

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR BRIAN ESSEX

MINUTES OF: THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL AND SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO CONFER THE TITLE HONORARY ALDERMAN

Date of Meeting: 17th May 2013

**PRESENT: The Mayor Councillor Essex (in the Chair)
Councillors Aldred, Ashworth, Barnes, Bleakley, Cheetham, Creaser, De Souza, Evans, Farrington, Fletcher, Gill, Hughes, Jackson, Knowles, Lamb, McInnes, MacNae, Marriott, Milling, Morris, Neal, Oakes, Pilling, Procter, Roberts, Robertson, Sandiford, Serridge, Shipley and D.Smith.**

**IN ATTENDANCE: Helen Lockwood, Chief Executive
Stuart Sugarman, Director of Business
Fiona Meechan, Director of Customers and Communities
Carolyn Sharples, Committee and Member Services Officer
Elaine Craven, Civic Services Officer and Leader's Personal Assistant
Bernard Gwin, Mayor's Attendant**

**ALSO PRESENT: 1 representative of the press
56 members of the public and invited guests**

CIVIC MATTERS

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Mayor for the Municipal Year 2013/2014. Councillor Amanda Robertson was proposed by Councillor Lamb and seconded by Councillor Sandiford.

Resolved:

That Councillor Amanda Robertson be appointed as the Mayor for the Municipal Year 2013/2014.

NB: The New Mayor, Councillor Amanda Robertson, chaired the meeting from this point forward.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2013/2014. Councillor Thomas Aldred was proposed by Councillor Barnes and seconded by Councillor Neal.

Resolved:

That Councillor Thomas Aldred be appointed as the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2013/2014.

3. PRESENTATION AND VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR, AND MAYORESS

Councillor Evans moved the vote of thanks and spoke in relation to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, seconded by Councillor Barnes, to which Councillor Essex responded.

Resolved:

That the grateful thanks of this Council be offered to Councillor Brian Essex and Mrs Jackie Sumerfield for the excellent manner in which they have fulfilled their duties as Mayor and Mayoress.

4. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MINI MAYOR

Councillor Essex, the retiring Mayor, thanked Samuel Turner, the retiring Mini Mayor, for the work he had done during 2012 to 2013.

BUSINESS MATTERS

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Crawforth, Eaton, Kenyon, M. Smith, and Wilkinson.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20th March 2013 be signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

7. URGENT ITEMS

The Mayor reported that there were no urgent items of business.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, THE LEADER OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE

There were no communications to report.

10. CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

Members considered the report of the Director of Business (Monitoring Officer) on the adoption of the Constitution of the Council.

Resolved:

That the Council adopts the Constitution for the 2013/14 Municipal Year.

11. POLITICAL BALANCE, COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES FOR 2013/14

Members considered the report of the Chief Executive on the size of and appointments to Committees; the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees; the allocation of seats to the Political Groups, and appointments to Outside Bodies of the Council for the year.

In response to a question regarding the appointment of Independent Persons to the Standards Panel, the Director of Business clarified that the Council has only one Independent Person at present, even though the Council is able to appoint up to three.

Resolved:

That the Council confirm appointments proposed by the various political groups as set out in the following appendices:

- Appendix A - Draft political balance calculation
- Appendix B - Draft Committees of the Council, Working Groups, other meetings and Member Champions
- Appendix C - Draft representatives on outside bodies

SPECIAL MEETING ITEMS

12. RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Mayor presented a special achievement award to Robert Joseph Holden from Rossendale who took part in the alpine skiing events at the Special Olympics in the Republic of Korea earlier this year. Robert gained one gold and two silver medals for Great Britain at the World Winter Games PyeongChang.

13. HONORARY ALDERMEN

In accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council considered nominations to receive the title of Honorary Alderman in recognition of eminent service to the Borough.

Councillor Cheetham proposed Mr William Challinor, seconded by Councillor Lamb. Councillor Serridge proposed Mrs Eileen Mary Kershaw, seconded by Councillor Evans.

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred on the following individuals in recognition of their service and dedication to the local community as a Councillor for the Borough of Rossendale:

- Mr William Challinor
- Mrs Eileen Mary Kershaw

(The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.50pm)

_____ CHAIR