



Committee and Date

Council

17 July 2025

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2025

In the The Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Frankwell Quay, Shrewsbury, SY3 8HQ
10.00 - 10.20 am

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Councillors Duncan Borrowman (Chairman) and Heather Kidd (Leader), Gary Groves (Vice Chairman), Alex Wagner (Deputy Leader), Sho Abdul, Caroline Bagnall, Bernie Bentick, Neil Bentley, Ed Bird, Jeremy Blandford, Andy Boddington, Thomas Clayton, Susan Coleman, Rachel Connolly, Tom Dainty, Jamie Daniels, Rosemary Dartnall, David Davies, Pamela Davies, Andy Davis, Julian Dean, Joshua Dickin, Mandy Duncan, Greg Ebbs, Susan Eden, Craig Emery, Brian Evans, Roger Evans, Adam Fejfer, Rhys Gratton, Andy Hall, Harry Hancock-Davies, Nick Hignett, Alan Holford, George Hollyhead, Ruth Houghton, Dawn Husemann, Peter Husemann, Benedict Jephcott, Robert Jones, Duncan Kerr, Nigel Lumby, Brendan Mallon, Sarah Marston, David Minnery, Vicky Moore, Mark Morris, Alan Mosley, Malcolm Myles-Hook, Chris Naylor, James Owen, Mark Owen, Wendy Owen, Vivienne Parry, Ed Potter, Rosie Radford, Sharon Ritchie-Simmons, Carl Rowley, Colin Stanford, Jon Tandy, Colin Taylor, Dan Thomas, Teri Trickett, David Vasmer, Beverley Waite, David Walker, Sam Walmsley, Alison Williams and Rob Wilson

1 Election of Chairman

The retiring Chairman, Vince Hunt called for nominations for the election of Chairman of Shropshire Council.

It was proposed, seconded and duly **RESOLVED** that Councillor Duncan Borrowman be elected as Chairman of Shropshire Council to hold office until the Annual Meeting of Council on 14 May 2026

Councillor Barrowman then took the Chair and subscribed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office before being invested with the Chairman's badge of office.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Elizabeth Barker, Donna Edmunds, Kate Halliday, Chris Lemon and Charles Shackerley-Bennett

3 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chairman of Shropshire Council.

It was proposed, seconded and duly **RESOLVED** that Councillor Gary Groves be appointed as Vice-Chairman of Shropshire Council to hold office until the Annual Meeting of Council on 14 May 2026

Councillor Groves subscribed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office before being invested with the Vice-Chairman's badge of office.

4 **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

5 **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2025 as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

6 **Return of Election of Shropshire Councillors**

Members received the report of the Returning Officer which set out those persons elected to Shropshire Council at the election held on 1 May 2025.

The Chairman asked Members to place on record its appreciation of the services of those Councillors who decided not to seek re-election or were not returned by the electorate.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and that Council places on record its appreciation of the services of the following Councillors who decided not to seek re-election or were not returned by the electorate: -

Roy Aldcroft
Jeff Anderson
Nick Bardsley
Joyce Barrow
Tom Biggins
Peter Broomhall
Julia Buckley
Garry Burchett
Gwilym Butler
Dean Carroll
Steve Charmley
Ted Clarke
Gerald Dakin
Steve Davenport
Mary Davies
Geoff Elner
David Evans
Julia Evans
Nat Green
Paul Gill
Rob Gittins
Simon Harris
Nigel Hartin
Richard Huffer
Tracey Huffer

Vince Hunt
Kirstie Hurst-Knight
Mark Jones
Simon Jones
Christian Lea
Hilary Luff
Robert Macey
Dan Morris
Pam Moseley
Cecilia Motley
Peggy Mullock
Ian Nellins
Kevin Pardy
Tony Parsons
Lezley Picton
John Price
Chris Schofield
Andrew Sherrington
Robert Tindall
Edward Towers
Kevin Turley
Claire Wild
Brian Williams
Mark Williams
Paul Wynn

7 Announcements

The Chairman referred Members to the list of official engagements carried out by the previous Chairman and Vice Chairman since the last meeting of the Council on 27 February 2025, which had been emailed prior to the meeting.

8 Election of Leader of the Council

It was proposed by Councillor Alex Wagner and seconded by Councillor Gary Groves that Councillor Heather Kidd be elected Leader of Shropshire Council for the period to the Annual Council in 2029

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Heather Kidd be elected Leader of Shropshire Council for the period to the Annual Council in 2029

The Leader subscribed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and then thanked the Council for the honour of being the Leader of the Council.

9 Appointment of Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members and their Portfolios

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor Heather Kidd and seconded by Councillor Gary Groves that the report of the Service Director. Legal and Governance and the recommendations contained therein be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

- A. That the appointment of Cabinet Members and the allocation of titles and remits of portfolios, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, be noted.
- B. That the appointment of Deputy Cabinet Members and the allocation of titles and remits of portfolios, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, be noted.
- C. (i) That the continuation of the discharge of the functions of the Council in relation to West Mercia Energy through the West Mercia Energy Joint Committee and the West Mercia Energy Pension Committee be noted and the Council's Executive Member representatives be noted, namely Councillor Roger Evans and Councillor Rob Wilson serving on the Joint Committee.

(ii) That the continuation of the discharge of functions through the Health and Well-Being Board be noted and the Council's Executive representatives be noted, namely: Councillors Ruth Houghton, Bernie Bentick and Heather Kidd

10 Constitution of Committees and Allocation of Seats to Political Groups

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Duncan Barrowman and seconded by Councillor Gary Groves that the report of the Service Director. Legal and Governance and the recommendations contained therein be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Council confirms the constitution of committees and the allocation of seats to each of the political groups for the 2025/26 municipal year and the allocation of seats between the political groups, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to this report.

11 Appointment to Outside Bodies, Committees and Other Groups

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor Heather Kidd and seconded by the Deputy Leader Councillor Alex Wagner that the report of the Service Director. Legal and Governance and the recommendations contained therein be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the urgent appointments to the outside bodies, committees and groups set out in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed,

2. That, the Chief Executive appoints members to the remaining outside bodies, committees and groups following consultation with a small working group comprised of Group Leaders or their nominated representatives, and that any bodies where agreement cannot be reached by the Working Group be referred back to Council for decision. These appointments will be reported to the July meeting of Council.
3. That, the Chief Executive in consultation with appropriate Group Leaders be authorised to agree any other appointment that may be necessary as a matter of urgency prior to the meeting of the working group referenced in paragraph 2.

12 Scheme of Delegation

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor Heather Kidd and seconded by the Deputy Leader Councillor Alex Wagner that the report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance and the recommendations contained therein be received and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Responsibility for Functions, set out in Part 3 of the Constitution and the updated Scheme of Delegations, set out in Part 8 of the Constitution be agreed as outlined within this report and as set out in Appendix 1.

13 Dates of Council Meetings

RESOLVED:

That meetings of the Council in 2025 – 2026 would be held on the following Thursdays, commencing at 10.00 am.:

17 July 2025
25 September 2025
11 December 2025
26 February 2026
26 March 2026
14 May 2026

14 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED

That, in accordance with the provisions of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and Paragraph 10.4 [3] of the Council's Access to Information Rules, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items

15 Exempt Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2025 as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record

Signed (Chairman)

Date: