

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF ALDERMEN
Monday, 15 May 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held at
Aldermen's Court Room, Mezzanine Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 15 May
2023 at 10.15 am

Present

Members:

Alderman Sir William Russell (Chairman)
Alderman Sir Charles Bowman (Deputy Chairman)
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Nicholas Lyons
Alderman Ian David Luder
Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley
Alderman Sir Peter Estlin
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Alderman Alison Gowman
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Alderman Robert Howard
Alderman and Sheriff Alastair King DL
Alderman Gregory Jones KC
Alderman Prem Goyal
Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney
Alderwoman Susan Langley
Alderman Bronek Masojada
Alderman Alexander Barr
Alderman Christopher Makin
Alderman Tim Levene
Alderwoman Jennette Newman
Alderman Kawsar Zaman
Alderwoman Susan Pearson

Officers:

Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Bob Roberts	- Deputy Town Clerk
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- The Chamberlain
Paul Wright	- Deputy Remembrancer
His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft	- The Recorder of London
Gemma Stokley	- Town Clerk's Department
Rhiannon Leary	- Executive Officer to the Court of Aldermen
Ben Dixon	- Head of Policy Unit, Town Clerk's Department
Simi Shah	- Project Director, Town Clerk's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Sir David Wootton.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Alderman Vincent Keaveny declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13, stating that his wife was a member of the Company of Nurses.

3. **MINUTES**

The Committee considered the minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 21 March 2023.

RESOLVED: - That the minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 21 March 2023 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

Chairman's Congratulatory Remarks

The Chairman congratulated Alderman Greg Jones who, with effect from 1st April 2023, was successfully appointed to the Government Legal Service for Northern Ireland's Senior Civil Panel for a period of 5 years. He commented that the Government relies on the Panel to represent its interests and seeks candidates of the highest quality.

The Chairman also went on to congratulate Alderman Prem Goyal for his recent appointment as Chair of the City's Audit and Risk Management Committee.

The Chairman encouraged all to continue to keep him informed of any future successes to report to the Committee.

4. **PRESENTATION - FINANCE FOR GROWTH: A ROADMAP - SIMI SHAH**

The Chairman welcomed Simi Shah who presented on Finance for Growth: A Roadmap.

The Committee were informed that this project was intended to document the future vision for the UK's Financial and Professional Services sector. It was recognised that there were a number of reports and reviews that had preceded this and that this was intended to build upon as opposed to replicate these. It was highlighted that this was a sector-led initiative and not explicitly endorsed by government although they were welcoming of the ideas coming out of it. This was inclusive of the entire UK, reflective of best practice and innovation across the world and built upon existing insight. Ms Shah commented that it was very important that this was part of a wider narrative around how the sector supports the economy across the UK. Finally, it was underlined that it was important to ensure that this was grounded in evidence and that there was an economical case for any suggestions made.

The focus of the report would be 'big moves' and big, clear, costed, tangible mechanisms to support big outcomes by 2030. The Committee were informed that there had been wide sectoral engagement around this which was already underway and would continue for the next few months. In terms of governance, the project had been presented to the Policy and Resources Committee in December 2022 and would come back in June 2023 before progressing to the Court of Common Council in July. It was reported that the project was jointly chaired by the Lord Mayor and the Policy Chair and was being championed via many avenues such as the Competitiveness Advisory Board. A Senior Advisory Group (also chaired by the Lord Mayor and Policy Chair) had also been set up and would allow for some critical challenge.

Ms Shah concluded by asking Aldermen to contact her with any thoughts they might have as to content or engagement.

The Chairman thanked Ms Shah for her presentation and invited questions from the floor.

An Alderman queried engagement with the trade associations. Officers confirmed that there had been early engagement with the trade associations and that they were all represented in some way on the Senior Advisory Group whether via City Number 1 or the Competitiveness Advisory Board. The Committee were informed that the intended launch date for this was September which would be followed by many months of further engagement and hopefully help form the policy and promotional programme of future Lord Mayor's and Policy Chairs over the next decade.

An Alderman questioned how individual organisations might also get involved in the project. Officers encouraged those who might know of individuals who would like to be involved to contact them on the dedicated email address provided so that they could make contact with them in good time.

Another Alderman questioned what the City were actively doing to engage with political parties as to the formulation of policy as we moved towards a general election. Officers reported that they had spoken to all three main political parties on this work. It was felt that if the correct big moves were presented and economically sound with a narrative as to how they would help the entire economy, they would be supported by all.

