

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Okehampton Town Council held on
Wednesday 9th May 2018 at 12noon in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Okehampton**

Members Present: Councillor Mrs J Goffey
Councillor Dr M Ireland
Councillor Mrs J Carpenter
Councillor B Rush
Councillor Mrs V Cushing
Councillor Miss C Holt
Councillor A Leech
Councillor Mrs C Marsh
Councillor B Tolley
Councillor P Vachon
Councillor D Weekes
Councillor Mrs J Yelland

In Attendance: Mrs E James (Town Clerk)
Mace Bearers
Members of DCC, WDBC and other local Councils
Members of the Public

Before proceeding with business, Cllr Goffey welcomed those present and prayers were offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev'd Canon Tim Newcombe.

1. **Election of Town Mayor** - It was proposed that Cllr Carpenter serve as Mayor for the coming year by Cllr Holt, seconded by Cllr Cushing. All Councillors were in favour. Cllr Carpenter then read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Town Mayor.
2. **Election of Deputy Town Mayor** - Cllr Carpenter proposed that Cllr Yelland serve as Deputy Mayor, seconded by Cllr Cummings. All Councillors were in favour. Cllr Yelland read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Deputy Town Mayor and responded with a short speech.
3. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Cllrs Parkins and Cummings.
4. **Retiring Town Mayor** - Cllr Goffey firstly offered congratulations to Cllr Carpenter and thanked the previous Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ireland, and her fellow Cllrs for their support over the last two years. Thanks were extended to her Chaplain, the Mayor's Cadet, the Mace bearers, her Consort, the Clerk and all Council staff members.

Cllr Goffey presented FORCE with a cheque for £1,000 which was raised at the recent fundraising dinner and over the past two years, towards the offer of chemotherapy in Okehampton hospital for some sufferers. Mayor's Award Certificates were presented to Mike Harding and Louis Enderson for putting up the Christmas lights in the town for many years on behalf of the Chamber of Trade. Also to Roger and Jenny Pedrick for serving the community for over 50 years, helping elderly residents and making thousands of scones for various events.

5. **Town Mayor** – Cllr Carpenter thanked the Council for electing her as Mayor and for their support. Through the year she would be supporting and fundraising in support of Cancer Research.

Presentations were made to the Cpl Freya Andrew the Mayor's Cadet for the year, Cllr Goffey the past Mayors badge and Cllr Yelland the Deputy's Chain. In addition

Cllr Carpenter announced that the Mayor's Chaplain would be Rev'd Liz Singleton and her Consort Cllr C Marsh.

6. **Expenses of the Office of Mayor** - To endorse the payment of an allowance of £2,500 to defray the expenses attached to the office of Mayor in pursuance of Section 15 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, proposed by Cllr Tolley, seconded by Cllr Leech. All Councillors were in favour.
7. **Standing Committees of the Council** -
 - 7.1 It was agreed to appoint Cllrs to the following Committees for the ensuing year: Parks, Planning, Policy and Resources, Property, Emergencies (Mayor and Committee Chairs) as set out in the schedule attached to the minutes, proposed *en bloc* by Cllr Marsh, seconded by Cllr Weekes.
 - 7.2 It was agreed to elect Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to the Committees as follows:
 - Parks
Chairman - Cllr Marsh, proposed by Cllr Holt, seconded by Cllr Weekes.
Vice-Chairman - Cllr Holt, proposed by Cllr Carpenter, seconded by Cllr Marsh
 - Planning
Chairman - Cllr Leech, proposed by Cllr Goffey, seconded by Cllr Ireland
Vice-Chairman - Cllr Rush, proposed by Cllr Leech, seconded by Cllr Marsh
 - Policy and Resources
Chairman - Cllr Yelland, proposed by Cllr Goffey, seconded by Cllr Vachon
Vice-Chairman - Cllr Cummings, proposed by Cllr Yelland, seconded by Cllr Vachon
 - Property
Chairman - Cllr Weekes, proposed by Cllr Vachon, seconded by Cllr Holt
Vice-Chairman - Cllr Vachon, proposed by Cllr Weekes, seconded by Cllr Leech
8. **Working Groups** – It was agreed to appoint Cllrs to the following Working Groups for the ensuing year: Destination Okehampton, Okehampton & Hamlets Neighbourhood Plan Group and Charities as set out in the schedule attached to the minutes, proposed *en bloc* by Cllr Weekes, seconded by Cllr Leech.
9. **Representatives to Other Bodies including Charities** - It was agreed to appoint Cllrs as representatives of the Town Council to other bodies in accordance with the schedule attached to the minutes on the proposition of Cllr Marsh, seconded by Cllr Leech.
10. **Nomination of a Cllr to undertake quarterly Council internal financial checks** – It was agreed to appoint Cllr Marsh on the proposition of Cllr Ireland, seconded by Cllr Yelland.
11. **Council and Committee Schedule of Meetings 2018/19** - It was resolved to adopt the schedule of meetings for the ensuing year as set out in the schedule attached to the minutes on the proposition of Cllr Tolley, seconded by Cllr Vachon.

The Town Mayor declared the meeting closed at 12.35pm and welcomed all to a buffet lunch in the Charter Hall.

Councillor J Carpenter
Town Mayor