

Council
23 May 2016

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting of the COUNCIL held on Monday, 23rd May, 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Hawthorne Theatre - Campus West, Welwyn Garden City

PRESENT: Councillors L Sparks (Mayor)
P Mabbott (Deputy Mayor)

T Bailey, R Basch, J Beckerman, H Beckett, D Bell,
M Birleson, D Bennett, J Boulton, S Boulton, H Bower,
J Broach, H Bromley, A Chesterman, L Chesterman,
M Cook, M Cowan, J Cragg, I Dean, J Dean,
J Fitzpatrick, C Gillett, G Hayes, M Holloway,
K Holman, S Johnston, T Kingsbury, M Larkins,
M Levitt, S Markiewicz, G Michaelides, N Pace,
M Perkins, H Quenet, S Roberts, B Sarson, P Shah,
M Spinks, F Thomson, K Thorpe, R Trigg, J Weston
and P Zukowskyj

OFFICIALS
PRESENT:

Chief Executive (M.Saminaden)
Director (Governance) (B.Baldock)
Governance Services Manager (G.Seal)
Governance Services Officer (M. Lowe)
Mayor and Members' Support Officer (S.Houghton)

The Council was led in prayers by the Right Reverend
Bishop Paul McAleenan.

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of the Mayor of the Borough of Welwyn Hatfield for the Municipal Year 2016/17. It was moved by Councillor H Bromley and seconded by Councillor B Sarson that Councillor P Mabbott be elected. The retiring Mayor then asked if there were any other nominations. There being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor P Mabbott be elected Mayor of the Borough of Welwyn Hatfield for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

The Council, in partnership with Serco, hosted a Civic Awards Scheme. Awards were presented to people living in the Borough for extraordinary commitment, dedication, energy and effort in their field or towards achieving a particular goal.

The retiring Mayor presented the following awards for 2016/17 -

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- Harry Broadbent in recognition of the work he had undertaken for the residents of Peartree Close, Welwyn Garden City
- Mrs Joan Lawrence in recognition of the work she had undertaken at the Birchwood Old People's Club in Hatfield

The retiring Mayor invited Phil Braggiotti, Serco Local Government, to present their award for Environmental Services to Michael Izzard in recognition of the work he had undertaken transforming the Alban Way and Nast Hyde Halt station.

The retiring Mayor invited Geraldine Ward, Dean of Students, to present the University of Hertfordshire young person award to Mardan Sajjad in recognition of the work he had undertaken as a resident representative.

The retiring Mayor then presented the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Awards 2016. The Awards were to support young people to get started, improve and excel in sport, art dance or drama and could be used to cover expenses such as equipment, coaching, travel or fees essential to their progress –

Callum Nicolson	-	Athletics
Calvin De Villiers	-	Athletics
Ellie-Mae Bandy	-	Athletics
Sophie Julian	-	Athletics
Sophie Segun	-	Athletics
Lavigne Leung	-	Badminton
Opeoluwa Afolabi	-	Basketball
Ellen Day	-	Football
Aaron Froget	-	Music/Dance/Drama
Charlotte Cox	-	Netball
Arabella Moen	-	Tennis

The retiring Mayor reported that she had raised £10,200 for the Mayor's charities during her year of office. This would be split between her two charities: Resolve, and the local branch of the Rheumatoid Arthritis Society. The Mayor presented the cheques to the representatives of the charities.

The retiring Mayor presented her husband Ian with a model plane as a token of the Council's appreciation of his service as Consort and their daughter Myfanwy with a basket of flowers for accompanying her to events.

The retiring Mayor thanked Councillor P Mabbott as her Deputy for her support during the year and presented her with flowers.

Councillor L Sparks then vacated the Chair which was taken by Councillor P. Mabbott.

Councillor P Mabbott made the formal declaration of acceptance of office as Mayor pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

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(Councillor P Mabbott in the Chair)

Councillor P Mabbott expressed appreciation of the honour bestowed upon her by the Council in electing her as Mayor and announced that Mr A Franey would be acting as her Consort during 2016/17.

