

# SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTE of the STATUTORY MEETING of  
the SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL held  
via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 19th May,  
2022 at 10.00 am

-----

Present:- Councillors J. Anderson, D. Begg, P. Brown, C. Cochrane, J. Cox, L. Douglas, M. Douglas, J. Greenwell, C. Hamilton, S. Hamilton, E. Jardine, J. Linehan, N. MacKinnon, S. Marshall, W. McAteer, D. Moffat, S. Mountford, A. Orr, D. Parker, J. PatonDay, J. Pirone, C. Ramage, N. Richards, E. Robson, M. Rowley, S. Scott, F. Sinclair, E. Small, A. Smart, H. Steel, R. Tatler, V. Thomson, E. Thornton-Nicol, T. Weatherston

In Attendance:- Chief Executive, Director Finance and Corporate Governance, Principal Solicitor, Clerk to the Council.

-----

## WELCOME

As a Convener had not yet been appointed, the Chief Executive chaired the beginning of the meeting, welcoming everyone and advising that the public business of the meeting was being livestreamed for public view and also recorded. By participating in the meeting, attendees have given consent for this. The recording would be available through the link to the event livestream on the Council website for public viewing for 180 days afterwards. The recording would then be automatically deleted after this time. Everyone was reminded that the Council did not allow any other recording of the meeting than this one.

## 1. ELECTION OF CONVENER

The Council considered the appointment of the Convener. Councillor Mountford, seconded by Councillor Marshall, moved that Councillor McAteer be appointed as Convener. Councillor Thornton-Nicol, seconded by Councillor M. Douglas, moved that Councillor Moffat be appointed as Convener. There being two nominations, Standing Orders required that the vote be taken by secret ballot, which given that the meeting was being conducted via Microsoft Teams required all Members to email their choice to the Clerk to the Council. The Clerk then transcribed those choices onto 34 pieces of paper and these were counted in full view of all those present and viewing the meeting. The result of the ballot was as follows:-

Councillor McAteer - 21 votes  
Councillor Moffat - 10 votes  
Abstentions - 3

Councillor McAteer was duly appointed.

## DECISION

**DECIDED that Councillor McAteer be appointed as Convener of the Scottish Borders Council.**

## CHAIR

Following his appointment as Convener, Councillor McAteer assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

## 2. ELECTION OF LEADER

The Council considered the appointment of the Leader. Councillor Parker, seconded by Councillor S. Hamilton, moved that Councillor Jardine be appointed as Leader. Councillor Moffat, seconded by Councillor Sinclair, moved that Councillor Thornton-Nicol be appointed as Leader. There being two nominations, Standing Orders required that the vote be taken by secret ballot, which given that the meeting was being conducted via Microsoft Teams required all Members to email their choice to the Clerk to the Council. The Clerk then transcribed those choices onto 34 pieces of paper and these were counted in full view of all those present and viewing the meeting. The result of the ballot was as follows:-

Councillor Jardine	-	19 votes
Councillor Thornton-Nicol	-	11 votes
Abstentions	-	4

Councillor Jardine was duly appointed.

#### **DECISION**

**DECIDED that Councillor Jardine be appointed as Leader of the Council.**

#### **3. VICE-CONVENER**

The Council considered the appointment of the Vice Convener. Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Linehan, moved that Councillor Greenwell be appointed. There being no other nominations Councillor Greenwell was duly appointed.

#### **DECISION**

**AGREED that Councillor Greenwell be appointed as Vice Convener.**

#### **4. ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS**

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Executive giving details of those persons elected to serve as Members of the Scottish Borders Council, along with an update regarding other aspects of the election.

#### **DECISION**

**AGREED to record the details of those individuals elected on 5 May 2022 to serve as Members of the Scottish Borders Council for the period to the next Local Government Election in 2027.**

#### **5. URGENT BUSINESS**

Under Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Convener was of the opinion that the item dealt with in the following paragraph should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency, in view of the need to make an early decision.

#### **6. SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL MEETING ON 26 MAY 2022**

The Convener accepted a request from Councillor Parker to propose a Motion that the next meeting of Scottish Borders Council to be held on 26 May 2022 be held "in person" to avoid the difficulties experienced conducting secret ballots online. Councillor Weatherston seconded the Motion which was unanimously accepted.

#### **DECISION**

**AGREED that the meeting of Scottish Borders Council to be held on Thursday, 26 May 2022 be held "in person" and in public in the Council Chamber at Scottish Borders Council Headquarters.**

***The meeting concluded at 11.20 am***