An Alderman queried how this linked with the current Lord Mayor's programme. He also questioned how success would be measured and at what stage. In terms of measuring success, it was reported that KPIs would be tied to the big moves – these would be longer-term in nature. In terms of 'initiative overload' it was hoped that this would be a longer-term, overarching project which could lessen this and focus on bigger moves. In terms of linkage with the current Lord Mayor's agenda and the continuum here, the Lord Mayor commented that his theme of 'Financing our Future' was designed to be something that put in place a number of initiatives that would be far-reaching. Industry had been pushing to look at where London would sit as a global financial future in the next decade but the same question was also being posed internationally. Future Lord

Mayors were therefore going to have to be able to answer this question and the thinking here was to provide a framework in which they could work and explain what the initiatives were and how they fit together in this respect. The Lord Mayor concluded by saying that this would launch in September and would coincide with party conference season which would present an opportunity to speak with all parties on it further.

An Alderman spoke on the challenges and opportunities presented by this and commented that one of the challenges would be around the medium-term vision and the framework that this would present alongside the City's ability to be nimble and respond to circumstances and opportunities that might arise. He went on to comment on the wealth of initiatives underway at the moment and the importance of ensuring that this framework was used as an additional platform for amplifying these within the context of the medium-term strategy.

An Alderman commented that the University of Coventry had a branch in the Ward of Bishopsgate and encouraged Officers to reach out to contacts here on this work. He went on to question to what extent local impact of this would extend to the City's surrounding boroughs. He also asked how the Court of Aldermen could best support this work. Officers reported that they had offered presentations on this work to all UK Universities and would therefore be very happy to reach out further to the University of Coventry. In terms of local impact/engagement, it was reported that further consideration needed to be given as to how the City would discuss this work with other boroughs as no direct engagement had taken place to date. In terms of support from the Court of Aldermen, Officers encouraged all to flag the dedicated email address and series of presentations to all in their respective Wards.

An Alderman commented that much work had already been done in this broad area including the Kalifa Review. He went on to comment that Financial and Professional Services was a significant, UK-wide industry and therefore questioned how engagement would be undertaken with the various regional hubs. Finally, he questioned how the City were getting a sense of where the real need for capital was, noting that much funding was going into infrastructure at present. Officers highlighted that there was a KPI dedicated to ensuring that there were appropriate regional representations at all sessions and also underlined a forthcoming event with the University of Leeds to be held at their Innovation Centre and to which the local regional development body, academics and local industry representatives would be invited. A further session would also be held with Scottish Enterprise. In terms of previous reviews of this type, Officers reported that the authors of these such as Mark Austin and Sir Ron Kalifa had agreed to speak with them on this project which was very much about extending some of the arguments already presented by them some years ago now. In response to the final query, Officers reported that sessions were planned on infrastructure and the digital/data side of things but stated that they would be very open to further discussions around this.

An Alderman commented that the international promotion of this work seemed key to moving things forward and questioned what the UK Development Agency were seeking to do in this vein. Officers highlighted that this was one of

the 'big moves' that had gained traction very early on both internally and with external stakeholders. It was reported that other jurisdictions were professionalising their promotional efforts and there was now an opportunity for the UK to do similar.

Another Alderman questioned whether the City were working alongside larger organisations such as the British Chamber of Commerce on this work. Officers confirmed that they were in touch with the British Chamber of Commerce and had offered a session on the project to them but were yet to secure a date in the diary for this. The Alderman commented that he would be very happy to facilitate introductions to help progress this.

The Chairman thanked Officers for their very informative presentation and, again, encouraged all to feed in any additional views directly to Simi Shah.

5. OLD BAILEY UPDATE - MR RECORDER, HHJ MARK LUCRAFT

The Chairman welcomed the Recorder - His Honour, Judge Mark Lucraft, KC - to the meeting.

The Recorder updated the Committee on work at the Old Bailey. He stated that the Bailey were continuing to deal with 14 trials concurrently in the 14 large Courtrooms with the smaller court rooms being utilised for non-trial work. Reflecting on the impact of the pandemic, the Recorder reported that, pre-pandemic, there was a period of a year where defendants might be held in custody awaiting trial at the Old Bailey. However, with the pandemic affecting the ability to hold as many trials, some significant delays ensued adding a period of, on average, 9 months to the time that a defendant awaited trial. The ability to work once more at full capacity had, fortunately, seen these delays begin to reduce. The Recorder reported that trials for April 2024, were already in the process of being fixed.

