

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

10th July, 2024

A Council meeting of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council was held on Wednesday, 10th July 2024.

Present

The Mayor (Councillor W. Hancox)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor B. Saru)

Councillors E. Amaechi, M. Bird, J. Bonner, D. Brown, J. Clarke, T. Cooper, S. Croft, L. Cvetkovic, S. Dhillon, M. Etienne, J. Gutteridge, J. Hartshorn, S. Hey, P. Hickling, B. Hughes, T. Jenkins, A. Khangura, N. King, M. Kondakor, S. Markham, W. Markham, B. Pandher, C. Phillips, K. Price, R. Roze, J. Sheppard, T. Sheppard, C. Smith, R. Smith, T. Venson, M. Walsh and C. Watkins

Apologies were received for Councillors J. Collett, K. Wilson, A. Bull and M. Wright

CL13 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Council held on 15th May 2024 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

CL14 **Declarations of Interests**

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interests for this meeting are as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes.

In addition, Councillor J. Gutteridge declared that he was no longer a representative of the following:

- Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board
- Age UK (Warwickshire Branch)
- Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground
- West Midlands Combined Authority Wellbeing Board

CL15 **Announcements**

The Leader Councillor C. Watkins announced that a thank you card had been received from Denise Carter regarding the road renaming of Clinic Drive to Fusilier Louis Carter Drive in honour of her son who died during a tour of Afghanistan in 2009.

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- A minute silence was held for staff member Bruce Collings who had recently passed away.
- Thanks to former Members of Parliament Marcus Jones, Craig Tracey and Mark Pawsey for their services to the residents of the Borough.
- Congratulations to newly elected Members of Parliament Jodie Gosling (Nuneaton), Rachel Taylor (Bedworth and North Warwickshire) and John Slinger (Rugby).
- The launch of the Mayor's Civic Appeal is being held on Friday 12th July 2024 at 10am, all members are welcome to attend.

CL16 **Public Participation**

Question 1 – Mr Brian Walmsley asked the following question for the Leader of the Council:

Trust in politics and politicians is at an all-time low. Which is not helped by things like Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's accounts not having been externally audited for financial year 2021/22, as well as every subsequent financial year since. Can the responsible Cabinet Member please tell us, the residents, what the current position is regarding the 2021/22 accounts?

Councillor S. Hey, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Customer Services responded as follows

Thank-you Mr Mayor and thank you Mr Walmsley.

Several people have asked me this question, and at every Scrutiny panel I've attended we've been lambasted from the public gallery about this.

So you know, It just looks dodgy, doesn't it? I'm just wondering what the previous administration, its lovely saying previous administration isn't it, and its lovely saying the previous Government too - but you know that's just on our side.

It looks dodgy, what was going on, and so I have looked into it, and I really want to find out, you know what's been covered up. Now, it's always more complicated than that. There is a country-wide shortage of qualified external auditors, and this has undoubtedly caused everybody, every authority, major problems and delays. So I can't, unfortunately blame the members opposite for this—or can I?

The situation was not helped by the previous government's abolition of the Audit Commission, which finally closed in 2015. A replacement body was set up to oversee the transition, and this was supposed to save £1 billion to opted-in authorities external audit costs. Well, that didn't work out very well because since 2015, the delays in external audits have got worse.

Locally also, at the Council we also ran into problems. The former Head of Finance resigned, and we were told that was a single point of failure, and yet it wasn't dealt with and a single point of failure failed.

But here's the bit that really annoyed me. As I mentioned earlier, this was all supposed to save money. But what happens when things are in short supply? Prices go up. In 20/21, the estimated cost of the external audit was just over £43,000, and yet we've been told the cost of the 2023/24 audit will be over £153,000.

This is yet another example of the previous Government finding ways to starve public services of much-needed cash.

So, is it a conspiracy or cock-up? It's not a conspiracy, but definitely, a series of cockups by the Tories both nationally and locally.

Incidentally, I've asked Officer to try and make sure that we progress that external audits as fast as we can going forward so we don't get criticized for it.

