

Council

ANNUAL MEETING OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Held in the City Hall on Monday, 1st June, 2020
at 6.00 p.m., pursuant to notice.

Members present: The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor (Councillor D. Baker) (Chairperson); the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McReynolds); Aldermen Copeland, Kingston and McCoubrey; Councillors S. Baker, Beattie, Bunting, Michael Collins, Dorrian, Garrett, Kyle, Long, Lyons, McAllister, McCusker, McLaughlin and O'Hara.

Summons

The Chief Executive submitted the summons convening the meeting.

Apologies

The Chief Executive explained that only a quarter of the Members, based on party strengths, were requested to attend the Annual Meeting. She advised that it was in accordance with social distancing measures which were operational due to the coronavirus pandemic. A technical apology was therefore reported for all other Members.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Minutes of the Council

Moved by the Lord Mayor (Councillor D. Baker),
Seconded by Councillor Beattie and

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of 2nd March and of the Special meetings of 9th, 13th and 16th March be taken as read and signed as correct.

Official Announcements

The Lord Mayor, on behalf of the Council, expressed solidarity with the Black Lives Matter campaign in light of the recent murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Councillor Lyons expressed sympathy to the friends and family of Edwina Stewart, one of the founding members of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association, who had recently passed away.

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

Councillor O'Hara highlighted that 1st June marked the beginning of Pride month and that the Stonewall riots in 1969 had sparked a movement for equality and LGBT rights.

**Appointment of Positions of Responsibility for Year 2
of the Council Term - 2020/2021**

The Chief Executive drew the Council's attention to a report which identified the persons that had been selected by the Nominating Officer of each Political Party to hold the following Positions of Responsibility during the second year of the Council term:

Position	Party	Member's Name
Lord Mayor	DUP	Alderman McCoubrey
Deputy Lord Mayor	SDLP	Councillor McCusker
Chair SP&R	SF	Councillor Black
Deputy Chair SP&R	DUP	Councillor Bunting
Chair City Growth and Regeneration	DUP	Councillor Brooks
Deputy Chair City Growth and Regeneration	SF	Councillor Murphy
Chair People & Communities	SF	Councillor Danny Baker
Deputy Chair People & Communities	UUP	Alderman Rodgers
Chair Planning	DUP	Councillor Hussey
Deputy Chair Planning	SDLP	Councillor McKeown
Chair Licensing	SF	Councillor Donnelly
Deputy Chair Licensing	PBPA	Councillor Michael Collins
Chair Waterfront and Ulster Hall	DUP	Alderman Haire
Deputy Chair Waterfront and Ulster Hall	PUP	Councillor Kyle
Chair Brexit	GREEN	Councillor Flynn
Deputy Chair Brexit	SF	Councillor Walsh

The Council agreed to appoint the Members to the positions of responsibility for 2020/2021, as set out above.

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

Expressions of Thanks

The Lord Mayor reviewed his year in office, which had focused upon the themes of young people, mental health awareness and community empowerment and he highlighted a number of successful events in which he had participated. He thanked his Political Party, his family, the Deputy Lord Mayor, the High Sheriff, other Members and Council staff for their support and wished the incoming Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor every success over the forthcoming year.

The Deputy Lord Mayor referred to a number of memorable events which he had hosted or attended during his year in office and paid tribute to the Lord Mayor, the High Sheriff, his Political Party, his family, other Members and Council staff for the valuable assistance which they had provided.

Tributes

Representatives of a number of Political Parties paid tribute to the Lord Mayor and the Deputy Lord Mayor for the manner in which they had fulfilled their duties during their year in office.

Installation of Lord Mayor

The Chief Executive advised the Council that Alderman McCoubrey had been nominated to serve as Lord Mayor.

Accordingly, Alderman McCoubrey was installed in Office for the period to end on the date of the annual meeting of the Council in 2021 and he subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Alderman McCoubrey thanked his Political Party for nominating him to serve as Lord Mayor, he outlined his main priorities for the forthcoming year and paid tribute to the previous Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor for the manner in which they had carried out their duties.

(The Lord Mayor, Alderman McCoubrey, in the Chair.)

Installation of Deputy Lord Mayor

The Council was advised that Councillor McCusker had been nominated to serve as Deputy Lord Mayor.

Accordingly, Councillor McCusker was installed in Office for the period to end on the date of the annual meeting of the Council in 2021 and he subscribed to the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor McCusker paid tribute to the previous Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor, thanked his Political Party for nominating him to serve as Deputy Lord Mayor and outlined his main objectives for his term in office.

