

5 June 2025

Minutes of the meeting of the **Council**  
South Staffordshire Council held in the  
Council Chamber Community Hub,  
Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, South  
Staffordshire, WV8 1PX on Tuesday, 13  
May 2025 at 19:00

**Present:-**

Councillor Andrew Adams, Councillor Helen Adams, Councillor Penny Allen, Councillor Jeff Ashley, Councillor Meg Barrow, Councillor Barry Bond, Councillor Gary Burnett, Councillor Bob Cope, Councillor Philip Davis, Councillor Steph Dufty, Councillor Robert Duncan, Councillor Sue Duncan, Councillor Christopher Evans, Councillor Mark Evans, Councillor Warren Fisher, Councillor Dr Paul Harrison, Councillor Rita Heseltine, Councillor Fiona Hopkins, Councillor Victor Kelly, Councillor Dan Kinsey, Councillor Vincent Merrick, Councillor Rob Nelson, Councillor Kath Perry, Councillor Ray Perry, Councillor Christopher Steel, Councillor Sue Szalapski, Councillor Bernard Williams, Councillor David Williams, Councillor Victoria Wilson

**1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL**

Councillor Phil Davis was proposed by Councillor Rita Heseltine and seconded by Councillor Christopher Evans and it was

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Phil Davis be elected Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 2025/26.

**2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL**

Councillor Victor Kelly was proposed by Councillor David Williams and was seconded by Councillor Bernard Williams and it was

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Victor Kelly be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 2025/26.

**3 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Council meeting of 18 March be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Council meeting of 24 March be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**5 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recieved from Councillors M Perry, R Reade and G Spruce.

**6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**7 NOTIFICATION BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNCILLORS APPOINTED TO THE CABINET**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Kath Perry MBE, announced her Cabinet as follows:

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Community Services | Councillor Mike Davies |
|--------------------|------------------------|

|                                         |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Corporate Services                      | Councillor Kath Perry MBE |
| Estates, Assets and Commercial Services | Councillor David Williams |
| Planning and Enterprise Services        | Councillor Mark Evans     |
| Regulatory Services                     | Councillor Rita Heseltine |
| Welfare Services                        | Councillor Meg Barrow     |
| Assistant Cabinet Member                | Councillor Roger Lees BEM |

## 8 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION**

It was proposed by Councillor K Perry MBE and seconded by Councillor D Williams and

**RESOLVED:** that Members approve :

(a) the revised Constitution and it be adopted by Council and replace all previous versions of the Constitution.

(b) the proposed changes as set out in paragraphs 3.3 - 3.9.

## 9 **POLITICAL BALANCE**

It was proposed by Councillor K Perry MBE and seconded by Councillor D Williams and

**RESOLVED:** that Members approve the overall proportions for committees set out in paragraph 3.7 and the allocations set out in paragraph 3.8.

## 10 **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

a) an Audit and Risk Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillor A Adams, C Evans, J Michell, M Perry, S Szalapski, W Fisher, S Dufty

b) Councillor J Michell be appointed Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee

c) Councillor A Adams be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee

## 11 **LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

a) a Licensing and Regulatory Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors A Adams, M Barrow, V Chapman, R Duncan, C Evans, R Heseltine, M Jackson, V Merrick, J Michell, B Williams, P Allen, R Nelson, S Harper-Wallis, G Burnett, J Brindle

b) Councillor V Merrick be appointed Chairman of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee

c) Councillor M Barrow be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee

## 12 **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

- a) a Overview and Scrutiny Committee comprising all members of the Council who are not members of the Cabinet be appointed in accordance with the constitution of the Council
- b) Councillor D Kinsey BEM be appointed Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- c) Councillor M Jackson be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

13

**ASSET SCRUTINY PANEL**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

- a) an Asset Scrutiny Panel be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors V Chapman, P Davis, S Duncan, M Perry, W Sutton, B Cope, Dr Paul Harrison MBE
- b) Councillor M Perry be appointed Chairman of the Asset Scrutiny Panel
- c) Councillor S Duncan be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Asset Scrutiny Panel

