

## **MORPETH TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting & Mayor Making Ceremony of the Town Council held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in the Ballroom of the Town Hall, Morpeth**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** D Bawn - Mayor  
B Bawn  
A Byard  
A Cochrane  
J Clayton (arriving at 6:09pm)  
J Crawford  
R Hogg  
E Lawson  
J Richardson  
E Skinner  
R Wearmouth

**Clerks:**

Mrs T Bell  
Mrs J Wilson  
Miss K Carter

**Absent Councillors:**

M Greveson - Holiday  
H Hall - Holiday  
S Peacock - Holiday  
J Wearmouth - Business

62 members of the public were also in attendance.

### **Welcome**

The Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and expressing how much he had enjoyed his two years in office. Thanks were given to Morpeth Town Council (MTC) Councillors, staff, his consort, Betty Bawn and his Chaplain, Rev. Simon White, and to the Deputy Mayor, Rachael Hogg, for their support.

The Mayor was pleased to announce that he has raised £25,729.53 throughout his two years in office for Contact Morpeth Mental Health.

### **01/22 Election of Mayor of Morpeth Town for the Year 2022/2023**

Proposals for Mayor for the forthcoming year were invited.

Councillor Byard was proposed by Councillor D Bawn and seconded by Councillor Cochrane.

A vote was taken, 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention. Congratulations were extended to Councillor Byard.

The Mayor announced that her Escort for the year will be Mr Steve Byard and the Mayor's Chaplain will be the Rev. Anthony Oakley.

The Mayor announced that her charity fundraising this year would support a different charitable group for each event.

**02/22 Election of Deputy Mayor of Morpeth Town for the Year 2022/2023**

The Mayor invited proposals for Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Crawford was proposed by Councillor Byard and seconded by Councillor D Bawn.

A vote was taken: 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstention.

Congratulations were extended to Councillor Crawford.

**03/22 Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman received no declarations of interest on this occasion.

**04/22 Membership of Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies**

Members were requested to approve the membership of the Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies and the Chair and Vice-Chair of each committee.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) The membership of all committees, and Chairs and Vice-Chairs were unanimously agreed.

**06/22 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Members were asked to approve the above minutes.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) The above minutes of Full Council be approved and signed as a correct record by the chair.

**07/22 Meeting Timetable**

Members were asked to approve the 2022/23 Meeting Timetable.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) The meeting schedule was unanimously approved.

**08/22**    **Internal Audit**

Members were provided for information with a letter from the internal auditor following completion of the internal audit.

The Clerk gave an overview of the role of the Internal Auditor.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) Information duly noted.
- (ii) The Internal Audit report was unanimously approved.

**09/22**    **Annual Governance and Accountability Return – 2021/22**

The Clerk introduced the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/22 for approval.

(a) Members were asked to approve the Annual Governance Statement.

A vote was taken: 11 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

(b) Members were asked to approve the Annual Accounting Statements.

A vote was taken: 11 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

**RESOLVED**

- (i) To approve the Annual Governance Statement (Section1).
- (ii) To approve the Annual Accounting Statement (Section2).

**10/22**    **General Power of Competence**

Members were asked to approve the ongoing eligibility to use of the General Power of Competence as per the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and Localism Act 2011, on the basis that both the Clerk and holds the mandatory Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification and that more than 2/3 of the Council has stood for election in May 2021.

A vote was taken: 11 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstention

**RESOLVED**

- (i) Members approved the ongoing eligibility to use the General Power of Competence.

**11/22**    **Standing Orders**

Members were asked to approve the updated Standing Orders, including the Scheme of Delegation.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) Standing Orders were unanimously approved.

**12/22 Financial Standing Orders**

Members were asked to approve the updated Financial Standing Orders.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) Financial Standing Orders were unanimously approved.

The meeting concluded at 6:34pm with Councillors B Bawn, D Bawn, A Byard, A Cochrane, J Crawford, J Clayton, R Hogg, E Lawson, J Richardson, E Skinner, and R Wearmouth.