Thank-you Mr. Walmsley and Mr. Mayor

Question 2 – Mr Keith Kondakor made the following statement:

Our fire and rescue service in Nuneaton and Bedworth is the busiest in Warwickshire. They have saved many lives and saved valuable property in the borough including saving our own town hall in 2019. The fire and rescue service clearly needs to make changes to adapt to availability of on-call crews in some areas and the changing nature of incidents. However, reducing the number of appliances and crews in the busiest area in the county is reckless. Not only are the full time crews in Nuneaton the busiest in Warwickshire with 1,408 call outs per year, we also have the busiest on-call crews based at Bedworth with another

240 call outs per year. By contrast, we had an average of 18 call outs per year at the two least busy stations at Shipston and Fenny Compton and just 47 a year at Bidford.

The County Council chose to take the final proposals to its scrutiny committee on 26th June, when they had 3 speakers from Bidford on Avon, one from Shottery and one from Alcester. It was unreasonable to hold this meeting in the general election purdah period. Sadly, the only Nuneaton based County Councillor was from the controlling group there and seems to have supported the loss of resources at Nuneaton. By deciding to hold the only scrutiny meeting to discuss the finalised proposals during the general election period, they managed to avoid proper debate on the 50% cut to the service at Nuneaton Fire Station.

The original consultation on the reconfiguration happened when the Conservatives controlled this council. During that stage, the then council leader would not answer questions at the Full council meeting about the cut in Nuneaton and we ended up having, possibly, zero response from this council about losing one of our two fire engines at Nuneaton and the loss of fire fighters jobs.

I hope the council as a body will write to the leader of WCC, start fighting to protect our fire service in Nuneaton and encourage as many as possible to attend the WCC cabinet meeting at 1:45PM on 16th July in Warwick.

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, gave the following response:

Thank you. we will be writing to Warwickshire County Council and I will be answering this in a bit more depth later.

Question 3 – Mr Colin Hughes submitted the following question for the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Customer Services:

Can Councillor Hey please let me know how he feels about the state of the Council's financial position, now he has had chance to look at some figures?

Councillor S. Hey, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Customer Services gave the following response:

Thank-you Mr Mayor and Mr Hughes.

Obviously since May I've been working with the officers to gain an understanding of the financial position inherited from the Conservatives, to prepare for the outturn reports for the final quarter, coming to Cabinet next week, and to start thinking about the planning process for setting next year's budget.

The budgets and spending are balanced and I am assured we are not going down the Birmingham route which is good news.

However, I was shocked to see the inadequate level of reserves both in the General Fund and HRA accounts, and I'll be doing a lot more work on those to see what can be done.

But it's what hasn't been done that is worrying me. We've been presented with what appears to be ever-growing list of budget pressures which have been just kicked into the long grass by the previous administration.

I'll just give an example, it's not everything. The Museum seems to have been cast adrift, Bucks Hill and Attleborough Cemetery Flooding not dealt with, the AV System in the Chamber has broken down and not been dealt with, the Harefield Road car park needs maintenance, Support for BRANCAB needs looking at, the Bridge to Living project seems to be in limbo, and the one that really worries me personally is the colossal pressures on the homelessness budget because of the increasing number of homeless people - people abandoned by the previous Government.

Now I could name a lot more, but you've asked me how I feel. What I feel is disappointed. Disappointed for the people of the Borough who have been let down by 14 years of neglect nationally and three years of neglect locally by a Conservative Party which does not value public services at all.

CL17 **Questions by Members**

Question 1 – Councillor Brady Hughes asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

I would like to ask the leader, could you tell me how you feel the Council has been performing under the previous administration and did you find any surprising issues that need to be addressed?

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

I, like my colleague Cllr Hey, was very disappointed and shocked to see that there was a total lack of leadership and guidance from the previous administration. In the first month you have to make some very big decisions. I've made a small list of some of the big decision we had to make, some of them being for health and safety reasons. We lifted the employment ban, so our staff can get staff that it needs to take some of the strain off them. We had some

claims coming in from Warwickshire County Council. The Glendale contract needed an urgent extension because they were about to pull out. The Civic Hall needed extending. There's been single member decisions, and as Councillor I have already said we've had to make some very serious decisions on some of the car parks and you'll be seeing some of them coming into effect very soon. So very shocked, very disappointed in the lack of leadership and guidance.

