

City Council

Friday 16 May 2025

PRESENT:

Councillor Tuohy, in the Chair.

Councillor Murphy, Vice Chair.

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Evans OBE, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Ney, P.Nicholson, S.Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Ricketts, Simpson, M.Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tofan, Ms Watkin and Wood.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Mrs Bridgeman, Cuddihee, Krizanac, Loveridge, Reilly and R.Smith.

The meeting started at 9.45 am and finished at 10.35 am.

Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at www.plymouth.gov.uk. At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

1. **To Elect the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor for the Period up to the Next Annual Meeting**

Council agreed to elect Councillor Ms Kathy Watkin as Lord Mayor of the City for the 2025/26 municipal year. This was proposed by Councillor Andy Lugger and seconded by Councillor Mary Aspinall.

For (49)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Evans OBE, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Ney, P.Nicholson, S.Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Ricketts, Simpson, M.Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tofan, Tuohy and Wood.

Against (1)

Councillor Mrs Beer.

Absent/Did Not Vote (1)

Councillor Ms Watkin.

Council agreed to elect Councillor Chip Tofan as Deputy Lord Mayor for the City for the 2025/26 municipal year. This was proposed by Councillor Ms Kathy Watkin and seconded by Councillor Tess Blight.

For (50)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Evans OBE, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Ney, P.Nicholson, S.Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Ricketts, Simpson, M.Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy, Ms Watkin and Wood.

Against (0)

Absent/Did Not Vote (1)
Councillor Tofan.

2. **To appoint the Lord Mayor's Chaplain**

The Lord Mayor announced the appointment of Reverend Hannah Freeman as the Lord Mayor's Chaplain.

3. **Presentation of Drake's Sword**

Lieutenant Commander Andrew McConochie presented Drake's Sword to the Lord Mayor of the Royal Navy to symbolise the key links between the Royal Navy and the City of Plymouth.

4. **Vote of thanks to the retiring Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor**

Council accorded to Councillor Tina Tuohy the sincere thanks of the Citizens of Plymouth for the invaluable services she had rendered to the City as Lord Mayor since May 2024, and for the able manner in which she had presided over the deliberations of the Council during that period.

The Council also expressed its indebtedness to Councillor Pauline Murphy for her diligent and efficient discharge of the duties of Deputy Lord Mayor.

Thanks were also expressed to the retiring Lord Mayoress and the retiring Deputy Lord Mayor's consort.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Bill Stevens and seconded by Councillor Andy Lugger.

For (50)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Evans OBE, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Ney, P.Nicholson, S.Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Ricketts, Simpson, M.Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tuohy, Ms Watkin and Wood.

Against (0)

Absent/Did Not Vote (1)
Councillor Tofan.

5. **To note the Leader of the City Council**

Council agreed to note the continuation of Councillor Tudor Evans OBE for the 2025/26 municipal year as Leader of the Council.

6. **To note the membership of the Cabinet**

The Council agreed to note the report which advised that the Cabinet would comprise of the following members:

- Councillor Jemima Laing – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children’s Social Care, Culture and Communications.
- Councillor Mary Aspinall – Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care.
- Councillor Sally Haydon – Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Events, Cemeteries & Crematoria.
- Councillor Chris Penberthy – Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities.
- Councillor Sally Cresswell – Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships.
- Councillor Mark Lowry – Cabinet Member for Finance.
- Councillor John Stephens – Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport.
- Councillor Tom Briars-Delve – Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change.
- Councillor Sue Dann – Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Sport, Leisure, Human Resources and Organisational Development.

7. **To agree Committees and their members and appoint Chairs and Vice Chairs**

Council agreed to approve the appointments to committees, including the Chairs and Vice Chairs, as set out in the report.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ms Kathy Watkin and seconded by Councillor Neil Hendy.

For (51)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Evans OBE, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Lugger, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Ney, P.Nicholson, S.Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Ricketts, Simpson, M.Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tofan, Tuohy, Ms Watkin and Wood.

Against (0)

Absent/Did Not Vote (0)

8. **To nominate or appoint representatives to outside bodies**

Council agreed to approve the nominations to outside bodies, as set out in the report.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Ms Kathy Watkin and seconded by Councillor Neil Hendy.

For (51)

Councillors Allen, Allison, Aspinall, Bannerman, Mrs Beer, Blight, Briars-Delve, Coker, Cresswell, Dann, Darcy, Dingle, Evans OBE, Finn, Freeman, Gilmour, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, Holloway, Laing, Lawson, Lowry, Luggier, McCarty, McLay, McNamara, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Ney, P.Nicholson, S.Nicholson, Noble, Penberthy, Penrose, Poyser, Raynsford, Ricketts, Simpson, M.Smith, Sproston, Steel, Stephens, Stevens, Taylor, Tippetts, Tofan, Tuohy, Ms Watkin and Wood.

Against (0)

Absent/Did Not Vote (0)