

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Wellington Town Council held in the United Reformed Church Hall, Fore Street, Wellington on Monday 13 May 2019 at 6.35pm

PRESENT: Councillor J Lloyd (Mayor)
Councillors M Barr, C Booth, A Govier, J Hunt, M Lithgow, M McGuffie, J Thorne, N Smith and V Stock-Williams

Gill Croucher (Assistant Clerk)

There were 10 members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor W Battishill and the Town Clerk, Kathryn Hemensley

2. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR FOR 2019/2020

The Assistant Clerk reported that a nomination, properly proposed and seconded and endorsed by the candidate, had been received in accordance with Standing Order 5(e) on behalf of Councillor Janet Lloyd for the election for the office of Mayor. It was **resolved** that Councillor Janet Lloyd be elected as Mayor for 2019/20. Councillor Lloyd thanked Councillors for giving her the opportunity to undertake the role in the forthcoming year and signed the declaration of acceptance of office. She thanked the outgoing Mayor, Councillor James, who had been well supported by the Mayoress, Bee, for the conscientious way in which he had carried out his duties throughout a very busy year.

On the motion of Councillor Govier, seconded by Councillor Stock-Williams, it was unanimously **resolved** that the best thanks of the Council be accorded to Councillor Gary James for the excellent manner in which he had discharged the duties of the office of Mayor of the town during his term of office.

The Mayor presented Councillor James with his Past Mayor's Badge.

3. ELECTION A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2019/2020

The Assistant Clerk reported that a nomination, properly proposed and seconded and endorsed by the candidate, had been received in accordance with Standing Order 5 (e) on behalf of Councillor Mark Lithgow for the election for the office of Deputy Mayor. It was **resolved** that Councillor Mark Lithgow be elected as Deputy Mayor for 2019/20.

4. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO VACANT COUNCIL SEATS

There were 3 unfilled seats on the Town Council following the elections on 2 May, one in Wellington East Ward and 2 in Wellington South Ward. As a high number of applications had been received the Council **resolved** to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting on 20 May for co-option purposes.

5. TO RATIONALISE EXISTING COMMITTEES AND ELECT MEMBERSHIP

The Town Clerk proposed to rationalise some of the Council's existing committees.

It was **resolved** that the Footpaths Committee and Environment Committee merge to become the **Environment and Open Spaces Committee**; the Emergency Committee and Community Safety Committee merge to become the **Community Safety Committee**; and the Staffing and Training Committee be renamed **Staffing and Resources Committee**.

The following committees were elected:

(a) Finance Committee - 9 members: Councillors Barr, Govier, Lithgow, Lloyd, Stock-Williams and Thorne plus 3 vacancies

(b) Environment and Open Spaces Committee - 6 Members: Councillors Lithgow, Lloyd, McGuffie, Smith and Stock-Williams plus 1 vacancy

(c) Community Safety Committee – 5 members: Councillors Booth, Govier, Hunt and Stock-Williams plus 1 vacancy

(d) Staffing and Resources Committee – 8 members: Councillors Barr, Govier, Lithgow, Lloyd, Smith, Stock-Williams and Thorne plus 1 vacancy

(e) Allotments Committee – 6 members: Councillors Booth, Hunt, Lloyd, McGuffie and Stock-Williams plus 1 vacancy

(f) Town Centre Working Group – 5 members: Councillor Lithgow plus 4 vacancies

(g) Neighbourhood Plan/Parish Plan Working Party – 8 members: Councillors Barr, Govier, Lithgow, Lloyd, Stock-Williams and Thorne plus 2 vacancies

(h) Playing Pitch Strategy Working Party
Membership is open to all councillors

6. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The following councillors were elected to outside bodies on which the Council was represented:

WELLINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION (2 members)
Councillor Stock-Williams

WELLINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (1 member)
Councillor Lithgow

SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (2 members)
Councillors Lithgow and Lloyd

HOSPITAL OF SIR JOHN POPHAM KNIGHT (3 members)
Councillor Stock-Williams

WELLINGTON IN BLOOM COMMITTEE (1 member)
Councillor Stock-Williams

FRIENDS OF WELLINGTON PARK (1 member)
Councillor Lithgow

WELLINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (1 member)
Councillor Lithgow

WELLINGTON MUSEUM AND LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY COMMITTEE

(1 member)
Councillor Hunt

DEVON AND SOMERSET METRO GROUP (1 member)

Councillor Barr

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNOR AT WELLINGTON SCHOOL

(This appointment was deferred)

WELLINGTON ONE (2 members)

Councillors Lithgow and Stock-Williams

**5. RENEWAL OF THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS
COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET
SOCIETY FOR LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS**

The meeting ended at 6.50pm

.....
Councillor Janet Lloyd
Mayor