be confirmed at 1st meeting

T Barclay (C)
A Bullen (IP)
R Colwell (IP)
S Dark (C)
P Devulapalli (IP)
A Dickinson (C)
D Heneghan (L)
A Kemp (PG) Gifted by IP
P Kunes (C)
S Sandell (C)
A Ware (IP)

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE PANEL
(12 Members – 5 Ind, 5 Con, 1 Lab, 1 Prog)

Chair – B Long (C)
Vice-Chair – to be confirmed at 1st meeting

S Bearshaw (IP)
J Bhondi (IP)
R Blunt (C)
J Collingham (C)
B Jones (L)
C Rose (PG)
S Nash (IP)
T Ryves (IP)
S Sandell (C)
D Sayers (IP)
V Spikings (C)