

BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

At an Extraordinary meeting of the Boston Borough Council held at the Municipal Buildings, Boston, on Monday 3 February 2020 at 6.30 p.m.

Present:

The Mayor (Anton Dani) in the Chair

Councillors Tracey Abbott, Tom Ashton, Alison Austin, Richard Austin BEM, Peter Bedford, Alan Bell, David Brown, Michael Cooper, George Cornah, Anne Dorrian, Viven Edge, Deborah Evans, Paul Goodale, Martin Griggs, Neill Hastie, Martin Howard, Jonathan Noble, Frank Pickett, Brian Rush, Chelcei Sharman, Judith Skinner, Paul Skinner, Yvonne Stevens, Peter Watson, Judith Welbourn, Nigel Welton, Colin Woodcock and Stephen Woodliffe.

Officers -

Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer, Chief Finance Officer, Head of Regulatory Services and Democratic Services Manager.

57 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Aaron Spencer.

58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

59 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution an Extraordinary meeting of the Council had been called to consider the Appointment of a Leader of the Council following the resignation of Councillor Aaron Spencer as Leader.

The Chief Executive introduced a report seeking nominations for appointment as Leader of the Council for the remainder of the Council term 2019/20 to May 2023.

The report stated that the Local Government Act 2000 and the Council's Constitution required the Council to appoint a Leader at the start of each Council term. The appointment was normally for the whole Council term, but the Constitution set out the circumstances in which the appointment may end.

Councillor Spencer had given notice that he was stepping down as Leader with effect from 20 January 2020. This created a vacancy for the position of Leader of the Council for which nominations were being sought.

It was noted that the Leader may amend the size and composition of the Cabinet. Should any changes be made by the new Leader, Members would be informed accordingly.

It was proposed that the Chief Executive be granted delegated authority to make any necessary consequential Constitutional changes as a result of the appointment of a new Leader of the Council.

It was moved by Councillor Nigel Welton and seconded by Councillor Tom Ashton that Councillor Paul Skinner be appointed as Leader of the Council for the remainder of the Council term 2019/20 to May 2023.

Opposition Members expressed their disappointment that the Council was once again having to elect a new Leader and challenged the Leader Elect to uphold the Nolan Principles of public life, work collaboratively and take advantage of every opportunity to promote and create a sustainable and prosperous future for the Borough and all its communities.

In response the Leader Elect outlined his aims for the leadership of the Council and the personal qualities, experience and knowledge he brought to that role. Projects would be aligned to the new corporate priorities to deliver the best for the town and the borough. There would be a sustained and direct effort to work together and with businesses and stakeholder organisations to regenerate and improve the town and build on the foundations already in place.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and it was

<p>RESOLVED that Councillor Paul Skinner be appointed as Leader of the Council for the remainder of the Council term 2019/20 to May 2023.</p>
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(The meeting ended at 7.15 p.m.)