

Minutes of a Meeting of the Annual Bicester Town held on Monday 17th May 2021 at John Paul II Centre, Webb Court, Causeway, Bicester OX26 6AW for the transaction of the following business:

Present:

Cllr Nick Cotter
Cllr Sandy Dallimore
Cllr Dan Hallet
Cllr Harry Knight
Cllr Nicholas Mawer
Cllr Zoe McLernon
Cllr James Metcalf
Cllr Richard Mould
Cllr Lynn Pratt
Cllr Dan Sames
Cllr Les Sibley
Cllr Jason Slaymaker
Cllr Alex Thrupp
Cllr Fraser Webster

In Attendance:

Phil Evans – Service Manager
Julie Trinder – Administration Officer (Civic & Democratic)

1. 001/2122 Election of the Town Mayor and signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

RESOLVED Cllr Nicholas Mawer be elected as Town Mayor for the ensuing municipal year of 2021/22.

Declarations of Acceptance

The new Mayor, Cllr Nicholas Mawer signed his formal Declaration of Acceptance of office with the Service Manager counter signing. He then gave a short resume of his goals for the forthcoming year. The Mayor's chosen charities will be:

- 1st Bicester Intrepid Scout Group
- ARCh (Assisted Reading for Children)
- Lady Jersey Trust

2. 002/2122 Election of Deputy Mayor

RESOLVED that Cllr Alex Thrupp be elected as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing municipal year of 2021/22.

Cllr Alex Thrupp thanked the Council for electing him and gave a short speech.

3. 003/2122 Report of Retiring Mayor

The report of the retiring Town Mayor, Cllr Jason Slaymaker, was given and covered the following highlights:

- Cllr Slaymaker thanked his charities for giving him the opportunity to work alongside them; OYAP, Nai's House, Bicester Fire Cadets and Alexandra House of Joy.
- One of the memorable highlights of his Mayoral year was bestowing the Freedom of the Town to DEMS Training Regiment, quoting "it was a great privilege which demonstrates the Town Council's commitment to continuing to build its strong links with our armed forces".
- A garden party was held in September 2019 where funds were raised for the Mayor's charities.
- Remembrance Day Service also took place virtually, Cllr Slaymaker thanked the Town Council staff and St Edburges Church for organising this in challenging circumstances and was grateful that he was able to lay a wreath on behalf of the Town Council.
- Thanks was given to St Edburges Church, for his Civic Service which had a modern twist to reflect his year championing young people.
- In December 2019 pressing the red button to switch the Christmas Lights on was a dream come true! and being asked to open the St Edburg's Christmas Tree Festival was an honour for the Cllr Slaymaker.
- The Charity Ball was the last event he was physically able to attend before the first lockdown, thanks were given to all those that attended during an unnerving time.
- In May 2020 VE Day was held virtually due to the lockdown restrictions, the Town Council events team pulled off a spectacular programme of virtual events and the Town's community spirit came alive to commemorate the occasion.
- Though lockdown, the Mayor was fortunate enough to open a new shop in Home At 96 Sheep Street, this was welcome news for the town centre.
- Just recently the Mayor visited the vaccination centre at Bicester Heritage and was astounded to learn the amount of residents volunteering and staff from the local surgeries.
- Cllr Slaymaker thanked all the Town Council Staff, his family, fellow councillors and the residents of the town for all their support.

4. 004/2122 Vote of Thanks to Retiring Mayor

A vote of thanks was given to the outgoing Mayor, Cllr Jason Slaymaker by Cllr Nick Mawer as follows:

"That whereas Councillor Jason Slaymaker was elected Mayor of the Bicester Town Council for the year 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 at the meeting of the Council held on Monday 13th May 2019.

And whereas by his unswerving devotion to his duties, he has maintained the dignity and honour of such an office;

And whereas the Council is desirous of expressing and recording grateful thanks to Councillor Jason Slaymaker for the dedicated service which he has so willingly and freely given to the town during this year of office.

Be it now **RESOLVED** That the Council do remember and record its gratitude to Councillor Jason Slaymaker in the minutes of the proceedings of the Council held this day, 17th May 2021, and that this resolution be engrossed, sealed and presented in a suitable form by the Mayor and the Service Manager on behalf of this Council."

5. 005/2122 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED that apologies were received from Samantha Shippen, Chief Officer.

6. 006/2122 Declarations of Acceptance of Office

This item was withdrawn as all Councillors had signed prior to the meeting.

7. 007/2122 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED that no declarations of interest were received.

8. 008/2122 Minutes of the Town Council Meeting

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the following meeting:

BTC08/2021 Monday 8th March 2021

9. 009/2021 Public Session

There were no questions from the public.

10. 010/2021 Appointment of Mayor's Cadet

RESOLVED that ATC Cadet Jack Tynan of the 2507 (Bicester) Squadron ATC be appointed as the Mayor's Cadet for the forthcoming municipal year 2021/2022. The Mayor's Cadet shield was presented to him by the Town Mayor, Cllr Nicholas Mawer.

11. 011/2021 Appointment of Committees

The Chairman of Policy Committee, Cllr Richard Mould, reported that Cllr Robert Nixon had resigned with immediate effect as a Bicester Town Councillor (East Ward).

