



**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE  
ANNUAL MEETING AND MAYOR MAKING CEREMONY  
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL ON  
THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

**Meeting Commenced:** 5.00 pm

**Meeting Concluded:** 5.43 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors Ciaran Cronnelly (Town Mayor), Ray Armstrong, Joe Bambridge, Roger Bailey, Mike Bell, Gill Bute, Mark Canniford, John Carson, Annabelle Chard, James Clayton, Jemma Coles, Peter Crew, John Crockford-Hawley, Catherine Gibbons, Simon Harrison-Morse, Hugh Malyan, Robert Payne, Justyna Pecak-Michalowicz, Marcia Pepperall, Caroline Reynolds, Robert Skeen, John Standfield, Timothy Taylor, Richard Tucker, and Martin Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sarah Pearse (Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk - Operational Services), Samantha Bishop (Committee Officer / Office Manager), Rebecca Saunders (Civic & Committee Officer), Becky Walsh (Communications and Marketing Officer), Keith Harris (Macebearer), Rev. Peter Ashman (Mayor's Chaplain), Daniel Stuckey (Retiring Mayor's Cadet), Mayor's Cadet (Army Cadet Force) Cadet Dean Owen, Chaplain's Cadet (Sea Cadet Corps) Cadet Harrison Fox and Deputy Mayor's Cadet (Air Training Corps) Cadet Archie Stephen, Mrs Katherine Cronnelly (Retiring Mayoress) and Amanda Lang.

The Macebearer requested that all present stand for the Mayor and Mayoress of Weston-super-Mare.

<p><b>1.</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome by the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare, Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly</b></p> <p>The Town Mayor welcomed the Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen and councillors to the Mayor Making Ceremony and Annual Meeting of the Town Council.</p> <p>In recognition and thanks for his service throughout his terms of office, the Mayor presented his retiring Cadet with a plaque.</p> <p>The Mayor had felt it an honour and a privilege to serve Weston-super-Mare and had thoroughly enjoyed his year working with the community. He had attended over 270 engagements and raised over £9575.33 for his chosen charity The Food Bank, He highlighted on particular events:</p> <p>The RNLI Freedom of the Town, exercising the 40 Commando Freedom of the Town, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hildesheim Twinning, facilitating the first Business Twinning, making waves into organising a school twinning, hosting the youth exchange after a 4year break, the Mayors Christmas Card competition, Mayors</p>
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	<p>Awards, Borough Shield and finally the Mayors Marathon.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked everybody for their support throughout his Mayoral year and in particular his Mayoress, Civic Officer, fellow Councillors, officers, community groups and volunteers.</p> <p>His closing words were to remember that positivity overrules negativity and that there were so many positive things happening in Weston which the Town Council needs to shout about.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p><b>Election of the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare</b></p> <p>The Mayor invited Councillor Mike Bell and Councillor Robert Payne to second the proposition that Councillor John Crockford-Hawley be elected the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2024/25.</p> <p>Councillors Mike Bell and Robert Payne respectively proposed and seconded Councillor John Crockford-Hawley's ascension to the office of Mayor and affirmed that they would, with pleasure, endorse the election of Councillor John Crockford-Hawley as Mayor.</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>. Accordingly, it was:</p> <p><b>UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:</b> That Councillor John Crockford-Hawley be elected the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2024/25.</p> <p>Councillor John Crockford-Hawley assented to his election.</p> <p>At the request of the retiring Mayor the Macebearer announced that there would be a short adjournment of proceedings for robing and requested that all present, rise.</p> <p>Preceded by the Mace and Macebearer, the retiring Mayor (Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly), and Mayoress (Katherine Cronnelly), the Mayor (Councillor John Crockford-Hawley) and the Town Clerk (Sarah Pearse) adjourned from the meeting, returning to the Council Chamber when robing had been completed.</p> <p>The new Town Mayor, Councillor John Crockford-Hawley, took his seat.</p> <p>The Mayor, at the request of the Town Clerk proceeded to read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2024/25, signing the document and returning thanks for his election to office.</p> <p>The Mayor returned thanks for his election to office.</p> <p>The Mayor invited Councillors Alan Peak to propose and James Clayton to second a vote of thanks to the retiring Town Mayor and Mayoress.</p> <p>The Mayor then invited the retiring Mayor and Mayoress of Weston-super-Mare to come forward to accept jewels to mark the Town Council's appreciation of their services during their term of office 2024/25.</p>

