

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

MINUTES of the meeting held at Fire and Rescue Services HQ, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold Nottingham NG5 8PD on 5 June 2015 from 10.30am - 11.10am

Absent

Councillor Jon Collins

#### **Membership**

Present

Councillor John Allin

Councillor Chris Barnfather

Councillor Eunice Campbell

Councillor John Clarke

Councillor Brian Grocock

Councillor Roger Jackson

Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan

Councillor Dave Liversidge

Councillor Michael Payne

Councillor Mike Pringle

Councillor Darrell Pulk

Councillor Gail Turner

Councillor Ken Rigby

Councillor Gordon Wheeler

Councillor Malcolm Wood

Councillor Yvonne Woodhead

Councillor Liz Yates

# Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

John Buckley - Chief Fire Officer

Wayne Bowcock - Deputy Chief Fire Officer
Craig Parkin - Assistant Chief Fire Officer
Peter Hurford - Treasurer to the Fire Authority
Neil Timms - Director of Finance and Resources

Malcolm Townroe - Clerk and Monitoring Officer to the Fire Authority

Catherine Ziane-Pryor - Governance Officer

# 1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED for Councillor Darrell Pulk to be appointed Chair for the municipal year 2015/16.

# 2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

**RESOLVED for Councillor Brian Grocock to be appointed Vice-Chair.** 

# 3 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Jon Collins, on City Council business.

# 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Peter Hurford, Treasurer to the Fire and Rescue Authority, declared a non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 8, Retirement of the Treasurer to the Fire Authority.

## 5 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

# 6 CHAIRS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

In recognition of Councillors who were members of the Authority during the last municipal year but not this municipal year, the Authority will present a certificate of thanks to councillors who have not previously left and returned to serve the Authority. The certificates will be prepared and presented to former Fire Authority members at the next full Fire Authority meeting.

The Chair welcomed new Councillors to the Authority and announced that there would be a 'new member induction session' at Fire Service Headquarters on 25 June 2015 starting at 9:30am, which will conclude with lunch.

With regard to the new station to be built on London Road, demolition of the Gresham Works site has started and the development of the new Fire Station is expected to be completed within 18 months.

Two end-of-life fire engines, which are usually sold for approximately £5,000 each, are to be donated to Nepal which recently experienced a devastating earthquake. Watch Manager Kev Ruane (MBE), in association with ITAP (Infrastructure, Training and Assistance Projects) will co-ordinate delivery of the appliances. Three members of Fire Service staff will meet the vehicles in Nepal and deliver two weeks of training to Nepalese operators. It is envisaged that this small cost to the Service will benefit the people of Nepal.

There are several events scheduled the next few months including:

Sneinton area 'Week of Action' 8-13 June 2015;

- 'Ashfield Safety Zone', to be held at Ashfield Fire Station for the weeks commencing 15 June and 22 of June 2015 to teach schoolchildren vital safety messages and lifesaving skills;
- 'Worksop Fire Station Open Day' will be held on the Saturday, 22 August 2015 between 10 am and 4 pm;
- 'Emergency Services Show' will be held at Clumber Park on 30 August 2015 between 10am and 4pm with various vehicles and displays;
- 'Chiefs Challenge 2015' will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of June 2015, with the challenge being 24 drills at 24 fire stations within 24 hours. All proceeds will go to the Fire Fighters Charity. Immediately before the next meeting of the Fire Authority on 26 June, the Chief Fire Officer and his team will be undertaking a drill at Fire Service Headquarters to launch the event.

Bridget Aherne, Head of Corporate Communications, has recently been named as 'Public Relations Director of the Year' by CIPR (Chartered Institute of Public Relations). The Chair presented Bridget with the award and congratulated her on behalf of the Authority.

# 7 MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY, APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

During consideration of this item, members of the political minority groups expressed continued disappointment that, as an 'a- political' Authority, no provision has been made for minority members to Chair any of the sub committees, even though minority party members consisted of one third of the Authority's membership.

