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CONSTITUTION WORKING PARTY

Meeting: 9 December 2021

At: 5.30 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Tom McGee (Chair) in the chair; Councillors Paul Ankers, Anna Charles-Jones, Colin Foster, Mike Hurleston, Lisa Smart and David Wilson.

1. MINUTES

The minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 4 November 2021 were approved as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. REPORT TO CONSTITUTION WORKING PARTY

The Strategic Head of Service & Monitoring Officer (Legal and Democratic Governance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated). Following the last meeting of the committee on 4 November 2021, the Monitoring Officer was requested to prepare a more detailed report on the two areas of the constitution that were outlined for amendment in the report that was considered at the meeting on 23 September 2021, namely informal Council and Mayoralty.

Members reviewed and discussed the proposals set out in the report and agreed the following way forward in relation to proposed amendments to take forward through the governance process.

RESOLVED (i) Members agreed that it was important to be flexible in order that a range of people have the opportunity to be Mayor. The potential Mayor should have served at least one term in Stockport and should where possible, be based on political numbers on the Council. It was not considered vital that the candidate should have served as Deputy Mayor previously. Due to the changes which lie ahead, for example with possible boundary changes, Members felt it likely that this issue would need to be revisited.

(ii) It was agreed that an informal Council meeting was unnecessary and that there should be a two-part split of the Annual Council Meeting with the ceremonial part of the Meeting taking place on a Tuesday and the formal business taking place on the following Thursday. It was agreed that the Monitoring Officer would endeavour to get this matter approved in January 2022 for implementation in May 2022.

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The meeting closed at 6.15 pm