Question 2 – Councillor Richard Smith asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement:

On Friday of last week, we received news that the appeal to the council's refusal of up to 700 houses on green belt land adjacent to the A5 has been dismissed by the Planning Inspector, and to add to that we've heard today that a second appeal has been dismissed. This is great news for residents and is testament to the hard stand against inappropriate development taken by the previous Conservative administration.

Labours failed Borough plan will be replaced this year by the revised Conservative plan that reduces housing targets and has a strict no green belt policy and is currently in public examination hearings. At the same time the new national Labour Government has announced a loosening of planning policy that will actively encourage development on green belt, this is a very real threat to the small amount of precious green belt left in the Borough due to Labours devastating plan, will the portfolio holder give the residents his guarantee that he will continue the work of the Conservative administration to protect the Boroughs green belt from inappropriate development and renew a once broken Labour promise to protect land at the Woodlands in Bedworth and land to the east of Bulkington due to be deallocated in the revised Conservative Borough plan.

Councillor R. Roze, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement responded as follows:

I just want to clarify that I have no knowledge of any documents referred to as Labour's Borough Plan or Conservative Plan.

I think it's very crucial to know that there is a document known as a Borough Plan, and why I made making this distinction is because it's backed by a substantial amount of evidence gathered to a process rather than being politically motivated manifesto.

The role of political oversight is to ensure that the throughout diligent execution of such work. Mr Mayor, I'd like to emphasise 3 important facts.

Firstly, without the Borough Plan, including 2019, the Council would relinquish control over developments necessitating approval for almost every application. So therefore, I urge all members here, including Councillor Smith, to acknowledge that the hard work of the previous Labour administrations in establishing this plan.

Secondly, the ongoing examination of the Borough Plan 2019 review involves inspectors assessing the quality of the evidence. It is premature to speculate on outcomes, but it is clear that any unsound political intervention could have significant financial repercussions to the council potential amounting to hundreds of thousands of pounds through the appeals, funds that belong to the people of Nuneaton and Bedworth and Bulkington and not the political parties.

So, in addition to the lack of robust evidence presented to the Inspector, this is probably the biggest threat to the Greenbelt if it's not presented in a proper way. And lastly, let me be very clear, the outcome of the appeals process relating to A5, including the latest appeals, has absolutely no relevance to the Borough Plan review or the Greenbelt. The appeal was solely rejected on A5, just purely based on traffic grounds.

Thank you much.

Question 3 – Councillor Kris Wilson submitted the following question to the Leader of the Council.

When the Conservatives left office, we had invested in the largest programme of play area renewal in our Borough for 30 years, with new parks at Buttermere Park, Sherbourne Avenue, Sorrel Road, Attleborough Recreation Ground and Marlborough Road Recreation Ground all started under my administration. We overturned the Labour agreement for Coventry housing overspill; put the regeneration programmes on a sound financial footing; secured the funding and started the new Bedworth Leisure Centre; put forward a revised Borough Plan to the Planning Inspector; provided record amounts of support for our towns and local businesses. I could go on.

Within 2 months of our election in 2021 we passed an emergency budget putting in place our promises from our election manifesto. So far, I have seen no activity from the new Labour administration.

Could the Leader of the Council confirm what exactly his new administration will deliver for the residents of Nuneaton and Bedworth, as it appears that he has accepted all of the policies the outgoing Conservative administration put in place?

it was agreed that in his absence a written response would be provided to Councillor K. Wilson.

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

Dear Councillor Wilson,

I do hope that you are feeling better and I am very sorry for the delay in responding to your question from full council.

You make great play of having made changes in the first two month's of your administration but it is hard to see what you were actually doing during the rest of your time in control.

