

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2018** AT 6.30 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, GREAT WESTERN HOUSE, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

Present: Councillors K L Purchase (Mayor)  
R D Jenks (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors: Mrs C Bunday M Joyce  
Mrs J Cleave Mrs S M Kingdom  
D Corney-Walker C N Parker  
C Coyle-Moore M J Pilkington  
R Hayes M E Ryan  
M Hocking Ms L Roberts  
D Howe Mrs L Sheffield  
Mrs J A Jones T Ward

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

Representatives From:  
Meadowside Care Home  
Towersey Foundation  
Street Pastors Newton Abbot  
Dyrons Journal Talking Newspaper  
ATC Cadet Corporal Jacob Whittle

Representative of the Press: Sam Hall – Mid Devon Advertiser

In attendance: Mr Phil Rowe Town Clerk  
Mrs Samantha Scott Deputy Town Clerk  
Miss Kelly BurrIDGE Events Co-ordinator  
Mr Kieran Dore Handyman  
Mrs Sally Henley Town Development Manager  
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 Prebendary Alan White, to deliver prayers.

**PRESENTATION FRENCH LEGION D'HONNEUR – ANTONY PORTMAN**

The Mayor, advised Council that the Royal Naval Association had requested that the Town Council make the prestigious presentation of Legion d'honneur to a local resident, Mr Antony Portman. The Mayor highlighted his career in the Royal Navy, having joined in 1937 as an 11-year-old boy sailor he trained as an Asdic operator. During the Normandy landings Tony was stationed on the bridge of HMS Nelson.

During his career he had been awarded the following medals: 39/45; Atlantic Star, Africa Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal and War Medal 39/45. To commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day in June 2014 the French President announced that the Legion d'honneur would be awarded to British Veterans who fought for the liberation of France during the Second World War; Mr Portman had been selected for such an award. The Mayor then presented Mr Antony Portman with the French Legion d'honneur and was applauded by the Council and those guests present, for such a notable award.

## **RETIRING MAYOR**

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs Ann Jones, 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 120 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 consort Mr Chris Jones for their tremendous support during the busy year. 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.

In recording her appreciation to all the people of Newton Abbot for supporting her charities, she announced that they had raised £2,103.44 and presented cheques to the Towersey Foundation £1,053.22 and Meadowside Care Home £1,053.22. Both organisations thanked the Mayor and the Town Council for their support and acknowledged the benefit the financial assistance would bring for their respective charities.

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 Prebendary Alan White, her Cadet Sergeant Jack Hewitt and Sea Cadet Imogen Fuller and noted that 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 and Handyman, Kieran Dore. The Mayor thanked fellow Councillor Mrs Carol Bunday for accompanying her on the Twinning Event to Besigheim and attending musical engagements; all of whom she presented with gifts and cards. Councillor Bunday thanked the Mayor for her considerable efforts on behalf of the Town Council. The Mayor especially thanked her husband, Mr Chris Jones and their daughters who had been a tremendous support throughout her Mayoral Year.

Honorary Freeman of the Town, Mr Henry Cole thanked the Mayor and reminded those present that she always entered into the 'spirit' of the event, dressing for the occasion and he paid tribute to her service to Newton Abbot.

The Mayor 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.

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 – 2018/2019**

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

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Ken Purchase be elected Mayor for the year 2018/19.

There being no other nominations it was

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Ken Purchase be hereby elected Mayor of Newton Abbot for the year 2018/2019.

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

## 2. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

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

During his acceptance speech, Councillor Purchase thanked his family, friends and the Town Councillors for their support and paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor and expressed his hope to continue the excellent leadership demonstrated by Councillor Jones and for the Councillors to continue to work together in support of the town. He acknowledged the prestigious honour of being Elected Mayor and his commitment to it.

The Mayor was pleased to announce that his wife, Dulcie Purchase would be his Mayoress; the Reverend Patrick Parkes, had agreed to be his Chaplain for the year. He nominated his charities to be Street Pastors Newton Abbot and Dyrans Journal Talking Newspaper and he announced that Cadet Corporal Jacob Whittle would be his Cadet for the forthcoming year.

The Mayor invited Councillor David Howe (the Father of the House) to respond to the outgoing Mayor's comments. He paid tribute to Councillor Jones on the Council's behalf. Councillor Howe referred to Councillor Jones 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 Jones had made on behalf of the Town and Town Council. Councillor Howe welcomed the Incoming Mayor and wished him well for the forthcoming year.

## 3. **APOLOGIES**

No apologies for absence were received; all Councillors were present.

## 4. **INTERESTS**

None declared.

## 5. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR – 2018/2019**

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

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Richard Jenks be appointed Deputy Mayor for the year 2018/2019.

There being no other nominations it was;

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Richard Jenks be hereby appointed Deputy Mayor) of Newton Abbot Town Council for the Year 2018/2019.

6. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Richard Jenks read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Richard Jenks upon his appointment as the Deputy Mayor. Councillor Jenks thanked the Council for his appointment and recorded that it would be a privilege and honour to serve the Council and that he would work with the whole Council to deliver the Council's priorities and he was looking forward to the year ahead.

7. **CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES**

The Council noted and adopted the details of the memberships of committees and sub-committees of the Council (circulated at the meeting), subject to amendment, accordingly it was;

**RESOLVED** that the membership of committees and sub-committees of the Council, subject to amendment, be hereby noted and adopted.

8. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

At 7.10 p.m. the meeting adjourned for ten minutes to allow the Council's committees to meet to elect and appoint their Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen.

21. **RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING**

At 7.20 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:-

i.	Community & Heritage Committee	–	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018
ii.	Finance & Audit Committee	–	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018
iii.	Planning Committee	–	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018
iv.	Policy & Resources Committee	–	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018

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 on appointments to outside bodies, as circulated.

24. **APPROVAL OF SIGNATURES FOR CHEQUES**

The 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 him in the Parlour for refreshments.