
ANNUAL COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Merlins Entertainment Complex, Leysdown Road, Leysdown-on-Sea, Isle of Sheppey, ME12 4RB on Tuesday, 16 May 2017 from 7.00pm - 8.15pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Sarah Aldridge, Cameron Beart, Bobbin, Andy Booth, Tina Booth, Lloyd Bowen, Bowles, Roger Clark, Derek Conway, Mike Cosgrove, Adrian Crowther, Mike Dendor, Duncan Dewar-Whalley, Paul Fleming, Sue Gent, Nicholas Hampshire, Alan Horton, James Hunt, Lesley Ingham, Ken Ingleton, Nigel Kay, Samuel Koffie-Williams (Deputy Mayor), Gerry Lewin, Peter Marchington, Padmini Nissanga, Prescott (Mayor), George Samuel, David Simmons, Ben Stokes, Anita Walker, Mike Whiting, Ted Wilcox and John Wright.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Chris Lovelock, Kellie MacKenzie, Jo Millard and Mark Radford.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Monique Bonney, Mike Henderson, Bryan Mulhern and Ken Pugh.

1 PRAYERS

The Retiring Mayor's Chaplain, Father Frank Moran, opened the meeting with a prayer.

2 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR

The retiring Mayor advised that the decision to appoint a Mayor elect was taken at the Council meeting on 15 February 2017, where it was resolved that Councillor Colin Prescott be elected Mayor for the civic year 2017 to 2018.

Councillor Andy Booth gave a speech to support the decision to elect Councillor Colin Prescott as Mayor, and Councillor Alan Horton spoke to endorse the decision.

The Mayor read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Oath of Allegiance, and announced that Mrs Pamela Prescott would be his Mayoress for the Mayoral Year. Councillor Prescott and Mrs Prescott were presented with their badge of office and Mrs Prescott was presented with flowers.

Resolved:

(1) *That the decision made at the Council meeting on 15 February 2017 to elect Councillor Colin Prescott as Mayor for the Civic Year 2017 to 2018 be endorsed.*

3 THE FORTHCOMING MAYORAL YEAR

The Mayor referred to his theme for the forthcoming Mayoral year as 'Produced in Swale', which was also his theme in his last Mayoral year in 2004 to 2005. He

advised that he would be promoting local produce, talent, tourism and economic development and challenged hosts of events he would be attending in his Mayoral Year to provide local food and beverages if possible. The Mayor announced he would be raising funds for Swale Hospital Radio and Swale Parkinson's Support Group.

4 VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

Councillor Bowles proposed and Councillor Gerry Lewin seconded a vote of thanks to the Retiring Mayor, Councillor Lesley Ingham for her work as Mayor throughout the Civic Year 2016 to 2017. He praised both Councillor Ingham and her Retiring Mayoress, Miss Ashlee Brawn, for their outstanding work in representing the Borough.

Councillor Lesley Ingham thanked all Members for their support during her Mayoral Year and said that she felt proud to represent the Borough, had enjoyed all her visits but especially enjoyed meeting ordinary people that did so much to help others. She added that she would miss her role as Mayor and gave particular thanks, love and good wishes to the Mayor's Personal Assistant, Mrs Heather Elliott who was unable to be at the meeting. Councillor Lesley Ingham then gave thanks and presented gifts and a certificate to her retiring Cadet, Sergeant Lauren Kingsnorth from the Sheppey Squadron Air Training Corps, and gave thanks and gifts to Father Frank Moran and to the Civic Attendant, Mr Chris Lovelock. Finally, she wished the new Mayor and Mayoress good luck in their Mayoral year.

The Mayor presented Councillor Ingham with a civic shield and scroll, a past Mayor's badge and flowers and also presented a past Mayoress's badge and flowers to Miss Ashlee Brawn.

5 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor advised that the decision to appoint a Deputy Mayor elect was taken at the Council meeting on 15 February 2017, where it had been resolved to appoint Councillor Samuel Koffie-Williams as Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2017 to 2018.

Councillor Mike Dendor gave a speech to support the decision to elect Councillor Koffie-Williams as Deputy Mayor and Councillor Mike Whiting spoke to endorse the decision.

The Deputy Mayor read out and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and was presented with his badge of office. Mrs Doreen Koffie-Williams, Deputy Mayoress, was presented with her badge of office and flowers.

Resolved:

- (1) That the decision made at the Council meeting on 15 February 2017 to elect Councillor Samuel Koffie-Williams as Deputy Mayor for the 2017 to 2018 Civic Year be endorsed.**

6 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CADET

The Mayor announced the appointment of Corporal Shannon Pardoe from Sittingbourne Air Training Corps as his Cadet for the forthcoming Civic Year, and presented Corporal Pardoe with her Cadet badge.

7 MAYOR'S CHARITIES

The Mayor presented Committee badges to Mrs Sally Clifford-Cox, Mrs Julia Roberts, Mrs Sarah Williams, Councillor Tina Booth and Mrs Dawn Drury, all members of his Charities.

8 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Mayor announced that he would be appointing Reverend Richard Birch from Doddington, Newnham and Wychling Churches as his Chaplain for the forthcoming Civic Year.

9 CONCLUDING PRAYERS

In the absence of Reverend Richard Birch, Authorised Lay Minister Mrs Stephanie Wolfe concluded the evening with prayers.

The Mayor reminded Members that the second part of the Annual Council would be held the following evening, starting at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Swale House, Sittingbourne. He invited Members and guests to join him for light refreshments.

Chairman

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All Minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel