

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Council
<b>REPORT NO:</b>	HCCS/14/19
<b>DATE:</b>	27 March 2019
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Councillor Paul Pemberton, Chair of the Constitution Working Group
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Sue Wyn Jones (292275)
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Nominations for Election of Mayor and Appointment of Deputy Mayor for 2019/20
<b>WARD:</b>	N/A

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider nominations for the election of a Mayor and appointment of a Deputy Mayor for 2019/20.

## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 In March each year, a report is presented to Council seeking nominations for the election of a Mayor and the appointment of a Deputy Mayor, for recommendation to the Council at its Annual Meeting in May.
- 2.2 The Council has always endeavoured to agree on its nominations well in advance of the Annual meeting for the following reasons:
- The selection of a Mayor-elect in good time before the annual Meeting allows the person selected sufficient time to make adequate arrangements for his/her year of office
  - The main objective is to reach agreement between all Members of the Council to ensure that the formal decision at the Annual Meeting of the Council is unanimous. The dignity of the Office of Mayor and of the Council generally would be impaired by any public disagreement on such a matter at the Council's Annual Meeting.
- 2.3 The Council's policy for dealing with nominations for the election of a Mayor and appointment of a Deputy Mayor is set out below (Minute 82 of Council dated 9 March 2005 and Minute 96 of Council dated 20 April 2011 refer):

- “(i) The civic office should not be regarded as a “political gift” and, therefore, the adoption of a formal, written policy for the selection of a Mayor and Deputy Mayor is not considered appropriate.
- (ii) A Meeting of the Working Group be convened in January/February each year to consider the process for nominations for appointment as Mayor and Deputy Mayor with a view to recommendations being submitted to Council in March, which would carry broad group support. In making such recommendations the following criteria will be taken into account:
  - (a) Members’ seniority (as seniority can clearly have its benefits for civic office as the Member knows a considerable amount about the workings of the Council and of the County Borough).
  - (b) Members’ ability and willingness to be proposed.
  - (c) Members’ record of attendance at meetings.
- (iii) In the interests of continuity, the long standing tradition of Members serving as Deputy Mayor before becoming Mayor be re-affirmed.
- (iv) That those Members of the Council who have previously served as Mayor with either the County Borough Council or the former Wrexham Maelor Borough Council be permitted to put themselves forward for Mayoral appointments in the future, but that preference be given to Members who have not previously served as Mayor.”

2.4 In accordance with the arrangements previously agreed by Council, the Constitution Working Group recently met to consider making a recommendation to Council as to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to be respectively elected and appointed at the Annual Meeting of the Council to be held on Tuesday 21 May 2019.

2.5 The Working Group’s recommendations to Council are set out below.

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That it be recommended to the Annual Meeting of the Council that Councillor Robert Walsh be nominated for the office of Mayor of the County Borough for the year 2019/20, subject to his acceptance of the office of Mayor.

3.2 That it be recommended to the Annual Meeting of the Council that Councillor Ronnie Prince be nominated for the office of Deputy Mayor of the County Borough for the year 2019/20, subject to his acceptance of the office of Deputy Mayor.

BACKGROUND PAPERS	LOCATION	WEBSITE INFO.
Agenda Papers of the Constitution Working Group Meeting held on 5 March 2019	Digital, Brand & Communications Lead, Guildhall, Wrexham	n/a