

# COUNCIL

Monday, 4 December 2023

Present: The Civic Mayor (Councillor Jerry Williams) in the Chair

Councillors	A Ainsworth	H Gorman	P Martin
	C Baldwin	N Graham	C McDonald
	P Basnett	JE Green	G McManus
	G Bennett	EA Grey	J McManus
	S Bennett	A Hodson	S Mountney
	M Booth	K Hodson	R Pitt
	A Brame	P Jobson	S Powell-Wilde
	H Cameron	G Jenkinson	H Raymond
	C Carubia	J Johnson	L Rennie
	P Cleary	M Jordan	M Redfern
	T Cox	S Kelly	M Skillicorn
	A Davies	B Kenny	K Stuart
	GJ Davies	J Stewart Laing	P Stuart
	G Davies	T Laing	M Sullivan
	S Foulkes	E Lamb	J Walsh
	A Gardner	I Lewis	J Williamson
	P Gilchrist	L Luxon-Kewley	V Wilson

## 55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were made.

## 56 CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Civic Mayor announced that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Jo Bird, Chris Cooke, Judith Grier, Brenda Hall, Tony Jones, Daisy Kenny, Ruth Molyneux, Kieran Murphy, Tony Murphy, Amanda Onwuemene, Cherry Povall, Jean Robinson, Ewan Tomeny and Gill Wood.

## 57 HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH SUE HIGGINSON, OBE

The Council considered a report from the Director of Law and Governance in respect to a proposal to admit Sue Higginson, as an Honorary Freewoman of the Borough.

The recommendation was in pursuance of the provisions of Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in recognition of her dedicated service to the Borough, that Sue Higginson be admitted as Honorary Freewoman of this Borough.

Several Councillors spoke of Sue's achievements, particularly her role as Principal of Wirral Met College for 11 years and the success of the college under her stewardship including the growth in its roll to 10,000 students and the impact it had on the borough. Councillors also spoke of the impact Sue had made in Wirral outside of her role with the college, including her involvement in raising funding for the Mayor's Charities, the introduction of the wellbeing garden at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre and her work with the Public Health team during the pandemic. It was reported to Council that Sue had been made an Officer of the British Empire in 2022 in recognition of her contribution to education.

Following the speeches from Councillors, it was –

**Resolved (unanimously) – That in pursuance of the provisions of Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, that Sue Higginson be admitted as Honorary Freewoman of this Borough.**