



Tiverton Town Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Council Meeting held in the New Hall on Monday 24th May 2021.

Cllrs: C Slade Mayor, (Mayor), S Griggs (Deputy Mayor), J Blagg, W Burke, S Bush, L Cruwys, N Davey, C Daw, C Harrower, A Hendy, I Hill, P Hill, B Holdman, S Knight, D Knowles, A Perris, S Pugh, J Rendle, T Lindus, E Slade, D Sutton.

In attendance: Mr D Griggs, Mr J Vanderwolfe (Town Clerk), Mrs J Hubbard (Assistant to the Town Clerk), Mr A Burnett (Beadle), Mr A Newsome (Mace Bearer), and a member of press.

Absent: Cllr D Garcia-Parejo.

<p>196</p>	<p>Election of Mayor for the ensuing year Cllr C Slade requested nominations for the position of Mayor of Tiverton for the ensuing year. Cllr S Griggs was proposed by Cllr N Davey and seconded by Cllr C Daw. There were no other nominations. Cllr S Griggs received a unanimous vote. Cllr C Slade congratulated Cllr Griggs on her appointment. Cllr S Griggs undertook the Declaration of Office and Allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen.</p>
<p>197</p>	<p>Election of Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year Cllr A Hendy was proposed by Cllr S Bush and seconded by Cllr A Perris. There was one more nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor. Cllr J Blagg proposed Cllr C Harrower, this was seconded by Cllr Daw. A decision was taken to conduct a vote in order to determine the position. Cllr T Lindus asked why they were being asked to vote as they had already voted for the position of Deputy Mayor in the March Full Council Meeting where Cllr A Hendy had been accepted for the position. It was explained that receiving another nomination was not against the council’s protocol. Cllr N Davey proposed a paper ballot. The Town Clerk informed the members that if a paper ballot was conducted they could not receive the results until the following day due to Covid-19 restrictions. Cllr W Burke proposed that the vote be a show of hands. This was seconded by Cllr L Cruwys. This was duly noted. It was agreed to carry out a show of hands to determine the result. Cllr A Hendy received 11 votes, and Cllr C Harrower received 7 votes. Cllr S Griggs welcomed Cllr A Hendy and said she looked forward to working with her.</p>
<p>198</p>	<p>Welcome to the Newly Elected Councillors Cllrs Elizabeth Slade, Siobhan Knight, Steven Pugh and David Sutton were welcomed by the Mayor. The Town Clerk informed them of training and induction opportunities and said that he could set up remote options for anyone who wanted to do this.</p>
<p>199</p>	<p>Vote of thanks to the Retiring Mayor A vote of thanks to the outgoing Mayor was given by Cllr S Griggs. Cllr C Slade gave a review of his two years of office. He said that it had been an extraordinary period with highlights such as the H.M.S. Enterprise Services Day, the Old Blundellian Day, his Mayoral Banquet and Christmas drinks in 2019. All changed in 2020 with the arrival of the coronavirus and all events ceased. Cllr Slade said that he</p>

	<p>continued to carry on behind the scenes, with civic duties such as VJ Day, Remembrance Day and permitted outdoor events. Cllr Slade said that he had been pleased to have raised money to benefit the local community and had been disappointed not to have had the opportunity to have raised more due to the constraints of the pandemic.</p> <p>Cllr Slade finished by giving his thanks to the Town Clerk and Town Hall staff, the Beadle, Mace Bearers, Relief Mace Bearer, and his cadet.</p> <p>He wished the new Mayor a good term of office.</p>
200	<p>Maiden Speech</p> <p>Cllr S Griggs made her maiden speech as Mayor of Tiverton, she thanked the members for electing her and gave thanks to Cllrs Davy and Daw for their kind words.</p> <p>This would be the second time for Cllr Griggs as the Mayor of Tiverton. She said that she would do her utmost to attend as many events and functions as she could and promote Tiverton. Cllr Griggs said that Cllr A Hendy as the Deputy Mayor would be a great support.</p> <p>Cllr Griggs then read out her wish list</p> <p>All members to work together well and as a team with the aim of working alongside each other as ambassadors for the town.</p> <p>For meetings to resume to face to face as the country comes out of Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>To plant trees for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee campaign.</p> <p>For the town council to plant spring flowers and bulbs in the town through the Tiverton in Bloom group.</p> <p>To enhance the green spaces that Tiverton has and to revive the high street.</p> <p>Cllr Griggs hoped that the town centre improvements would now move forward and begin to be implemented. She acknowledged the work that Cllr I Hill had been involved with in relation to the town leat.</p> <p>Cllr Griggs ended by thanking Cllr C Slade and recognising that it had not been an easy term of office for him due to the pandemic.</p>
201	<p>Appointments</p> <p>The Mayor announced her appointments:</p> <p>Chaplain Rev Stephanie Gordon-Jeffs</p> <p>Beadle Mr A Burnett</p> <p>Mace Bearers Mr A Newsome, Mr B Zarrett and J Jordon.</p>
202	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>An apology was received from Cllr A Berry, (work)</p> <p>All accepted this apology.</p>
203	<p>Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct</p> <p>There were no declarations at this stage of the meeting.</p>
204	<p>Minutes : To adopt the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 23rd March 2021 as a true record</p> <p>The Minutes of the 23rd March 2021 were adopted as a true record.</p>
205	<p>Matters arising from the above</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>
206	<p>Democratic Period</p> <p>No members of public present at the meeting.</p>
207	<p>To adopt the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21</p> <p>Cllr C Slade proposed to adopt the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21.</p> <p>Cllr D Knowles seconded this.</p> <p>All resolved to accept the statement.</p>