Some of the items you mention had been started under the previous administration, the revised Borough Plan has yet to be approved and I would suggest that you didn't put the regeneration plans on a sound business footing.

Meanwhile in our first two months we had to deal with a General Election and a whole host of matters kicked into the long grass by your administration.

Personally I wouldn't make a virtue of having changed everything in your first two months.

We are adopting a more measured approach which includes proper attention to detail - that way, for example, we won't end up building Grayson Place as a potential death trap, we will get the flooding problems at Bucks Hill and Attleborough Cemeteries sorted, we will keep the Museum open and we get the grounds maintenance contract properly specified to name but a few things we have had to pick up from your neglect.

While you talk the talk we are just getting on with walking the walk without making a great song and dance about it.

Question 4 - Councillor Lubs Cvetkovic asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

Thank you Mr Mayor. May I take this opportunity to congratulate you and the Deputy Mayor on your appointments.

Following the local elections at the start of May, a resident of Bulkington messaged me and asked what would a Labour Council mean for the residents of Bulkington?

I was not able to provide him with an answer to this question but promised that this would be the first question I would ask the newly appointed Leader of the Council.

I did ask a similar question to his predecessors (former Councillor J. Jackson) before I was an elected member, and she was unable to name one specific thing that Labour had done for Bulkington over the previous five year period.

Over the last three years, working alongside a Conservative led Council we have seen the Christmas light switch on resurrected and returned to its former glory. We have had several new pieces of play equipment added to the recreation ground. We have seen funding for a Jubilee and a Coronation event, which brought joy and happiness to many as well as a big boost to the local economy. A project to improve the maintenance of the flower beds in Leicester Street and HSG 7 removed from the Borough plan alongside the Woodlands in Bedworth.

Sadly, in the same three year period former Councillor Shiers, who produced the Labour alternative budget, wanted to reduce funding for the Bulkington Village Centre by 10%. Can the Leader of the Council offer the residents of Bulkington assurances that this settlement will continue to be supported and not forgotten, or even better outline any specific schemes that he and his Cabinet will implement to build on what has been achieved over the last few years?

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

I can offer the residents of Bulkington the assurance that they will be fully included in everything that we do in the largest redevelopment of Nuneaton that we have ever seen.

I can offer assurances to the residents of Bulkington that we they will be fully included in the redevelopment of Bedworth and the millions that we will be spending on the Bedworth activity hub.

When I was a young boy in Stockingford, which includes Stockingford East, Stockingford West and Arbury, there was a carnival and some people will remember that but that sadly passed, passed to the side. I will treat Bulkington, which is part of Nuneaton and I'm sure you know that being a Bulkington Councillor. I will treat Nuneaton as part of Nuneaton and Bedworth and together we will be united to achieve.

Question 5 – Councillor Sue Markham submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and Health

Since Labour took control of NBBC in May, it seems that the contractor team is yet again being let off the hook with grounds maintenance across the towns and

villages in the Borough. Councillors have received and reported many complaints from all over the Bedworth area since May.

When Conservatives were in charge of the town hall between 2021-24, standards in ground maintenance vastly improved under the stewardship of Councillor Gutteridge, your predecessor.

The main cause of concerns to residents is the fact that the contractor is clearly not following the contract specifications with respect of strimming immediately after grass cutting. Whilst I understand that there is a separate team for strimming, and it has been very wet, it is absolutely clear that strimming is not taking place after the cut. As a consequence, numerous pieces of Council land are now an absolute eyesore.

As such I would welcome answers to the following. How many rectification and/or default notices have been issued against the ground maintenance contractors between May and the present day and, is it still the policy of the Council not to pay the ground maintenance contractors for a piece of work until it has been completed to the standard specified within the contract.

Councillor T. Jenkins, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and Health, responded as follows:

So I'll answer your questions in reverse order if I may. So with regards to the completion to the standard, yes, the strimming is supposed to be done within 24 hours of mowing and payment to the contractor is as per the contract terms for completed areas.