The Recorder commented that the Old Bailey was very fortunate in having a loyal and committed group of staff from both the City of London and His Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS). He added that there were also now 14 permanent judges at the Old Bailey with 2 new judges being appointed in April – Judge Lynn Tafton KC and Judge Sarah Whitehouse KC – meaning that there were 7 male and 7 female judges now in post. A third new judge was to be appointed in September taking the Old Bailey's complement to 15.

The Recorder went on to talk about judicial diversity in a wider sense stating that the Bailey's 14 judges came from a variety of professional backgrounds. He highlighted that appointments were made by an independent body called the Judicial Appointments Commission with Old Bailey judges being drawn from senior circuit judges (of which there were only approximately 30 in total across England and Wales who sat in crime regularly). The Common Serjeant and Recorder are the two most senior circuit judges in England and Wales. It was underlined that appointment as a senior circuit judge was unusual before the age of 50 with the mean age of appointment being 57. There was therefore a very small cohort from which to appoint Old Bailey judges. The Recorder

commented that when he first began to sit at the Old Bailey full time, in 2015, there were just 2 female judges alongside 14 men with most being from private or public-school backgrounds and from Oxbridge. However, many judges were now from a state school background and from a wide range of universities. The Recorder added that, with time, he would also like to see the racial diversity of judges continue to change. The Recorder commented that, compared to many courts, the Old Bailey was outperforming in terms of both jurisdiction and background diversity – something which should be celebrated by the City.

In terms of the types of cases heard, the Recorder stated that these continued to be a mixture of homicide, murder, manslaughter and terrorism with many involving young defendants aged between 18-25 years. A typical day saw between 30 and 35 defendants in custody on trial with trials lasting between 2 and 12 weeks.

This year would see some significant works commencing in the area of the custody cells which was essential in terms of improving air flow here, particularly over the summer months. The Committee were informed that maintenance of the Old Bailey was a constant but essential piece of work to ensure that the building remained fit for purpose.

The Recorder went on to speak of the many outreach projects pursued including the work of the Secondary, Fiona Adler, around knife crime and the 'No Knives, Better Lives' project funded by the City of London. The Recorder was also keen to improve efforts around schools' outreach and reported that two pupils were currently selected as Old Bailey apprentices in conjunction with the Kalisher Trust. The Committee were informed that the Old Bailey hosted many visits from judges and lawyers around the world. The Recorder also took the opportunity to congratulate Alderman and Sheriff King for the events that he had organised at the Bailey this year with a legal theme. The Recorder reported that events focused on gender and the law, domestic violence, the menopause, free speech and the recent lecture given by John Major for the Prison Reform Trust were all examples of events that he had been extremely proud to support with each putting the Old Bailey at the forefront of these important issues.

The Recorder concluded by encouraging all Aldermen to visit the Old Bailey whenever they were allocated duties to do so.

The Chairman thanked the Recorder for his presentation and for all of his hard work at the Old Bailey to date. He welcomed any questions that the Committee may have.

An Alderman, also the Chairman of the Operational Property & Projects Sub Committee, commented that the City had just approved the last tranche of funding towards a comprehensive programme of repair work for the Old Bailey. He commented on the positive transformations that had taken place in recent years but asked that the Recorder reach out to him with any additional issues on this front if necessary.

The Recorder commented that the Bailey had a significant maintenance programme in place but added that unexpected issues, such as a current, mechanical issue with the gates into Newgate Street still tended to emerge. He undertook to keep the Committee informed of any significant, unforeseen projects which might emerge as opposed to any routine issues.

Another Alderman spoke on judicial diversity and questioned what activities the Recorder and his staff envisaged undertaking to promote greater ethnic diversity of the diversity. He added that he was thinking specifically of appointments to Senior and Junior Treasury Council who were based in the Old Bailey. The Recorder responded that many Old Bailey judges, including himself, were judicial mentors who met with those interested in potentially becoming judges in future years. They were also often asked to provide references for those applying to Treasury Council. The Recorder commented that he had worked very closely with Senior Treasury Council on a scheme launched last year which sought to broaden the ability of people to apply to Junior Treasury Council. It was well understood that senior judges of tomorrow would be drawn from the Treasury Council and from senior defence barristers. It was also reported that a number of Old Bailey judges were also significantly involved in the work of (WICL) Women In Criminal Law.