RESOLVED that the Committee **AGREED** the following recommendations:

1. **AGREE** that ten members be **APPOINTED** to the Policy Committee for 2021/22;
2. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors D Hallett, N Mawer, Z McLernon, D Sames, L Sibley, J Slaymaker, A Thrupp, F Webster as members of the Policy Committee 2021/22.
3. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors N Cotter, J Metcalfe, H Knight, S Dallimore as substitute members of the Policy Committee for 2021/22.
4. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillor R Mould as the Chairman of Policy Committee for 2021/22 and Councillor L Pratt as Vice Chairman;
5. **AGREE** that ten members be **APPOINTED** to the Environment Committee for 2021/22.

6. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors N Mawer, R Mould, L Pratt,
7. L Sibley, J Slaymaker, D Hallett, H Knight as members of the Environment Committee for 2021/22.
8. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors D Sames, J Metcalfe, S Dallimore, N Cotter, A Thrupp as substitute members of the Environment Committee for 2021/22.
9. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors J Slaymaker as the Chairman of Environment Committee for 2021/22 and Councillor Zoe McLernon as Vice Chairman.
10. **AGREE** that ten members be **APPOINTED** to the Finance Committee for 2021/22;
11. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors N Cotter, N Mawer, L Pratt, L Sibley, J Slaymaker, D Hallett, F Webster, Z McLernon as members of the Finance Committee for 2021/22.
12. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors D Sames, J Metcalf, H Knight, S Dallimore as substitute members of the Finance Committee for 2021/22.
13. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillor A Thrupp as Chairman of Finance Committee for 2021/22 and Councillor Richard Mould as Vice Chairman.
14. **AGREE** that 12 members be **APPOINTED** to the Planning Committee for 2021/22;
15. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors N Cotter, D Hallett, H Knight, Z McLernon, J Metcalf, S Dallimore, L Sibley, J Slaymaker, A Thrupp, F Webster as members for the Planning Committee for 2021/22.
16. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors R Mould and D Sames as substitute members of the Planning Committee for 2021/22.
17. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillor N Mawer as Chairman and L Pratt as Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee for 2021/22.
18. **AGREE** that six members be **APPOINTED** to the Personnel Sub Committee for 2021/22;
19. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors N Mawer, D Hallett, L Sibley,
20. A Thrupp as members for the Personnel Sub Committee for 2021/22.
21. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillor Z McLernon as the Chairman of Personnel Sub Committee and Councillor Richard Mould as Vice Chairman.
22. **AGREE** that 5 members be appointed to the Appeals Panel with 3 members in attendance to form a quorum.
23. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors L Pratt, N Cotter, F Webster, J Metcalf, D Sames, Sandy Dallimore as members for the Appeals Panel.

12. 012/2122 Working Parties and Task & Finish Groups

RESOLVED that the Council **AGREED** the following recommendations:

1. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors R Mould, Z McLernon, D Sames as members of the Traffic Advisory Group for 2021/22.
2. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors J Slaymaker, L Pratt, R Mould, L Sibley, A Thrupp, H Knight as members for the Events Working Party for 2021/22.
3. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors J Slaymaker, D Hallett as members for the Allotment Working Party for 2021/22.
4. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors R Mould, D Sames, L Pratt for the Task and Finish Standing Orders Group for 2021/22.
5. **APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** of Councillors R Mould, L Pratt, L Sibley for the Task and Finish Assets Group for 2021/22.
6. **AGREE** to appoint the Chairman and vice Chairman for each working party at the first meeting of each.

13.013/2122 Representatives to Outside Bodies

RESOLVED that Council **AGREED** the following recommendation:

- 1. APPROVE** the arrangements and reporting back on representation on outside bodies in accordance with Council policy;
- 2. APPROVE** the **APPOINTMENT** to Outside bodies for 2021/22 as follows:
 - Bicester Vision – Chairman of Policy
 - Bicester Twinning – Councillors N Mawer, L Pratt, Z McLernon
 - Strategic Delivery Board – Councillors N Mawer, R Mould
 - FEEOFFEE – Councillors R Mould, L Pratt
 - Bicester Fairtrade Committee – L Pratt
 - Lady Jersey Trust – Councillor N Mawer
 - Bicester Foodbank - *To be decided at the next Policy Committee*
 - Bicester & District Chamber of Commerce – Councillor R Mould

14.014/2122 General Power of Competence

RESOLVED that members **AGREED** the Council meets the conditions of eligibility to exercise the General Power of Competence in accordance with The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 Article 2; that at least 2/3 of councillors have been elected at the ordinary elections; and the clerk (Chief Officer) holds a relevant qualification (Certificate in Local Council Administration).

15. 015/2122 Calendar of Meetings 2021/22

RESOLVED the calendar of meetings for 2021/22 be **NOTED**.

16. 016/2122 Meeting Attendance Register 2020/21

RESOLVED the councillors Attendance Register 2020/21 be **NOTED**.

17. 017/2122 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 21st June 2021 – 7pm - Venue to be confirmed

Meeting closed: 7.40pm