

## **MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE ON 20 MAY 2017**

**Present:** Councillor Butler (The Mayor) and Councillors Adkinson, Barned, Mrs Blackmore, Boughton, Brice, D Burton, M Burton, Clark, Cox, Cuming, Daley, English, Fermor, Fissenden, Fort, Garland, Garten, Mrs Gooch, Greer, Mrs Grigg, Harper, Harvey, Harwood, Hastie, Hemsley, Mrs Hinder, Mrs Joy, Lewins, McLoughlin, B Mortimer, D Mortimer, Munford, Naghi, Newton, Perry, Pickett, Powell, Prendergast, Mrs Ring, Mrs Robertson, Round, J Sams, T Sams, Spooner, Springett, Mrs Stockell, Vizzard, Webb, Webster, de Wiggondene, Wilby, Willis and Mrs Wilson

1. **PRAYERS**

Prayers were said by the Reverend Ian Parrish. During the prayers, the Council observed a minute's silence in memory of Mr Daniel Moriarty, a former Mayor of the Borough of Maidstone, and Mrs Christine Ash, a former Mayoress, both of whom had died recently.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Ells.

3. **DISPENSATIONS**

There were no applications for dispensations.

4. **DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

There were no disclosures by Members or Officers.

5. **DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING**

There were no disclosures of lobbying.

6. **ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR**

It was moved by Councillor Garland, seconded by Councillor Daley, supported by Councillors Mrs Gooch, Barned and Harper, and

**RESOLVED:** That Malcolm Frank Greer, a Councillor of the Borough, be duly elected Mayor of the Borough of Maidstone until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

Councillor Greer then made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was duly witnessed in accordance with Section 83(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**\*\*THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR GREER) IN THE CHAIR\*\***

7. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MAYOR

The Mayor received congratulations on his election from scholars representing schools as follows:

Kristian Szwedziuk	Maidstone Grammar School
Steph Gunner	Maidstone Grammar School for Girls

8. THE RETIRING MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Blackmore, seconded by Councillor Naghi, supported by Councillors Mrs Gooch, Powell and Harper, and

**RESOLVED:** That the hearty thanks of this Council be given to Councillor Derek Butler and Mrs Mary Butler for the admirable discharge of their duties as Mayor and Mayoress during the past year, and for their courteous approach to all sections of the community.

9. EXEMPT ITEMS

**RESOLVED:** That the items on the agenda be taken in public as proposed.

10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON 12 APRIL 2017

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Borough Council held on 12 April 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed.

11. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor English, seconded by Councillor Butler, supported by Councillors Mrs Gooch, Newton and Adkinson, and

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor David Sandru Naghi be duly appointed Deputy Mayor for the Borough of Maidstone until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

12. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Denis Spooner to his first meeting of the Council following his success in the Bearsted Ward by-election.

The Mayor and Councillors Mrs Gooch, Perry, Mrs Wilson, Powell and Harper then paid tribute, on behalf of their respective Political Groups, to Mr Daniel Moriarty and Mrs Christine Ash who had died recently.

Councillor Brice took the opportunity to thank all those involved in the organisation of the Annual Meeting, the Civic and Freedom Parade and the Civic Service.

13. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Cox, seconded by Councillor Harwood, that Councillor Mrs Wilson be elected as the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Blackmore, seconded by Councillor Boughton, that Councillor Perry be elected as the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mrs Wilson be elected as the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

14. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Joy, seconded by Councillor B Mortimer, that Councillor Mrs Gooch be appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

It was moved by Councillor Powell, seconded by Councillor Garland, that Councillor Barned be appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mrs Gooch be appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2018.

15. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

In accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council considered the allocation of seats to each Political Group in relation to its various Committees.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the allocation of seats on Committees be as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Head of Policy and Communications.

**RESOLVED:** That the allocation of seats on Committees be as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Head of Policy and Communications.

16. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

In accordance with Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council considered the appointments to its Committees and Substitutes.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointments to Committees and Substitutes be accepted.

**RESOLVED:** That the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointments to Committees and Substitutes be accepted.

17. ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION INCLUDING THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION AND RECENT UPDATES

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the Constitution, including the Scheme of Delegation and recent updates, be adopted.

**RESOLVED:** That the Constitution, including the Scheme of Delegation and recent updates, be adopted.

To view the Constitution adopted with effect from 20 May 2017, please follow the link below:

[http://www.maidstone.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/9538/Constitution-11-May-2017.pdf](http://www.maidstone.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/9538/Constitution-11-May-2017.pdf)

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL ACTING AS CORPORATE TRUSTEE OF THE CHARITY KNOWN AS THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE**

18. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE CHARITY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1

**RESOLVED:** That the allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1

19. APPOINTMENT OF THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE CHARITY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be accepted.

**RESOLVED:** That the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be accepted.

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL ACTING AS CORPORATE TRUSTEE OF THE QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT MUSEUM TRUST**

20. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON THE QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT MUSEUM TRUST COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the allocation of seats on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
UKIP	1

**RESOLVED:** That the allocation of seats on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
UKIP	1

21. APPOINTMENT OF THE QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT MUSEUM TRUST COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Perry, that the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be accepted.

**RESOLVED:** That the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be accepted.

22. DURATION OF MEETING

9.30 a.m. to 11.15 a.m.