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MINUTES

Of the 42nd ANNUAL MEETING of Lewes Town Council, held on Thursday 12th May 2016, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lewes at 7:00pm.

PRESENT Councillors A Ashby; A Barker; Dr A Bolt; R Burrows; S Catlin (Wischhusen); M Chartier; W Elliott; H Jones; J Lamb; Dr G Mayhew; M Milner; R Murray; S Murray; R O'Keeffe; E Watts.

In attendance: S Brigden (Town Clerk); Mrs F Garth (Civic Officer & Asst Town Clerk); L Symons (Macebearer); Canon R Moatt (Council Chaplain).

There were 88 guests and civic dignitaries assembled.

The meeting opened with Cllr Susan Murray in the Chair, as outgoing Mayor.

ELECTION OF MAYOR: Cllr Dr Graham Mayhew was elected as Mayor for the 2016/17 municipal year.

MAYOR'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE: Cllr Dr Mayhew made his declaration of acceptance of the office of Mayor as prescribed by s83(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, before Council and assembled guests, and signed a deed to that effect.

Cllr Dr Mayhew took the chair for the remainder of the meeting

Cllr Dr Mayhew addressed the assembly, thanking his colleagues for the honour of the Mayoralty. He described his long association with the Council since childhood, and previous Mayoralties; his outlook for the Mayoral year. He announced that the organizations he had chosen to support would be the Lewes Railway Land Wildlife Trust; Lewes Priory Trust, and East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service. He introduced his Mayoress, Mrs Penny Brown, who would support him during the forthcoming year, and the Council's Chaplain: Canon Richard Moatt.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies had been received from Cllrs Makepeace and Rowell, who were on holiday. It was resolved that:

FC2016/03.1 The reasons submitted for absence from this meeting are accepted.

FC2016/04 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR: Cllr Michael Chartier was elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2016/17 municipal year.

FC2016/05 DEPUTY MAYOR'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

Cllr Chartier made his declaration of acceptance of the office of Deputy Mayor before Council and assembled guests, and signed a deed to that effect. He offered a short speech of thanks for the honour, and introduced his wife, Mrs Monica Chartier; who would support him in her role as Deputy Mayoress.

FC2016/06 VOTE OF THANKS: Cllr Milner proposed the motion (NM001/16):

"That this Council records its thanks to Cllr Susan Murray, and appreciation for her service to the council and community of Lewes in the office of Mayor during the past year."

He went on to describe Cllr Murray's term as Mayor, and highlighted salient features;

functions, and events she had attended and her work throughout the year to raise money for her chosen good causes – always closely supported by her Consort, Cllr Roger Murray. It was **resolved FC2016/06.1** accordingly.

Cllr Murray replied at length, describing her own view of the past year and adding thanks to all those individuals who had helped throughout her service as Mayor.

FC2016/07

PRESENTATIONS: The outgoing Mayor and her Consort were presented with gifts in recognition of their service in the past year. Cllr Murray then presented a gift to Fiona Garth, the Council's Civic Officer, for her indefatigable work in support of the Mayoralty. Representatives of her sponsored causes were called forward to receive cheques for the money raised on their behalf during her year as Mayor: Lewes Children's Book Group and Transition Town Lewes.

Mr John Agard, a playwright; poet; and children's writer, and recipient (in 2012) of the Queen's Gold Medal for poetry, who had kindly agreed to act as Mayor's Poet during her year in the role then entertained the assembly with one of his works, and received a gift as token of thanks for his support.

The meeting then moved on to deal with items of ordinary business.

FC2016/08

MINUTES: the minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2016 were received and signed as an accurate record.

FC2016/09

ATTENDANCE RECORD OF COUNCILLORS:

The attendance record of councillors for the previous municipal year was noted. (copy in minute book)

FC2016/10

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES of COUNCILLORS 2016/17:

A motion (NM002/16) was proposed, and it was **resolved that:**

FC2016/10.1 The individual responsibilities of Members for the ensuing municipal year shall be as shown in the list (copy in minute book) attached to the agenda for the meeting of Council on 12th May 2016.

FC2016/11

APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES:

A motion (NM003/16) was proposed, and it was **resolved that:**

FC2016/11.1 The Council's representatives on outside bodies, for the ensuing municipal year, shall be as shown in the list (copy in minute book) attached to the agenda for the meeting of Council on 12th May 2016.

FC2016/12

BANK SIGNATURE AUTHORITY:

A motion (NM004/16) was proposed, and it was **resolved that:**

FC2016/12.1 The Council approves the authorization of Councillors as signatories to the Council's bank account: as shown in the list (copy in minute book) attached to the agenda for the meeting of Council on 12th May 2016.

FC2016/13

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS:

A motion (NM005/16) was proposed, and it was **resolved that:**

FC2016/13.1 The Town Clerk be asked to ensure the Council's continued membership of approved national and local organizations representing Parish and Town Councils.

There being no further business the Mayor closed the meeting and invited all present to join him in attending the Civic Reception in the Assembly Room.

The meeting ended at 8:05pm

Signed:	Date:
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