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

**Appointment of Members to Standing Committees for
Year Two – 2020/2021**

The Chief Executive drew the Council's attention to a report which identified the following persons who had been nominated by the Nominating Officer of each Political Party to the Council's Standing Committees for 2020/2021:

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

1	Chairperson	Councillor Black
2	Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Bunting
3	Alderman Haire	
4	Alderman Kingston	
5	Alderman Sandford	
6	Councillor Beattie	
7	Councillor Carson	
8	Councillor Dorrian	
9	Councillor Garrett	
10	Councillor Groogan	
11	Councillor Heading	
12	Councillor Long	
13	Councillor Lyons	
14	Councillor McAllister	
15	Councillor McDonough-Brown	
16	Councillor McLaughlin	

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

17	Councillor Murphy
18	Councillor Nicholl
19	Councillor Spratt
20	Councillor Walsh

City Growth and Regeneration Committee

1	Chairperson	Councillor Brooks
2	Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Murphy
3	Alderman Kingston	
4	Councillor Beattie	
5	Councillor Donnelly	
6	Councillor Dorrian	
7	Councillor Ferguson	
8	Councillor Gormley	
9	Councillor Harvey	
10	Councillor Heading	
11	Councillor Howard	
12	Councillor Tracy Kelly	
13	Councillor Lyons	
14	Councillor Maskey	
15	Councillor McAllister	

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

16	Councillor McLaughlin
17	Councillor McMullan
18	Councillor O'Hara
19	Councillor Spratt
20	Councillor Whyte

People and Communities Committee

1	Chairperson	Councillor Danny Baker
2	Deputy Chairperson	Alderman Rodgers
3	Councillor Black	
4	Councillor Bunting	
5	Councillor Cobain	
6	Councillor Michael Collins	
7	Councillor Corr	
8	Councillor de Faoite	
9	Councillor Flynn	
10	Councillor Garrett	
11	Councillor Michelle Kelly	
12	Councillor Magee	
13	Councillor McAteer	
14	Councillor McCusker	

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

15	Councillor McReynolds
16	Councillor Mulholland
17	Councillor Newton
18	Councillor Pankhurst
19	Councillor Smyth
20	Councillor Verner

Licensing Committee

1	Chairperson	Councillor Donnelly
2	Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Michael Collins
3	Alderman Copeland	
4	Alderman Sandford	
5	Councillor Shauneen Baker	
6	Councillor Bunting	
7	Councillor Groves	
8	Councillor Howard	
9	Councillor Hussey	
10	Councillor Hutchinson	
11	Councillor Michelle Kelly	
12	Councillor Tracy Kelly	
13	Councillor Magee	

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

14	Councillor Magennis
15	Councillor McAteer
16	Councillor McCullough
17	Councillor McCusker
18	Councillor McKeown
19	Councillor McReynolds
20	Councillor Smyth

Planning Committee

1	Chairperson	Councillor Hussey
2	Deputy Chairperson	Councillor McKeown
3	Councillor Brooks	
4	Councillor Carson	
5	Councillor Matt Collins	
6	Councillor Garrett	
7	Councillor Groogan	
8	Councillor Harvey	
9	Councillor Hutchinson	
10	Councillor Maskey	
11	Councillor McCullough	
12	Councillor Murphy	

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

13	Councillor Nicholl
14	Councillor O'Hara

Brexit Committee

1	Chairperson	Councillor Flynn
2	Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Walsh
3	Alderman Haire	
4	Alderman Rodgers	
5	Alderman Sandford	
6	Councillor Danny Baker	
7	Councillor Brooks	
8	Councillor Canavan	
9	Councillor de Faoite	
10	Councillor Ferguson	
11	Councillor Gormley	
12	Councillor Harvey	
13	Councillor Kyle	
14	Councillor Long	
15	Councillor Magennis	
16	Councillor McLaughlin	
17	Councillor McMullan	

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

18	Councillor Newton
19	Councillor Pankhurst
20	Councillor Whyte

Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Shareholders' Committee

1	Chairperson	Alderman Haire
2	Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Kyle
3	Alderman Copeland	
4	Councillor Canavan	
5	Councillor Cobain	
6	Councillor Matt Collins	
7	Councillor Flynn	
8	Councillor Groves	
9	Councillor Michelle Kelly	
10	Councillor Magee	
11	Councillor McAteer	
12	Councillor McCusker	
13	Councillor Mulholland	
14	Councillor Newton	

The Council agreed to appoint the Members to the Council's Standing Committees for 2020/2021, as set out above.

**Annual Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st June, 2020**

Appointment of an Alderman

The Chief Executive advised that the Local Government (Transitional, Incidental, Consequential and Supplemental Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 permitted the Council, in an election year, to designate up to a maximum of fifteen Councillors to serve as Aldermen for the duration of the Council term.

The Council, at its Annual Meeting of 21st May, 2019, agreed that it wished to appoint seven Councillors to serve as Aldermen for 2019/2023.

The Chief Executive advised the Council that, upon the resignation of former Alderman Spence, a vacancy existed and the Council could decide whether it wished to fill the vacancy.

Moved by Alderman Kingston
Seconded by Councillor Bunting and

Resolved – That Councillor Dorrian be appointed to the office of Alderman for the Council term.

Change of Membership on Outside Bodies

The Chief Executive advised the Council that, following the recent casual vacancies, the DUP had indicated that it wished to make the following changes to the membership of Outside Bodies:

- Councillor Pankhurst to replace former Alderman Spence on the North Belfast District PCSP and the Reserve Forces and Cadet Association;
- Councillor Bunting to replace former Councillor Graham on the Forward South Partnership; and
- Councillor Dorrian to replace former Councillor Graham on the Somme Advisory Council.

The Council noted the changes.

Lord Mayor
Chairperson