208	<p>To adopt the Accounting Statements 2020/21 Cllr C Slade proposed to adopt the accounting statements 2020/21, this was seconded by Cllr N Davey. All resolved to adopt the accounting statements 2020/21.</p>
209	<p>Financial Report for April 2021 Cllr C Slade proposed to accept the financial report for April 2021, this was seconded by Cllr Hill.</p>
210	<p>Accounts for Payment 2020/21 Cllr B Holdman proposed to accept, Cllr T Lindus seconded the proposal. All resolved to accept the payments.</p>
211	<p>To agree the membership of Committees for 2021/22 All members had selected their options for committees to the Town Clerk in advance of the meeting. The Town Clerk had processed these and produced the new committee list for 2021/22. Cllr C Slade informed the Town Clerk that the position of Honorary President of the Tiverton Twinning Society was given to the Mayor of Tiverton and it was expected that he/she attend their meetings wherever possible. Cllr L Cruwys confirmed this. Cllr T Lindus proposed to accept the committee list, Cllr D Knowles seconded. All accepted the committee list for 2021/22.</p>
212	<p>Committee Minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finance & General Purposes of the 12th April 2021 2. Planning Committee of the 26th April 2021 3. Civic & Ceremonial Committee of the 29th March 2021 4. Staffing Committee of the 26th April 2021 5. Covid-19 Working Party Report 6. Any other Reports or Statements <p>All resolved to accept the Committee Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes of 12th April 2021, Planning Minutes of the 26th April 2021, the Civic & Ceremonial Minutes 29th March 2021, Staffing Minutes 26th April 2021, and Covid-19 Working Party Report.</p> <p>In other reports Cllr C Daw spoke of her concerns over correct procedure in relation to the motion minute (205) in the Civic & Ceremonial Minutes of September 2013, in which it was resolved that any member wanting to serve as the Mayor had to serve a minimum of 4 years. Cllr Daw said that this had never been put into the council's standing orders. She suggested that this could be looked at again at the next Civic & ceremonial Meeting. Cllr Daw also suggested putting a standard limit on the number of complementary tickets given for the Mayor's use for their Mayoral Dinner.</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed the members that procedure was correctly observed as was minuted in the Minutes of September 2013 Minute (205).</p> <p>Cllr S Bush had concerns with Minute 205 and said that if the town council found itself with all new councillors there would be no one eligible to fill the position of Mayor.</p> <p>The Town Clerk said that in the unlikely event this indeed was the case the town council would suspend its standing orders.</p> <p>Cllr Ana Hendy said that although she could understand why the members would want someone experienced as the Mayor, one way of learning more about the council and better understand how things worked was to become the Deputy Mayor and have a need to be dedicated to the service of the town.</p> <p>Cllr L Cruwys expressed his concern that the members had lost their way on this and suggested it should be left for discussion with the Civic & ceremonial Committee.</p>

	<p>Cllr Stephen Pugh asked how many vacancies were left on the town council. He was informed by the Town Clerk that one co-opted vacancy for Westexe Ward remained. The Mayor formally closed the meeting.</p>
213	Next Meeting: Extraordinary Meeting Monday 21st June 2021 at 6.30pm. (Venue to be advised in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in place at the time.)

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