14

**WELLBEING SELECT COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

- a) a Wellbeing Select Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors H Adams, V Chapman, C Evans, D Holmes, W Sutton, S Szalapski, B Williams, R Nelson, Dr P Harrison MBE, F Hopkins, J Ashley
- b) Councillor H Adams be appointed Chairman of the Wellbeing Select Committee
- c) Councillor S Szalapski be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Wellbeing Select Committee
- d) County Lead Member - to be confirmed

15

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26:

- a) a Planning Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors H Adams, M Barrow, V Chapman, P Davis, R Duncan, C Evans, R Heseltine, D Holmes, M Jackson, V Kelly, R Reade, W Sutton, B Cope, C Steel, S Harper-Wallis, G Spruce, G Burnett, J Ashley
- b) Councillor B Cope be elected Chairman of the Planning Committee
- c) Councillor R Duncan be elected Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee

16

**STANDARDS AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

- a) a Standards and Resources Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors B Bond MBE, M Davies, S Duncan, D Holmes, S Szalapski, R Reade, B Williams, V Wilson, P Allen, Dr P Harrison MBE, F Hopkins, J Brindle
- b) Councillor B Bond MBE be appointed Chairman of the Standards and Resources Committee
- c) Councillor D Holmes be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Standards and Resources Committee
- d) Parish Councillors R Tucker, M Roberts, L Emery, C Taylor, K Elder and Dr R Taylor be appointed to the Standards and Resources Committee

17

**STANDARDS AND RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE - HEARINGS**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

a) a Standards and Resources Hearings Sub Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors P Allen, B Bond MBE, F Hopkins, S Duncan, D Holmes, B Williams

b) Parish Councillors R Tucker, C Taylor, R Taylor be appointed to the Standards and Resources Hearings Sub Committee

18      **STANDARDS AND RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE - ASSESSMENT**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26

a) a Standards and Resources Assessment Sub Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors J Brindle, M Davies, Dr P Harrison MBE, R Reade, S Szalapski, V Wilson

b) Parish Councillors M Roberts, L Emery, K Elder be appointed to the Standards and Resources Assessment Sub Committee

19      **DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE APPEALS COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26 a Disciplinary and Grievance Appeals Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors R Heseltine, M Jackson, D Kinsey BEM, V Merrick, R Perry, C Steel, Dr P Harrison MBE

20      **DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26 a Disciplinary and Grievance Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors H Adams, R Lees BEM, J Michell, M Perry, D Williams, W Fisher, S Dufty

21      **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26 a Personnel Committee be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising Councillors B Bond MBE, D Kinsey BEM, K Perry MBE, D Williams, B Cope, F Hopkins

22      **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26 the following appointments be made to Outside Bodies;

**(1)      STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:-**

**(a)      Health Select Committee**

Chairman of Wellbeing Select Committee Councillor Helen Adams  
(Substitute – Councillor Sue Szalapski)

**(b)      Staffordshire Planning Forum**

Cabinet Member for Planning and Enterprise Services Councillor Mark Evans (Substitute – Councillor Kath Perry MBE)

**(c)      Corporate Parenting Panel**

Councillor Wendy Sutton

**(2)      Bilbrook Playing Fields Committee**

Councillor Gary Burnett

**(3) 2078 Boscobel Squadron Air Training Corps**

Councillor Rob Duncan

**(4) Campaign to Protect Rural England**

Cabinet Member for Community Services - Councillor Mike Davies

**(5) Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Committee**

Cabinet Member for Planning and Enterprise Services – Councillor Mark Evans  
(Substitute – Councillor Mike Davies)

**(6) Codsall Village Hall and Playing Fields Committee**

Councillors Meg Barrow and Val Chapman

**(7) Environmental Protection UK**

Cabinet Member for Community Services - Councillor Mike Davies and  
Councillor Matthew Jackson

**(8) Forest of Mercia Members' Advisory Panel**

Councillors Bob Cope and David Williams

**(9) Four Ashes Energy Recovery Facility Local Liaison Committee**

Cabinet Member for Community Services Councillor Mike Davies plus  
Councillors Bob Cope and Wendy Sutton