An Alderman asked further questions on Aldermanic duties at the Old Bailey and the system of allocation here. The Recorder reported that he now had a new PA that would be overseeing this system and encouraged all to attend as frequently as possible on their allocated dates to offer their support on the various different events hosted and topics covered. Another Alderman questioned whether the allocations could be set out for a longer period of time – for example for the year ahead. The Chairman commented that this was the plan and that there should also be a system going forwards whereby places were offered to the wider Court of Aldermen on a first come, first served basis in instances where those allocated to duties could not attend.

Another Alderman questioned the Recorder on his involvement with the new Courts development at Salisbury Square and its likely impact on the Old Bailey. The Recorder confirmed that he had not been involved in any in-depth discussions as to how the new Courts building would interact with the Old Bailey to date. He added that this would depend upon what work would actually go to the Crown Court part of the new development but added that he did not envisage this changing the core work undertaken at the Bailey.

6. MAYORAL THEME 2023-24 - ALDERMAN MICHAEL MAINELLI (SUBJECT TO ELECTION)

The Committee received a joint report of the Executive Director and Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor and the Deputy Town Clerk outlining the proposed 2023-24 Mayoral Theme which would be championed, subject to election, by the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Michael Mainelli.

Alderman Mainelli took the opportunity to provide the Committee with some preliminary thoughts as to his year ahead as well as some thoughts as to the continuum. He highlighted that his mayoral theme would be 'Connect to

Prosper' with a tagline of 'celebrating our knowledge miles in the world's coffee house'. The focus would be on how we prosper through trade, ideas and culture. The theme recognised that the Square Mile contained many knowledge miles. Alderman Mainelli referenced the many universities and research institutes within close proximity to the City or in the Square Mile itself. He also highlighted that almost a third of the City's SMEs were in the science technical area, something that he was therefore keen to see more engagement with. He added that he was keen to show that the City of London was an active and interesting place to be and do business.

Alderman Mainelli highlighted that his theme was very much in line with the government's productivity theme and also followed on from the themes of recent Lord Mayor's around people and skills as well as finance, whilst also focusing on the importance of connectivity. He went on to speak on the importance of partnerships and mentioned that a connectivity app would be launched for the Lord Mayor's Show. He also highlighted that his Mayoral year would include a very full travel programme but that he hoped to supplement this with visits to science, research and university establishments whilst on tour.

The Committee were informed that a Knowledge Mile lecture series was also planned, featuring approximately 50 online lectures to be handled by the Gresham Society. The lectures would cover matters such as the Future of Fusion, Design for Life, Keeping Faith with Business and Bioengineering. In terms of getting things done, Alderman Mainelli was proud to report that, alongside MQ Mental Health, the first open source for mental health resource had been created and launched last month under the name 'Galenos'. Other events of a science/research and demonstration nature were also planned.

Alderman Mainelli reported that he was also exploring the idea of 'coffee colloquies' with the Mansion House Team – a system whereby guests would be invited to join at 9.15am with sessions then incorporating 10 short presentations in an hour followed by an opportunity to network. These would be themed around the 17 Sustainable Development goals (SDGs) and other topic areas such as Big Philanthropy Capital as volunteered by two other Aldermen.

He concluded by requesting any feedback or further ideas that the wider Court of Aldermen might have. He also encouraged all to consider whether they might wish to host a future 'coffee colloquy'.

An Alderman commented that this was a very ambitious programme and questioned how the 'Connect to Prosper' theme would be used to connect all SMEs in the City of London. Alderman Mainelli responded by stating that one of the planned coffee colloquies would be focused on the development of SMEs. He added that the Association of Business Schools ran the government's Help to Grow programme and held a budget for putting some 15,000 businesses through a training programme. Take up on this to date had been mediocre and he had therefore undertaken to make this a focal point of his Mayoral year. Finally he stated that he had also been working alongside the City's Policy Lead on SMEs to help advance these efforts.

Another Alderman commented on the various sub-themes set out and questioned which Alderman Mainelli felt would be the major or minor theme that might deliver the most traction by the end of his Mayoral year. He added that he felt reference to Health and Wellbeing and Peace and Justice was somewhat limited and asked how these might also be tied in. Alderman Mainelli confirmed that both of these SDGs were referenced in full as part of his Theme and apologised for any omission on these in what was presented here. He added that, given the current climate, he would expect the sub themes of 'posterity, people and prosperity' to land best throughout his Mayoral year.