Further dissatisfaction was expressed that a full consultation had not formally taken place regarding the meeting date schedule for full authority and sub-committee meetings. Officers pointed out that it is for the Authority to confirm meeting dates and none were set to benefit any political group. In addition, City and County school holidays are taken into consideration along with the reporting requirements of finance colleagues.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by minority group members that the next AGM take place on 3 June 2016, this was voted on and approved.

A proposal to alter the date of the next meeting of the Authority on 26 June 2015 was proposed but following a vote, the amendment was not approved.

#### **RESOLVED**

(1) to note the following appointments to the Fire and Rescue Authority for 2015/16:

**Members from the City Council:** 

Councillor Eunice Campbell Councillor Jon Collins Councillor Brian Grocock Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan Councillor Dave Liversidge Councillor Malcolm Wood

# **Members from the County Council:**

Councillor John Allin
Councillor Chris Barnfather
Councillor John Clarke
Councillor Roger Jackson
Councillor Michael Payne
Councillor Mike Pringle
Councillor Darrell Pulk
Councillor Ken Rigby
Councillor Gail Turner
Councillor Gordon Wheeler
Councillor Yvonne Woodhead
Councillor Liz Yates

- (2) to approve the committee structure of the Fire and Rescue Authority;
- (3) to approve the appointments to committees, committee chairs, and dates of meetings as follows:

# Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority (10.30am)

26 June 2015 25 September 2015 18 December 2015 26 February 2016 3 June 2016 AGM

## Policy and Strategy Committee (10.00am)

24 July 2015
6 November 2015
29 January 2016
29 April 2016
Councillor Darrell Pulk (Chair)
Councillor Chris Barnfather
Councillor Jon Collins
Councillor Brian Grocock
Councillor Yvonne Woodhead
Councillor Gordon Wheeler

#### **Human Resources Committee (10.00am)**

12 June 2015
Councillor Michael Payne (Chair)
17 July 2015
Councillor Eunice Campbell
Councillor Neghat Newaz Khan
Councillor Mike Pringle
Councillor Gail Turner
Councillor Liz Yates

# Community Safety Committee (10.00am)

3 July 2015 Councillor Eunice Campbell (Chair)

2 October 2015 Councillor Brian Grocock
8 January 2016 Councillor Roger Jackson
8 April 2016 Councillor Dave Liversidge
Councillor Mike Pringle

Councillor Ken Rigby

# Finance and Resources Committee (10.00am)

10 July 2015 Councillor Malcolm Wood (Chair)

9 October 2015 Councillor John Allin

15 January 2016
Councillor Chris Barnfather
Councillor John Clarke
Councillor Dave Liversidge
Councillor Gordon Wheeler

**Personnel Committee** 

Councillor John Allin

to meet as required Councillor Chris Barnfather

**Councillor Neghat Newaz Khan** 

Councillor Michael Payne Councillor Gail Turner

**Councillor Yvonne Woodhead** 

**Councillor Liz Yates** 

**Appointments Committee** 

**Councillor Darrell Pulk (Chair)** 

to meet as required Councillor John Allin

Councillor Brian Grocock
Councillor Ken Rigby
Councillor Gordon Wheeler
Councillor Malcolm Wood

## (4) for the following members to be appointed to the Strategic Equalities Board:

Councillor Darrell Pulk
Councillor Eunice Campbell
Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan
Councillor Ken Rigby
Councillor Gail Turner
Councillor Yvonne Woodhead
Councillor Liz Yates.

#### 8 RETIREMENT OF THE TREASURER TO THE FIRE AUTHORITY

Further to the Chair's announcement at the previous meeting that the Treasurer to the Fire Authority, Peter Hurford, wished to retire, the Chair presented the report which requests that the Appointments Committee be tasked with selecting a suitable replacement.

On the behalf of the Authority, the Chair thanked Peter Hurford for his dedication and hard work during the past eight years, and noted that his independent opinion has proved valuable to the Authority during a period when difficult financial decisions have to be made. This was supported by the Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee, other members of the Authority and officers of the Service.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the option to directly employ an individual in the role of Treasurer to the Fire Authority, as set out within 2.5.2. of the report, is approved;
- (2) for the Appointments Committee to be tasked with the responsibility of conducting a selection process and making recommendations of appointment to a future meeting of the Fire and Rescue Authority.