

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF ALDERMEN
Tuesday, 4 February 2025

Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held at
Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Tuesday, 4 February 2025 at
10.00 am

Present

Members:

Alderman Sir William Russell (Chairman)
Alderman Sir Charles Bowman (Deputy Chairman)
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Ald. Alastair King DL
Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley
Alderman Sir Peter Estlin
Alderman Vincent Keaveny, CBE
Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley, DBE
Alderman Alison Gowman CBE
Alderman Timothy Hailes JP
Alderman Prem Goyal, OBE
Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
Alderman Bronek Masojada
Alderman Alexander Barr
Alderman Christopher Makin
Alderman Tim Levene
Alderwoman Jennette Newman
Alderman Kawsar Zaman
Alderwoman Martha Grekos
Alderman Simon Pryke
Alderwoman Elizabeth Anne King, BEM JP

Officers:

Ian Thomas, CBE	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Greg Moore	- Deputy Town Clerk
Gemma Stokley	- Town Clerk's Department
Rhiannon Leary	- Executive Officer to the Court of Aldermen
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- The Chamberlain
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Paul Wright	- Remembrancer
Caroline Jack	- Executive Director, Mansion House, Private Secretary to Lord Mayor
Benjamin Chen-Sverre	- Chamberlain's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Sir Nicholas Lyons, Alderman Professor Micheal Mainelli, Alderman Robert Howard, Alderman & Sheriff Gregory Jones KC, Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney, and Alderman Kawsar Zaman.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The Committee considered the minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 3rd December 2024.

RESOLVED: - That the minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 3rd December 2024 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

Chairman's Congratulatory Remarks

The Chairman reported that Alderman Prem Goyal OBE had recently been appointed to the Financial Inclusion Commission and had been appointed to a role at Greengage.

Further, the Chairman reported that Alderman Vincent Keaveny, Alderman Sir Nicholas Lyons, and himself had been appointed as Honorary Visiting Professors of the President's Office at City St George's, University of London.

Finally, it was reported that Alderman Professor Emma Edhem had been appointed to the Open UK Space Advisory Board, alongside Geospatial and Open Data Lead of Google, Ed Parsons, and Chief Test Space Pilot David Mackay.

The Committee joined the Chairman in offering their congratulations. The Committee were encouraged to continue to feed in news of any similar achievements/accolades worthy of note going forward.

4. **APPOINTMENTS:-**

RESOLVED: - That the General Purposes Committee agree to approve the re-appointment of Alderman Robert Howard for a further three-year term to The Honourable the Irish Society ending in March 2028 (subject to further ratification at the Court of Common Council).

5. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

6. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was no other business.

7. **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.
8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
The Committee considered and approved the non-public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 3 December 2024.
9. **PROPOSED 2025/26 REVENUE BUDGET**
The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the Chamberlain, the Town Clerk and the Remembrancer asking Members to note the 2024/25 budget and approve the proposed revenue budget for 2025/26 for subsequent submission to the Finance Committee.
10. **PETITION OF THE COMPANY OF ENTREPRENEURS FOR COMPANY WITH LIVERY STATUS**
The Committee considered and approved a report of the Remembrancer concerning the petition of the Company of Entrepreneurs to be constituted as a Livery Company of the City of London and related documents.
11. **MANSION HOUSE UPDATE REPORT**
The Committee received a joint report of the Town Clerk and the City Surveyor providing an update in respect of the planned refurbishment of Mansion House.
12. **MINUTES OF THE MAGISTRACY AND LIVERY SUB-COMMITTEE**
The Committee received the minutes of the last meeting of the Magistracy & Livery Sub-Committee held on 6 December 2024.
13. **DAVOS 'DOWNLOAD'**
The Lord Mayor was heard relative to his recent trip to the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos.
14. **STRATEGY GROUP UPDATES**
The Town Clerk and respective Chairs of each Strategy Group took the opportunity to update the Committee on their objectives for 2025/26.
15. **KEY COMMITTEE ISSUES**
Aldermen were given the opportunity to report on recent, wider Committee issues of strategic importance.
16. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no questions raised in the non-public session.

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

Items of business concerning the Recorder's Portrait, United Guilds Service and 2-25 Aldermanic Awayday were raised.

The meeting ended at 11.42 am

Chairman

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