On behalf of the Council, Councillor P Mabbott paid tribute to the retiring Mayor, Councillor L Sparks, for the excellent way that she had carried out her duties as the Borough's Mayor during 2015/16. She presented her with a retiring Mayor's badge as a token of the Council's appreciation of her services.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor J Dean, expressed his thanks to Councillor L Sparks for her services as Mayor of the Borough. Other Councillors also paid similar tributes to Councillor L Sparks.

2. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the appointment of the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2016/17. It was moved by Councillor D Bell and seconded by Councillor I Dean that Councillor L Sparks be elected. The Mayor, Councillor P Mabbott, then asked if there were any other nominations. There being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor L Sparks be appointed Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

Councillor L Sparks made the formal declaration of acceptance of office as Deputy Mayor pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Brandon, B Fitzsimon, H Morgan and N Taylor.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25 April 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Mayor's Charity

The Mayor announced that her charity for 2016/17 would be Hertfordshire Action on Disability.

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b. Civic and Charity Events

The Mayor announced that her first charity event would be a garden party for the Queen's 90th Birthday on Saturday 2 July at 3 p.m. at the Mill Green Mill and Museum. Tickets were priced at £15 and would be on sale from the Mayor's office.

c. Retiring Councillors

On behalf of the Council the Mayor expressed her thanks to retiring Members who either did not stand or had lost their seats in the recent election.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor J Dean and the Leader of the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor K Thorpe also expressed their thanks to retiring Members.

6. ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES AND ON MEMBER DEVELOPMENT 2015/16

The annual reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for 2015/16 and the Annual Report on Member Development were submitted. It was

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with Article 6.3(c) of the Constitution the annual reports on the work and future work programmes of the Environment, Resources and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Annual Report on Member Development be noted.

7. APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, CABINET, LEAD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES 2016/17

The Mayor called upon the Council to appoint Councillor J Dean as Leader of the Council following his re-election and new term of office as a Councillor.

It was proposed by Councillor M Perkins, seconded by Councillor T Kingsbury and

RESOLVED

That Councillor J Dean be appointed as Leader of the Council.

The Mayor then asked that the Council note the appointments made by Councillor J Dean as Leader of the Council of the Cabinet and Administration Lead Members.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Dean, seconded by Councillor M Perkins and

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RESOLVED

- (1) That the appointment of the Cabinet and Administration Lead Members by the Leader as set out in Appendix A to the Agenda be noted.
- (2) That the membership of the non-executive Committees with their respective Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen as set out in Appendix A to the Agenda be confirmed.

(Note: A copy of Appendix A is reproduced in the official Minute Book).

8. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Mayor called on the Council to confirm the appointments to the non-executive outside bodies as shown in Appendix B to the Agenda. As there were more nominations than places for appointments, with the exception of one school governing body, votes were taken.

The Conservative Group nominees received the most votes and it was

RESOLVED

That the Conservative Group (C) nominees shown in Appendix B to the Agenda be appointed to serve as the Council's representatives on outside bodies indicated.

(Note: A copy of Appendix B is reproduced in the official Minute Book).

9. ATTENDANCES

The attendances by Councillors at meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Panels during the Municipal Year 2015/16, were set out in Appendix C to the Agenda.

RESOLVED

That the list showing the number of attendances by Councillors at meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Panels during the Municipal Year 2015/16 as set out in Appendix C to the Agenda be received.

(Note: A copy of Appendix C is reproduced in the official Minute Book).

10. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2016/17

The dates of meetings for the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Cabinet Panels for the Municipal Year 2016/17 were set out in Appendix D to the Agenda.

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RESOLVED

That the dates of meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Cabinet Panels for the Municipal Year 2016/17 be approved.

(Note: A copy of Appendix D is reproduced in the official Minute Book).

Meeting ended 8.25 p.m.
RB