Now as we're all aware and as you rightly stated in your question, it has been an extremely wet year this year. So we had unprecedented rain over the winter period which continued into April, which continued into May. We had 147% increase on rainfall in May, So there were extenuating circumstances.

A lot of the ground was very wet, couldn't get onto it, and this has had a knock on effect. Another factor is that under the previous administration, the contractor was requested to supply and do all the bedding plants and there were issues with that, with the supply of that. So all the bedding plants arrived within two days. So people had to be pulled off strimming and mowing to facilitate planting of the bedding plants, otherwise they can only be stored for a very short time and they would have died.

So under the extenuating circumstances, in answer to your first question, no, there haven't been any rectification or default notices issued at this stage, but we will monitor that going forward. Thank you.

Question 6 – Councillor Michele Kondakor asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement

Our Borough Plan/Local Plan is based on new planning applications for major developments having 15% modal shift. That is 15% more trips using active travel i.e. walking, cycling or using public transport. In reality, we are getting developments with a negative modal shift – i.e. they are difficult to walk from, cycle from and have poor connections with public transport.

One example is on Eastboro Way, by the Crow's nest, where currently there is no controlled crossing point, no safe cycle route and no bus stops.

Clearly a lot of active travel infrastructure should be provided by the County Council and developers. Some of this is never delivered and some of it is delivered late, so that people do not get used to using it as soon as they move to the development. Will the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement ask officers to be more robust in setting planning conditions requiring active travel and taking the necessary enforcement action if this doesn't happen?

Councillor R. Roze, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Enforcement, responded as follows:

Thank you, Councillor Kondakor. Very, very valid point. We're taking that on board, and just to say that we're already ahead. So Active Travel England has recently become a Statutory Consultee, but we'll be definitely paying attention and you know, way forward. Thank you.

Question 7 – Councillor Julian Gutteridge asked the following question to the Leader of the Council

At the Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the 13th of June 2024 I was astonished to hear in response to my question to the new portfolio holder that, after five weeks he had not met with the Parks Manager or the Ground Care contractors. Does the Leader of the Council believe this is acceptable from his new portfolio holder, given the importance that residents place on the grounds maintenance contract which I believe has grossly underperformed on his watch?

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

Yes, I do find it acceptable that the portfolio holder for grounds maintenance has not met with the contractor Glendale, because we have had so many other problems to deal with, and an election which as you know we won. It might also have looked very odd if the portfolio holder had had a meeting with the contractor

and then we had to extend the contract for a further two years, which has cost us a fortune. And I'm sure you knew about that as well.

But I would also like to correct your question because you're saying here that he said that he didn't meet with the Parks Management and I was at the same meeting and he did say that he had met with the Director and the Parks Manager, he just hadn't met with the contractor.

Question 8 – Councillor Martin Walsh asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

In the last Conservative budget it was announced that Bedworth was to receive up to £20 million in regeneration funding over the next five years. Following the General Election and a new Labour Government I, and many Bedworth residents, are concerned that the new Government will roll back this vital support for our town. Will the Leader of the Council agree to write to the new Member of Parliament for Bedworth to remind her of the importance of this investment in Bedworth and call on her to make sure that this support is delivered?

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:

We have already wrote to all three MP's and we will continue to keep in touch with all the three MP's. Thank you, Councillor Walsh.

Question 9 – Councillor Jeff Clarke asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

Thank you, Mr Mayor, and may I offer my congratulations to yourself and the Deputy Mayor on your appointment.

I read with concern a BBC news article that quoted the new Leader of the Council saying he was going to re-open the plans for regeneration in Nuneaton. This would seriously put at risk the funding we have secured thanks to the outgoing Conservative administrations both locally and nationally. It is my view that this will undermine business confidence if this is allowed to continue or is considered to be appropriate for the regeneration of our town. Will the Leader of the Council just get on with the job of Transforming Nuneaton instead of trying to promise the Earth and deliver nothing?

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows

No, I will not just get on with the job until I'm 100% happy with everything that is being planned for the site.

