

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL** HELD ONLINE
ON **WEDNESDAY 5th MAY 2021** AT 6.15 P.M.

Present: Councillors M Joyce (Mayor)
Mrs C Bunday (Dep Mayor)

Councillors:	P Bullivant	D Howe
	Mrs K Crout	C Jenks
	C Davieson	R Jenks
	R Hall	Mrs A Jones
	R Hayes	M E Ryan
	M Hocking	Mrs L Sheffield

Invited guests: Family Members and Friends of Mayor
Reverend Gareth Regan
Reverend Patrick Parkes
Inspector David Hammond
Representatives from Horsemanship for Health
ATC Cadet Eleanor Horton
ATC Cadet Tiena Field

Representative of the Press: Nick Knight – Editor, Mid Devon Advertiser

In attendance:	Philip Rowe	Town Clerk
	Samantha Scott	Deputy Town Clerk
	Carla Winsborrow	Mayor's Secretary
	Sally Henley	Town Development Manager
	Nigel Canham	Communications Advisor
	Alexandra Robinson	Principal Administrator

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the outgoing Mayor invited his Chaplain, The Reverend Gareth Regan, to deliver prayers.

RETIRING MAYOR

The Mayor, Councillor Richard Jenks, welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting of the Council and in particular invited guests. The Mayor reported on his two years of office, remarking that his first year had been busy with engagements and that the second year had been encompassed by the COVID-19 Pandemic and the tremendous challenges faced by everyone in such difficult circumstances. Councillor Jenks commented that it had been a privilege to be Mayor and an honour to serve the town.

Councillor Jenks thanked his Chaplain Reverend Gareth Regan and continued by thanking each member of staff individually highlighting the ways in which they personally serve the Town Council and the Museum. He acknowledged Mr Kieran Dore who had sadly passed away during this Mayoral term of office who was greatly missed by all at Newton's Place and would be remembered for his service and professionalism to the Town Council.

The Mayor thanked his wife, Mayoress Mrs Karen Jenks for her hard work and support alongside him throughout the two years and his son Councillor Chris Jenks of whom he was proud of his work for the town and for his support for the community particularly during the challenges faced throughout the Pandemic.

Councillor Jenks reminded Councillors and guests of the transition from Devon Square to the newly refurbished showcase Museum and Town Council within Newton's Place, a community hub within the heart of the town. The Pandemic had impacted everyone, but the Town Council had responded appropriately sign-posting and supporting individuals and those organisations who needed assistance to continue their work for the community. The Council had managed well through the unprecedented times and as the government restrictions were lifted, he looked forward to the events and celebrations that could take place once more.

Councillor Jenks thanked all his fellow Councillors; in particular Councillor Mike Joyce as his Deputy Mayor; and noted how all had worked together for the good of the town and he thanked them all for the trust they had placed in him.

In recording his appreciation to all the people of Newton Abbot for supporting his charities, he announced that they had raised £1,263.88 shared between 4 Dementia Carers and Home-Start. Both organisations had been previously presented with cheques and had thanked the Mayor and the Town Council for their support and acknowledged the benefit that the financial assistance would bring for their respective charities.

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

1. **ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR – 2021/2022**

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

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Mike Joyce be elected Mayor for the year 2021/22.

There being no other nominations it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Mike Joyce be hereby elected Mayor of Newton Abbot for the year 2021/2022.

Upon transferral of the Mayoral Chain to Councillor Joyce, Councillor Richard Jenks was presented with a Past-Mayor's insignia.

Councillor Mike Hocking responded to the outgoing Mayor's comments, thanking him on behalf of all Councillors for his commitment and dedication throughout the two years of office. Councillor Hocking remarked that Councillor Jenks had been an excellent ambassador for Newton Abbot Town Council and he thanked Councillor Jenks and his wife for all they had done for the town and wished them both well.

2. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Mike Joyce read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

During his initial acceptance speech, Councillor Joyce 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 clear leadership

demonstrated by his predecessor 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 thanked the Town Clerk and all the staff individually, for their support and professionalism.

The Mayor welcomed his ATC Cadets Eleanor Horton and Tiena Field and the Reverend Patrick Parkes, whom he had known for some time and had agreed to be his Chaplain for the year ahead.

The Mayor nominated his charity, Horsemanship for Health, based in Milber Newton Abbot, who provided mental health support to families and as the country emerged from the Pandemic their work would be even more invaluable.

Finally, he was pleased to announce that his wife, Mrs Sue Joyce would be his Mayoress, and he presented her with an insignia and closed in thanking fellow Councillors for their support and wished the Town Council a good year ahead.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of County and District Councillors Gordon Hook and Mrs Jackie Hook, Town Councillors David Corney-Walker, Colin Parker and Mike Pilkington and Mr Henry Cole, Freeman.

4. **INTERESTS**

None declared.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR – 2021/2022**

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

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Mrs Carol Bunday be appointed Deputy Mayor for the year 2021/2022.

There being no other nominations it was;

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Carol Bunday be hereby appointed Deputy Mayor (Mayoral Elect 2022/23) of Newton Abbot Town Council for the Year 2021/2022.

6. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Mrs Carol Bunday read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Mrs Bunday upon her appointment as the Deputy Mayor. Councillor Mrs Bunday thanked the Council for her appointment and recorded that she was humbled by the appointment and it would be a privilege and honour to serve the Council and she 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. **PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

Further to the Informal Meeting of the Council held on 28th April 2021, where upon Members discussed the proceedings of the Council; it was,

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

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

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

10. **APPROVAL OF SIGNATURES FOR CHEQUES**

The Deputy Town Clerk (RFO) 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
The Town Clerk
The Deputy Town Clerk (RFO) and
Office Administrator

11. **CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

The Mayor thanked fellow Councillors, Officers and Guest for their attendance and wished them all well as he closed the meeting.

MAYOR