

MINUTES OF THE **ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023**  
AT 6.30 P.M. AT NEWTON'S PLACE, 43 WOLBOROUGH STREET, NEWTON ABBOT.

Present: D Corney-Walker (Mayor) Presiding  
A Hall (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors: P Bullivant            C Parker  
L Cooke                            M Ryan  
T Corney-Walker            S Walker  
C Davieson                    N Yabsley  
M Joyce

Invited guests: Family members and friends of Councillors.  
Reverend Ben Maynard  
Inspector David Hammond  
Representative of Ricky Grant Day Unit  
ATC Cadet Adam Poel and family  
Outgoing ATC Cadet Larissa Bradley  
Mr David Howe  
Mr & Mrs C Jones

In attendance: Philip Rowe            Town Clerk  
Samantha Scott            Deputy Town Clerk & RFO  
Sally Henley            Town Development Manager  
Carla Winsborrow            Mayor's Secretary  
Kelly Burridge            Office Administrator  
Nigel Canham            Communications Advisor  
Linda McGuirk            Principal Administrator

Also, present Jackie Hook            Teignbridge District Councillor  
Ethan Heppell            Representative of the Press: Mid Devon Advertiser

At 6.25 p.m. prior to the commencement of the meeting, the outgoing Mayor invited her Chaplain, The Reverend Ben Maynard, to deliver prayers.

**RETIRING MAYOR**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the outgoing Mayor, Carol Bunday, welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting of the Council, in particular invited guests, and reflected on her term in office where she had been privileged to oversee several historic moments, including:

- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- Marking the death of Queen Elizabeth II
- The HMS Triumph Freedom of the Town Parade
- The Coronation of King Charles III
- Official opening of Newton's Place

Councillor Bunday stated it had been an honour and privilege to represent Newton Abbot. As Mayor for the second time. Special thanks were given to the Mayors Secretary Carla

Winsborrow, Reverend Ben Maynard and Communications Advisor Nigel Canham. A representative of the Mayor's charity, the Ricky Grant Unit was presented with a cheque for £1,548.00.

Outgoing Mayor, C Bunday - presided over the start of the meeting.

1. **ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR – 2023/2024**

The outgoing Mayor, Carol Bunday invited nominations for the election of the Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor David Corney-Walker be elected Mayor for the year 2023/24.

There being no other nominations it was:

**RESOLVED** that Councillor David Corney-Walker be hereby elected Mayor of Newton Abbot for the year 2023/2024.

Upon transferral of the Mayoral Chain to Councillor David Corney-Walker, Carol Bunday was presented with a Past-Mayor's insignia.

Father of the House, Councillor Mike Ryan thanked Councillor Bunday for her contribution over the past 12 months.

2. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor David Corney-Walker read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

During his acceptance speech Councillor David Corney-Walker thanked Carol Bunday for her leadership and dedication and welcomed his ATC Cadet Adam Poel. The Mayor confirmed the following arrangements for his term in office:

Consort will be Councillor Tom Corney-Walker.

Mayoral Charity will be Devon Air Ambulance.

ATC Cadet is Adam Poel.

There will be a Civic Concert to replace the Civic Service.

There will be no Chaplain, instead there will be a reading prior to the start of the meeting, Councillors were invited to submit appropriate readings.

There will be no formal dress code at Full Council meetings, smart casual attire will be acceptable.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Richard Buscombe. Members **agreed** to approve Councillor Buscombe's absence.

4. **INTERESTS**

Chair initials.....

None declared.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR – 2023/2024**

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

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Alex Hall be appointed Deputy Mayor for the year 2023/2024.

There being no other nominations it was;

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Alex Hall be hereby appointed Deputy Mayor (Mayoral Elect 2024/25) of Newton Abbot for the Year 2023/2024.

6. **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Alex Hall read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Hall upon his appointment as the Deputy Mayor. Councillor Hall thanked Councillors for voting for him and assured members of his commitment.

7. **TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023**

The Mayor referred to the summary of the results of the Town Council Elections, held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023, previously circulated.

**RESOLVED** that the summary of the Results of the Town Council Elections, be hereby, noted.

8. **MEMBERSHIP 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.

9. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

At 18.57 p.m. the meeting adjourned for ten minutes to allow the Council's committees to meet to elect and appoint their Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

10. **RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING**

At 19:07 p.m. the meeting resumed.

Chair initials.....

11. **PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

A. The Principal Administrator reported that the Council’s committees had met, the Council received and approved, the minutes of the following Special meetings: -

- i. Community & Heritage Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- ii. Finance & Audit Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- iii. Planning Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023
- iv. Policy & Resources Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

B. Arising from A. above it was: -

**RESOLVED** that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson 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 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, as appropriate, are elected and appointed.

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

The Council received and noted the statement on appointments to outside bodies, as circulated at the meeting, subject to amendment, accordingly it was:

**RESOLVED** that the appointment of representatives on Outside Bodies, subject to amendment, be hereby noted and adopted.

13. **GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

The Mayor invited the Town Clerk to provide background to the General Power of Competence. The Clerk advised members to give consideration to reaffirming the Council’s eligibility to adopt the General Power of Competence under the Localism Act 2011 by confirming that the Council met the criteria for eligibility relating to the electoral mandate and relevant training of the Clerk and recommended that Council readopt the General Power of Competence.

- a) The Council confirmed that at least two thirds (12) of the Council held office as a result of being declared elected (i.e. not co-opted) as this was duly noted in Minute (7) above).
- b) The Mayor confirmed that the Clerk held a recognised professional qualification; the Certificate in Local Council Administration, which also ensured that the Council met the eligibility criteria.

Accordingly, it was;

**RESOLVED** that since Newton Abbot Town Council met the eligibility criteria in terms of the number of elected councillors and that the Clerk held the required qualification that the Council hereby, readopted the General Power of Competence (Localism Act 2011).

Chair initials.....

14. **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 Council and designate authorised signatories for the purpose of signing cheques on behalf of the Council.

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

- Mayor
- Deputy Mayor
- Town Clerk
- Deputy Town Clerk (RFO)
- Office Administrator
- Chairperson of Finance & Audit Committee
- Vice-Chairperson of Finance & Audit Committee

15. **CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

At the conclusion of the Meeting the Mayor reminded Members that it is the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday and reminded Councillors of their duty to attend.

The Mayor invited all those present to join him for refreshments.

Meeting closed at 19:10

Chairperson.....Date.....

Chair initials.....