Following the savage cuts made to Nuneaton's fire service by the Tory administration, of which you're one, by Warwickshire County Council, we are now an engine down in Nuneaton and you are, like I say you was one of the Tory councillors that made one of them as decisions.

We, the Labour administration, take health and safety very seriously and they have raised some concerns with the designs that are being looked into at the moment.

But until I am happy that every health and safety issue has been resolved I will not just get on with the job, we as a Labour administration take the safety of all of our residents and visitors to the Borough very seriously.

Question 10 – Councillor Tony Venson asked the following question to the Leader of the Council.

Following the announcement of the proposed cuts to Nuneaton's Fire Service by Warwickshire County Council, could a warning letter be sent to WCC sighting the recent incident on Bulkington Lane in Nuneaton, where they required the two appliances from Nuneaton, plus one from Atherstone and also one from Leamington in attendance at a fire.

Add to this concerns in other locations where following the reduction in fire stations and appliances, after heat related fires, there was woefully inadequate cover with the requirement to bring in fire appliances from neighbouring districts, increasing risks to life. Warwickshire County Council need to seriously reconsider putting Nuneaton's residents at risk.

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows

Yes, I think that's an excellent idea to write to Warwickshire County Council and ask them to look at the cuts that they're proposing. So we'll draft a letter to the Leader of Warwickshire County Council, and also, as you've stated, state some of the incidents that have happened in the Borough recently and hopefully we can get a review of what they intend to do.

Question 11 – Councillor Samuel Croft asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Business and Regeneration

I think I congratulated you and Mr Deputy Mayor at the Annual Council, but I will welcome the Cabinet to their place. We will endeavour, in a respectful way, to provide robust check and challenge over the next two years and I'm sure they will enjoy 'question time' as little as I did.

So my question Mr Mayor is that, in October 2020 the then Labour Cabinet authorised the signing of the contract with the hotel operator for Grayson Place.

In the Spring of this year, the Conservative administration set up a trading company to manage the operation of that contract, as part of the rescue package that we implemented to ensure the viability of the regeneration programme. Can the cabinet member confirm if new Directors for the company have now been appointed following the change of administration, and what steps have been taken to bring the company into operation in preparation for the hotel opening

Councillor C. Watkins, Leader of the Council, responded as follows

I've never really been happy with Councillors being both Councillors and Directors of a company.

So we are looking at the Grayson Place thing as the Board of Directors and we're looking at a few things going forward. However, I can confirm that the operating company for Grayson Place has been established in anticipation on the opening date.

CL18 Special Urgency Decisions

RESOLVED that the following special urgency decision be noted:

- Delegated Authority by Officer - DO/01/2024 (BD) – Revised Committee Membership and Appointment to Outside Bodies 2024/25 – 22nd May 2024

CL19 Cabinet

The Leader of the Council submitted the Leaders report on behalf of Cabinet. The report highlighted matters considered at the Cabinet meetings held on 22nd May 2024 and 19th June 2024 and details of reports from the West Midlands Combined Authority Board (WMCAB), which has a direct impact on NBBC.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

CL20 Validation Checklist for Planning Applications

The Assistant Director for Planning submitted a report to Council to seek approval to adopt the Validation Checklist for Planning Applications

Councillor R. Roze moved the recommendations in the report.

Councillor C. Phillips seconded the recommendations.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Validation Checklist for Planning Applications (Appendix A of the report) be adopted; and
- b) subject to consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement, minor modifications be made to the Validation Checklist prior to final publication, where these modifications correct typographical errors, amendments to numbering or cross referring.

CL21 **Recommendations from Cabinet and Other Committees**

i) Finance Procedure Rules

At the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on the 2nd July 2024 a report by Strategic Director – Corporate Resources was submitted and a recommendation put forward for Council approval.

Councillor J. Bonner moved the recommendation for council approval.

Councillor K. Price seconded the recommendation.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that the updated Finance Procedure Rules be approved for inclusion in the constitution.

ii) Treasury Management 2023/24 – Year End Review

At the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on the 2nd July 2024 a report by Assistant Director – Finance and Finance Manager - Treasury was submitted and a recommendation put forward for Council approval.