An Alderman asked if Alderman Mainelli could speak further on plans around regional engagement. Alderman Mainelli spoke of events planned across the UK, in Cardiff for example. He also mentioned that the Lord Mayor had not visited the Channel Islands for some considerable time and highlighted that he had therefore queried whether a visit here might be possible during his Mayoralty. He commented that most regional engagement would be conducted through SMEs and the Association of Business Schools who were keen to reach out to their regional alumni.

An Alderman encouraged the Lord Mayor to draw upon the skills and expertise of the other 124 members of the Court of Common Council in helping to deliver on this very ambitious programme which had the ability to propel the City globally. Alderman Mainelli reiterated that he would be keen for Members to volunteer to host various colloquies throughout the Mayoral year but added that he would also be exploring other ways in which he might call upon the expertise of the wider Court.

Another Alderman queried how arts, culture and heritage would be incorporated. Alderman Mainelli recognised that other, former Lord Mayor's had focused on culture during their year in office and stated that he was keen to see a continuum here. He referenced some specific cultural events which he already had planned including Paganini's violin coming to the City and a week-long programme of events being crafted around this. He also spoke on the idea of utilising some of the City's historical sites such as The Monument and St Paul's Cathedral for scientific experiments, thereby highlighting not only a scientific but also a cultural aspect.

An Alderman questioned how the City's own family of schools/academies might plug into the Mayoral theme. He also questioned whether more could be done to protect or encourage the 'eco-system' of universities and the like situated in close proximity to the City. Alderman Mainelli stated that he had already reached out to the City's family of schools and referenced some specific events already planned with Christ's Hospital and the City of London School for example. He welcomed any further suggestions that the wider Court might have on this front. In terms of the wider university 'eco-system' – Alderman Mainelli recognised the difficulties that some were facing and reported that he had reached out to the Association of Business Schools and London Higher to offer support but recognised that there would likely be a limit to what was possible here.

RESOLVED :- That the Committee note the draft Mayoral theme.

7. ANNUAL WARDMOTE REFLECTIONS

The Aldermen took the opportunity to reflect upon the annual Wardmotes held in March.

The Deputy Chairman noted that the Grand Court of Wardmote would meet at the rising of this Committee where the formal resolutions put forward by respective Wardmotes would be received but felt that it would also be useful to reflect more generally on the running and relevance of the Wardmotes and consider whether there were any consistent messages arising from these. Aldermen were asked to comment on how long their Wardmote meetings had lasted, how many had attended and what matters were raised.

During the course of discussion the following points were raised:

- The Ward of Billingsgate had seen approximately 25 attendees – a record number;
- The Wardmote had lasted for 30 minutes;
- There were disadvantages of terming the meetings as ‘Wardmotes’ as many struggled to understand what this meant – some Aldermen had done their own marketing around the meetings to try and explain the purpose and relevance of these meetings. The historical importance of the terminology was recognised but it was felt that more explanation around this was certainly needed;
- The Ward of Bassishaw had attracted over 80 people and the meeting had lasted for over an hour – the level of engagement here was tangible different to in previous years;
- LinkedIn had been used to promote some Wardmotes which had proved successful, particularly with the business community;
- An Alderman praised the work undertaken by the City in terms of re-engaging the electorate around the all-out Common Council elections in March 2022 in terms of a baseline and stated that this should continue to be leveraged;
- The Ward of Portsoken had attracted approximately 50 attendees;
- An Alderman commented that it was not helpful to hold Wardmotes the day prior to an election, particularly when many voted via postal vote ahead of time;
- The Ward of Dowgate had had 26 attendees. The Alderman commented that her Ward often invited guest speakers along to Wardmotes and ensured that the electorate were made aware of this in the letter sent to all in advance – on this occasion the speakers had been from the Police and Fire Service. The Wardmote had lasted for 1 hour 15 minutes on this occasion;
- The Ward of Cheap had attracted approximately 40 attendees (around 10% of the electorate). The Ward team had marketed the Wardmote in advance and had also encouraged the submission of any questions in advance so that those attending could be provided with full responses to these;