<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>To receive Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Thornton, Marcia Pepperall and Marc Aplin.</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Election of the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare 2024/25</b></p> <p>The Mayor invited Councillor Gill Bute to propose and Councillor Lisa Pilgrim to second the proposition that Councillor Martin Williams be elected the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2024/25.</p> <p>Councillors Gill Bute and Lisa Pilgrim respectively proposed and seconded Councillor Martin Williams’s ascension to the office of Deputy Mayor.</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>. Accordingly, it was:</p> <p><b>UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:</b> That Councillor Martin Williams be elected the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2024/25.</p> <p>At the request of the Mayor, the Macebearer announced that there would be a short adjournment of proceedings for robing and requested that all present rise.</p> <p>Preceded by the Macebearer, the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Martin Williams), Deputy Mayoress (Mrs Brenda Charles) and the Town Clerk (Sarah Pearse) adjourned from the meeting, returning to the Council Chamber when robing had been completed.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor, at the request of the Town Clerk, proceeded to read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the 2024/25, signing the document.</p> <p>The Mayor announced the appointment of his Chaplain, Reverend Peter Ashman and presented him with a stole of office.</p> <p>The Mayor appointed his cadet Mayor’s Cadet (Army Cadet Force) Cadet Dean Owen, Chaplain’s Cadet (Sea Cadet Corps) Cadet Harrison Fox and Deputy Mayor’s Cadet (Air Training Corps) Cadet Archie Stephen all receiving Badges of Appointment depicting the Town’s armorial bearings.</p> <p>The Mayor invited Amanda Lang to present the first Brigadier Lang Award to Daniel Stuckey the retiring Mayor’s Cadet.</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>To approve the accuracy of the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor Alan Peak  <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor James Clayton</p>

	<p>A vote was taken and accordingly it was <b>carried</b>.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes be approved.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Election of Leader and Deputy Leader of the Town Council</b></p> <p>The proposition to elect the Leader of the Town Council for 2024/2025 was put to council.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor Alan Peak  <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor James Clayton</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly be appointed Leader of the Town Council for 202/25.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Review of Committee Structure, Membership and Standing Order to include Terms of Reference</b></p> <p><b>.1 Background with regards to Current Structure</b>  The report of the Town Clerk had been previously circulated to members.</p> <p>The councils current committee structure has been under review since January 2023 via the councils Expenditure and Governance Working Party and Policy &amp; Finance Committee. Within this review there was resolution to bring future proposals to this meeting for adoption, however, the review has not yet been concluded.</p> <p>As a result of the ongoing committee review process there was a need to facilitate the <u>existing</u> committee structure and appoint members to this existing structure allowing councils business to continue up until any formal change has been resolved by council.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>. Accordingly, it was:</p> <p><b>.1 RESOLVED:</b> That the report of the Town Clerk be approved</p> <p><b>.2 Appointment of Town Councilor’s to Committees, Sub Committees, Working Parties and External Organisations according to the existing Committee Structure</b></p> <p>Members action was required to:</p> <p>To approve the existing committee structure for use in the interim period until a formal review had been concluded and approved as attached in Appendix A and to approve the committee membership for the existing committee structure attached in Appendix B, which had both been previously circulated to members.</p> <p>The following changes were advised:</p> <p>That Councillor Catherine Gibbons will replace Alan Peak as Armed Forces Champion and that Owen James replace Charlie Williams on the Birnbeck Regeneration Trust.</p>

	<p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>. Accordingly, it was:</p> <p><b>.2 RESOLVED:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To approve the existing committee structure for use in the interim period until a formal review had been concluded and approved, as attached in Appendix A.</li><li>2. That the Appointment of Town Councillors to Committees, Sub Committees, Working Parties and External Organisations for 2024/2025 as circulated in Appendix B, including the above changes, be approved.</li></ol> <p><b>.3 Proposed Structure</b></p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk with the proposed structure (not for discussion) and review of Standing Orders as attached in Appendix C, had been previously circulated to members.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>. Accordingly, it was:</p> <p><b>.3 RESOLVED:</b> To change the use of the scheduled Policy &amp; Finance Committee meeting 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to a Full Council meeting to review and conclude the Review of Committee Structure, Committee Membership and Annual review of Standing Orders and Financial regulations.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 5.43 pm</p> <p>Signed: ..... Dated: ..... Town Mayor</p>