Councillor J. Bonner moved the recommendation for council approval.

Councillor K. Price seconded the recommendation.

A vote was taken.

RESOLVED that the Annual Report be approved.

iii) Review of Treasury Practices

At the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on the 2nd July 2024 a report by Assistant Director – Finance and Finance Manager - Treasury was submitted and a recommendation put forward for Council approval.

Councillor J. Bonner moved the recommendation for council approval.

Councillor K. Price seconded the recommendation.

RESOLVED that the revised Treasury Management Practices be approved.

CL22 **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph (i) and (iv) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CL23 **Appointment of Deputy Chief Executive**

The Chief Executive submitted a report to Council putting forward recommendations for the designation of the Deputy Chief Executive role.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Deputy Chief Executive duties be assigned to the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources; and
- b) the Head of Paid Service be instructed to implement the above with immediate effect.

Mayor

Council - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2024/2025

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing matters - Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 - An allowance, payment given to members - An indemnity given to members - Any ceremonial honour given to members - Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - Planning and Licensing matters - Allotments - Local Enterprise Partnership
	E. Amaechi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employed NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP) - Ricky Global Consultants Ltd - Purple Dove Events Ltd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foundation Governor - Our Lady and St. Joseph Academy, Nuneaton. - Member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - British Computer Society. - Igbo Community Coventry. - Mbaise Community, Coventry. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • EQulP: Equality and Inclusion Partnership • West Midlands Combined Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee 	
	M. Bird		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Life Member of National Association of British Market Authorities. - Member of the Stockingford Allotment association and Pavillion Club. 	
	J. Bonner	Employed by Etone College (Matrix Academy Trust) - Teacher	The Labour Party (sponsorship) Member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Labour Party - National Education Union 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	D. Brown	Employed by H.M Land Registry	Regional Coordinator, Ragdoll Rescue Charity.	
	A. Bull	Employed by FedEx	<p>The Labour Party (sponsorship) -CWU Trade Union Member</p> <p>Representative of the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age UK (Warwickshire Branch) 	
	J. Clarke	-Employed by Marcus Jones MP - Warwickshire County Councillor	<p>Nuneaton Conservative Association; Deputy Chairman</p> <p>Officer of the Abbey Preceptory Masonic Buildings - Nuneaton</p>	
	J. Collett	Employed by: - Marcus Jones MP - Consigliere Strategy Ltd	<p>- Nuneaton Conservative Association (sponsorship)</p> <p>- Member of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nuneaton Rugby Club - Nuneaton Town Football Club - Nuneaton Cricket Club 	
	T. Cooper	None		
	S. Croft	Employed at Holland & Barrett Retail Ltd		
	L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography (Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	<p>The Bulkington Volunteers (Founder); Bulkington Sports and Social Club (Trustee)</p> <p>Member on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Control Partnership Steering Group 	
	S. Dhillon	Employed by UHCW NHS Trust	<p>Member (Rep) at Unison – UHCW Trust</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust – Public/User Board • West Midlands Combined Authority Wellbeing Board 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	M. Etienne	Employed by Network Rail	RMT Member	
	J. Gutteridge		Member of NABCEL	
	B. Hancox		<p>The Labour Party (sponsorship) Member of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Labour Party - Unite the Union - British Gurkha Veterans Association (Adviser) <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Festival of Arts • Bedworth Neighbourhood Watch Committee • Nicolas Chamberlaine's School Foundation 	
	J. Hartshorn	Employed by Asda Nuneaton	Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	
	S. Hey	Director – - Heywire Ltd - Brilliant Bookings Ltd	<p>Member of the Labour Party, National Trust, CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale), Royal Photographic Society.</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Employers Board (NBBC representative) • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board • Grayson Place (NBBC) Limited • West Midlands Employers • Nuneaton and Bedworth Older People's Forum 	