- It was felt helpful to continue to hold all Wardmotes at the same sort of time in order to gain a useful overview of issues concerning the City electorate;
- The Ward of Aldersgate had attracted around 50 attendees and the Wardmote had lasted for around an hour. The Alderman commented that he had hoped to see more for a residential Ward. He added that he and his Ward colleagues had also advertised the meeting in advance.
- Where elections were contested, pre-election hustings were now held in the Barbican and organised by the Barbican Association so that Wardmotes the day prior to elections were not the only opportunity for the electorate to meet with all of the candidates;
- The Ward of Farringdon Without had a particular issue on timing given that many of their constituents were Smithfield Market traders – it therefore tended to be held at 12 noon;
- An Alderman commented that an agenda circulated to all in advance was helpful in terms of encouraging attendance;
- The Ward of Farringdon Within which had an almost 50/50 split of business and residential voters had met at 12.30pm. Around 30 had attended the Wardmote with some representatives from businesses who had not previously attended present. The turnout was approximately 2/3 business and 1/3 residential. The Ward had also held and would continue to hold informal meetings with the electorate throughout the year;
- It was commented that it was useful to invite the dedicated Ward Police Officer to attend Wardmotes where possible;
- The Ward of Bishopsgate had attracted 17 attendees, although the Aldermen commented that the vast majority of his constituents chose to engage with him via email;
- An Alderman commented that many electors had suggested that it would be extremely helpful to have Wardmotes livestreamed in terms of increasing attendance and engagement – he had therefore queried whether the forthcoming election Wardmotes for Castle Baynard in July 2023 might serve as a useful pilot for this;
- The Ward of Broad Street had seen 35 attendees;
- The Ward of Queenhithe had also attracted 35 attendees. The Wardmote here had coincided with the opening of the River Walkway which had also encouraged attendance;
- Some Aldermen spoke in favour of exploring hybrid Wardmote meetings as well as livestreaming. It was noted, however, that many venues may not have the infrastructure to facilitate this and that the Guildhall might therefore be considered as a future venue;
- The Ward of Cripplegate had held a bi-election Wardmote and had also held two hustings beforehand, ahead of postal votes being submitted;
- The Ward of Cripplegate had attracted 50 attendees and was attended by all Ward Members. They also held quarterly Ward meetings with the electorate;
- The Ward of Walbrook had attracted 20 attendees which was up on previous records. The meeting had lasted for over an hour;

- Issues raised across Wardmotes included tall buildings, cyclist behaviour, bicycles and e-cycles, potholes, the City's Capital Programmes, post-COVID reinvigoration of the City's retail offering and vacant retail units, the Elizabeth Line, streetscaping, broadband connectivity and speed, the City's Green targets and their feasibility, the night-time economy, nitrous gas cylinder and vape disposal, black taxi access to Bank Junction, litter and street cleansing, night-time antisocial behaviour, crime, policing, the Barbican service charge, Beech Street tunnel, rough sleeping, the City's Transport Strategy, pavement drinking, Culture Mile, new BIDs, the Liverpool Street Station redevelopment, the redevelopment of Smithfield Market and the Museum of London/London Wall West.

8. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no additional, urgent items of business for consideration.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED - That, in accordance with the Court of Aldermen's Disclosure Arrangement (Standing Order 25), the public shall be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen have determined, having had due regard to the Disclosure Arrangement, that disclosure should not be permitted.

11. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The Committee considered the non-public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 21 March 2023.

RESOLVED: - That the non-public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 21 March 2023 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

12. PROGRESSION TO MAYORALTY & SHRIEVALTY - VOTING AT NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk, written at the Committee's request, examining the benefits and disadvantages of two different voting systems (i.e., the current "first-past-the-post" system and ranked/preferential voting).

13. PETITION OF THE COMPANY OF NURSES FOR COMPANY WITH LIVERY STATUS

The Committee considered and approved a report of Mr. Remembrancer on the petition of the Company of Nurses to be constituted as a Livery Company of the City of London and related documents.

14. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk advising of action taken by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Court of Aldermen, in accordance with Standing Order No. 46 (Court of Aldermen).

15. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS LIST

The Committee considered the Non-Public Outstanding Actions List which had been updated since the last meeting on 21 March 2023.

16. STRATEGY GROUP THREE - COMMUNICATIONS/STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT - UPDATE

Members of Strategy Group Three, focused on Communications and Stakeholder Engagement were given the opportunity to update the Committee on their work.

17. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions raised in non-public session.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

Aldermen raised matters pertaining to Member culture and the CRM database in the non-public session.

The meeting ended at 12.17 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Gemma Stokley
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