**(10) Hilton Main Recreation and Social Welfare Fund Grant Panel**

Councillor Bob Cope

**(11) iESE**

Councillor Kath Perry MBE

**(12) Leisure Centre Management Committees**

**(a) Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre**

Councillors Ray Perry and Bernard Williams

**(b) Codsall Leisure Centre**

Councillors Meg Barrow and Val Chapman

**(c) Wombourne Leisure Centre**

Councillors Dan Kinsey BEM and Victoria Wilson

**(13) Local Government Association**

**(a) Association**

Primary Representative – Leader of the Council  
2nd Representative – Deputy Leader of the Council

**(b) District Council Network**

Leader of the Council

**(14) Marsh Recreation Ground and Community Centre Trust**

Councillor Greg Spruce

**(15) Midlands Joint Advisory Clean Air Council**

Cabinet Member for Estates, Assets and Commercial Services - Councillor David Williams

**(16) Monckton Recreation Management Committee**

Councillor Andy Adams

**(17) PATROL (Traffic Penalty Tribunal) Adjudication Joint Committee**

Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services Councillor Rita Heseltine

(Substitute – Cabinet Member for Community Services Councillor Mike Davies)

**(18) PFCC Strategic Community Safety Forum**

Councillor Vince Merrick

**(19) Saredon Quarry Liaison Committee**

Councillor Bob Cope

**(20) Seisdon Quarry Liaison Committee**

Councillor Victoria Wilson

**(21) Shoal Hill Common Joint Committee**

Councillors Helen Adams, Bob Cope and David Williams

**(22) Sow and Penk Internal Drainage Management Board**

Councillor Victor Kelly (by agreement with Stafford Borough Council)

**(23) Staffordshire Destination Management Partnership Board**

**(Enjoy Staffordshire)**

Cabinet Member for Planning and Enterprise Services - Councillor Mark Evans

**(24) Staffordshire Joint Police and Crime Panel**

Leader of the Council (Substitute Councillor Vince Merrick)

**(25) Staffordshire Leaders Board**

Leader of the Council

**(26) Staffordshire Playing Fields Association**

Councillor Mike Davies

**(27) Staffordshire Sustainability Board**

Cabinet Member for Community Services - Councillor Mike Davies

**(28) Trysull and Seisdon Playing Fields Committee**

Councillor Victoria Wilson

(To hold office from AGM of the Management Committee in October 2025 to the AGM in October 2026)

**(29) West Midlands Employers**

Confirmation of appointment of the Chief Executive

**(30) Wolverhampton Business (Halfpenny Green) Airport Consultative Committee**

Councillors Roger Lees BEM and Victoria Wilson

**(31) Wombourne and District Community Association**

Councillor Dan Kinsey BEM

23     **INDEPENDENT MEMBERS' REMUNERATION PANEL**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26 an Independent Members' Remuneration Panel be appointed in accordance with the Constitution of the Council comprising;

Mr R Garbett - Retired Businessman  
Mr A McLaughlin - Local Businessman  
Mr J Giffard - Former Chief Constable of Staffordshire

24     **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON**

**RESOLVED:** that Stephen Cork be appointed as the Independent Person for the Municipal Year 2025/26.

25     **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF COMPLAINTS PANEL**

**RESOLVED:** that for the Municipal Year 2025/26 S Cork, N Davies and A Hamlyn be appointed as Independent Members to the Council's Complaints Panel.

26      **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2025 -2026**

It was proposed by Councillor K Perry MBE and seconded by Councillor D Williams and **RESOLVED:** that the Calendar of meetings be approved.

27      **QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11.4**

There were no questions pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11.4

28      **WASTE CONTRACT - INCREASE TO CAPITAL PROGRAMME BUDGET 2025/26**

It was proposed by Councillor K Perry MBE and seconded by Councillor D Williams and **RESOLVED:** That Council approve an increase in the capital budget for the purchase of waste vehicles from £3.046m to £5.784m.

29      **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor Phil Davis, thanked members for electing him as Chairman and congratulated the retiring Chairman, Councillor Dan Kinsey BEM, on his successful year in office. The Chairman announced that his chosen charities were Macmillan Nurses and the Kingswood Trust. The Chairman's Civic Sunday will take place on 13th July. The Chairman will be holding a sponsored table tennis marathon and asked members to support the event. The Chairman looked forward to furthering the name of South Staffordshire Council and providing a service to residents.

The Meeting ended at: 20:00

**CHAIRMAN**