	P. Hickling	Employed by - King Edward VI Sixth Form College (Teacher) - Pearson Education (Snr Examiner)	<p>The Labour Party (sponsorship) - Member of The Labour Party (CLP and Secretary of Nuneaton West) - Member of National Education Union - Committee Member of Nuneaton Historical Association</p>	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<p>- Governor of King Edward VI Sixth Form College</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship Project for Children 	
	B. Hughes	Full Time Carer	<p>Member of the Labour Party. Member of the National Trust. Member of the Caravan and Motorhome Club Member of CAMRA</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Elliot Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors 	
	T. Jenkins	Managing Partner – Gribblybugs LLP	<p>The Labour Party (sponsorship) - Committee Member of Warwickshire Amphibian & Reptile Team - Member of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust - Member of Equity – Trade Union Members of National Trust and English Heritage</p> <p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Sports Forum, • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board, • Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board, • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel, • Biodiversity Champion • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • Exhall Education Foundation • Foleshill Charity Trustee – Proffitt's Charity 	
	A. Khangura	Self-Employed		
	N. King	Employed by Love Hair and Beauty	<p>Representative on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Town Deal 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Board	
	M. Kondakor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Member of the Green Party - Member of Nuneaton Harriers AC - Chair – Bedworth Symphony Orchestra 	
	S. Markham	County Councillor – WCC (Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services)	Governor at Ash Green School Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charities • Trustee of Abbey Theatre 	
	W. Markham		Governor at Ash Green School for SEND Member of Unite Union	
	B. Pandher		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Member of Warwickshire County Council. - Member of the Conservative Party - President & Trustee of Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple Coventry; - Coordinator of Council of Sikh Temples in Coventry; - Secretary of Coventry Indian Community; - Trustee of Sikh Monument Trust - Vice Chair Exhall Multicultural Group 	
	C. Phillips	Warwickshire County Council	Chair of Governors – Stockingford Nursery School	
	K. Price	Warwickshire County Council	The Labour Party Unite the Union BASW Social Work England Registration	
	R. Roze	Director – InfiniTEN Ltd	Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd • PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside of London) Joint Committee Services. • Building Control Partnership Steering 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedworth Town Deal Board 	
	B. Saru	Director – Saru Embroidery Ltd	- Labour Party (sponsorship) Representative on the following Outside Bodies: - Armed Forces Covenant	
	J. Sheppard		Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • Nuneaton Neighbour Watch Committee 	
			Director of Wembrook Community Centre.	Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre
			Member of Labour Party	
	T. Sheppard	Self Employed	Member of Unite the Union Member of Labour Party	
	C. Smith	Software Engineer – Prophet PLC	- U16 Coach – Nuneaton RFC - Safeguarding – Manor Park RFC Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astley Charity 	
	R. Smith		- Conservative Party Member - Chair of Trustees - Volunteer Friends, Bulkington; - Trustee of Bulkington Sports and Social Club.	
	T. Venson	Employed by Freightliner Heavy Haul	ASIEF Trade Union The Labour Party Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Warwickshire Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	M. Walsh	(Retired)Employed by Maclnnes Tooling Ltd. – UK Sales Manager	Trustee of the Nuneaton Scouts Association. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammersley Smith and Orton Charity 	
	C.M. Watkins	Employee of Nutri Pack	Representative on the following outside bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd. (NABCEL) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee • Local Government Association • Nuneaton and Bedworth Hone Improvement Agency • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd • Warwickshire Housing Support Partnership • West Midlands Combined Authority Board (WMCA) • West Midland Combined Housing and Land delivery Board 	
	K.D. Wilson	Delivery Manager, Nuneaton and Warwick County Courts & West Midlands and Warwickshire Bailiffs, HMCTS, Warwickshire Justice Centre, Nuneaton	-Deputy Chairman – Nuneaton Conservative Association - Nuneaton Conservative association (sponsorship) -Board Member of the Conservative Association. -Corporate Tenancies: properties are leased by NBBC to Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd, of which I am a Council appointed Director. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: -LGA People & Places Board (Member) -Director of Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd (NABCEL) -Director of Grayson Place (NBBC) Ltd	
	M. Wright			