

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL** HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY 2017 AT 6.30 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, GREAT
WESTERN HOUSE, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

Present: Councillors Mrs J A Jones (Mayor)
K Purchase (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mrs J Cleave | Mrs S M Kingdom |
| D Corney-Walker | C N Parker |
| C Coyle-Moore | M J Pilkington |
| R Hayes | Ms L Roberts |
| D Howe | Mrs L Sheffield |
| R D Jenks | T Ward |
| M Joyce | |

Invited guests: Henry L J Cole – Honorary Freeman of Newton Abbot
Councillor Philip Bullivant – Teignbridge District Council
Steve Gaskell – Chairman of Newton Abbot & District
Chamber of Trade & Commerce
Reverend Patrick Parkes
Reverend Alan White
Family Members and Friends of Mayor

Representatives From: Maggie Bonnell – Memory Café
David Bray – Community Transport
Antony Brooks-Daw – Towersey Foundation
ATC Cadet William Thompson
Army Cadet Jack Hewitt
Sea Cadet Imogen Fuller

Representative of the Press: Sam Hall – Mid Devon Advertiser
Steve Pope – Mid Devon Advertiser

In attendance: Mrs Samantha Scott Deputy Town Clerk
Mrs Natalie Hicks Events Co-ordinator
Mrs Carla Winsborrow Mayor's Secretary
Mrs Alexandra Robinson Committee Administrator

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the outgoing Mayor invited her Chaplain, The Reverend Patrick Parkes, to deliver prayers.

RETIRING MAYOR

The Mayor, Councillor Ms Liz Roberts, reported on her year of office, commenting on how quickly it had passed and that it had been an honour to represent the Town at over 132 engagements where upon she had met some wonderful people and made new friends. She thanked all her fellow Councillors, officers of the Town Council and her escort John Phillips for their tremendous support during the busy year. She highlighted elements of her Mayoral Year and noted two key events in particular; the first being the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan for Newton Abbot and the second, the purchase of St. Leonard's Church in which the Council embarked on the Newton's Place Project.

She felt it a great privilege to have been able to represent the people of the town and had particularly appreciated the varied mix of events she had been invited to attend.

The Mayor recorded her appreciation for the support received from Members of the Council in carrying out her duties throughout her year of office, she particularly thanked her Chaplain Rev Patrick Parkes, her Cadets William Thompson and Sergeant Jack Hewitt and noted they carried out their roles with enthusiasm and dignity. She thanked the Town Council staff for their support, and in particular the Mayor's Secretary Mrs Carla Winsborrow, all of whom she presented with gifts and cards. The Mayor especially thanked her escort, Mr John Phillips and close friend Bev Russell-Rudge who had accompanied her to events, and noted she couldn't have done it without them.

The Mayor reminded her fellow Members that her theme was to 'Live and Work in Harmony' and she felt that this had been achieved and she thanked everyone once more for the guidance and encouragement that had been extended to her and recorded that it had been an honour to be Mayor.

Councillor Ms Roberts invited Mr Phillips to express his thanks to the Council for making him feel so welcome. He added that it had been an honour and privilege to accompany the Mayor to the many and varied events they had attended during the year and he had had a wonderful insight into the town, which he appreciated the experience.

In recording her appreciation to all the people of Newton Abbot for supporting her charities, she announced that they had raised £2235.00 and presented cheques to the Memory Café £1117.50 and Community Transport £1117.50.

The Mayor concluded that she hoped that the new Council would continue with such support and she wished the very best for the incoming Mayor.

1. **ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR – 2017/2018**

The Mayor invited nominations for the election of the Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Mrs J A Jones be elected Mayor for the year 2017/18.

There being no other nominations it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs J A Jones be hereby elected Mayor of Newton Abbot for the year 2017/2018.

Upon transferral of the Mayoral Chain to Councillor Mrs Jones, Councillor Ms Roberts was presented with a Past-Mayor's insignia and floral bouquet.

2. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Mrs Ann Jones read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

During her acceptance speech, Councillor Mrs Jones thanked her family, friends and the Town Councillors for their support and paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor and expressed her hope to continue the excellent leadership

demonstrated by Councillor Roberts and for the Councillors to continue to work together in support of the town. She acknowledged the prestigious honour of being Elected Mayor and her commitment to it.

The Mayor was pleased to announce that her husband, Chris Jones would be her Escort; the Reverend Prebendary Alan White, Rural Dean of the Parish, had agreed to be her Chaplain for the year. She nominated her charities to be The Towsersey Foundation and Meadowside Care Home and she announced that Jack Hewitt would continue as her Army Cadet and Imogen Fuller would be her Sea Cadet for the year.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs Carol Bunday, Mike Hocking and Mike Ryan and Phil Rowe, the Town Clerk.

4. **INTERESTS**

None declared.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR – 2017/2018**

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Ken Purchase be appointed Deputy Mayor for the year 2017/2018.

There being no other nominations it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Ken Purchase be hereby appointed Deputy Mayor (Mayoral Elect 2018/19) of Newton Abbot Town Council for the Year 2017/2018.

6. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Ken Purchase read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Ken Purchase upon his appointment as the Deputy Mayor. Councillor Purchase thanked the Council for their support for his appointment.

The Mayor invited Councillor David Howe (the Father of the House) to respond to the outgoing Mayor's comments. He paid tribute to Councillor Roberts on the Council's behalf. Councillor Howe referred to Councillor Roberts as always being busy and joining in the Town's events with enthusiasm. He added that she was retiring following a very good year and that everyone appreciated the efforts that Councillor Roberts had made on behalf of the Town and Town Council.

7. **CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES**

The Council noted details of the memberships of committees and sub-committees of the Council (circulated at the meeting).

8. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

At 6.45 p.m. the meeting adjourned for five minutes to allow the Council's committees to meet to elect and appoint their Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen.

21. **RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING**

At 6.50 p.m. the meeting resumed.

22. **PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

A. The Committee Administrator reported and the Council received and approved, the minutes of the following meetings:-

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|------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| i. | Community & Heritage Committee | – | 3 rd May 2017 |
| ii. | Finance & Audit Committee | – | 3 rd May 2017 |
| iii. | Planning Committee | – | 3 rd May 2017 |
| iv. | Policy & Resources Committee | – | 3 rd May 2017 |

B. Arising from A. above it was:-

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the parent Committee to be responsible for any necessary decisions arising from the business of its Sub-Committees and Working Parties until such time as their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, as appropriate, are elected and appointed.

23. **APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Council received and noted the statement, subject to minor amendment on appointments to outside bodies, as circulated.

24. **APPROVAL OF SIGNATURES FOR CHEQUES**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported on the need for the Council to pass a mandatory resolution authorising Lloyds TSB Bank plc to continue to provide banking arrangements for the Town Council and designate authorised signatories for the purpose of signing cheques on behalf of the Council.

RESOLVED that the following persons be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Council:-

The Mayor
The Deputy Mayor
Chairman of Finance & Audit Committee
Vice-Chairman of Finance & Audit Committee

MAYOR

At the conclusion of the Meeting the Mayor invited all those present to join her in the Parlour for refreshments.