

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING AND
MAYOR MAKING CEREMONY
HELD ON THURSDAY 21st MAY 2015
AT THE TOWN HALL**

MEETING COMMENCED: 5.00 pm

MEETING CONCLUDED: 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Roz Willis (Mayor of Weston-super-Mare), Raymond Armstrong (Deputy Mayor), Roger Bailey, James Clayton, Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, John Crockford- Hawley, Clive Darke, James Davis, Peter Fox, Catherine Gibbons, Jos Holder, Jan Holloway, Steven Kane, Michal Kus, Michael Lyall, Derek Mead, Richard Nightingale, Frederick Parsons, Robert Payne, Alan Peak, Lisa Pilgrim, Ian Porter, Len Purnell, Anita Spencer-Johns, Richard Tucker, Clive Webb and Martin Williams

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Tania Middlemiss (Assistant Town Clerk), Sarah Pearse (Responsible Financial Officer), Sam Bishop (Committee Officer), Chris Millard (Civic Officer), Zoe Scott (Community and Grounds Administrator), Keith Harris (Macebearer), Jennifer Lawley (Town Clerk's Secretary), Honoured Guests and Parishioners.

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

Welcome by the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare, Councillor Roz Willis

The Mayor welcomed all present to the Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making Ceremony and especially three Officers representing 40 Commando Royal Marines. The Freedom of the Town had been granted to 40 Commando Royal Marines in 2014.

The Town Clerk announced that the Mayor would make presentations to her Chaplain and Cadet.

The Mayor presented Cadet Sergeant Cameron Service with a Town Council Shield and personal gift after thanking him for his tremendous support throughout her term of office. He had played a crucial part in the granting of the Freedom of the Town and had guarded and handled the Charter. He was a credit to his Squadron, his family and to the Mayor's team.

In their absence the Mayor presented her Chaplain the Reverend Keith Berry-Davis and Deputy Chaplain the Reverend Stuart Boyd with a Town Council Shield and indicated her thanks to them both for their ministry throughout her term of office 2014/2015.

The Mayoress, Mrs Jos Holder, was presented with a personal gift of thanks by the Mayor in recognition of her unfailing support and friendship.

The Mayor proceeded to deliver her end of term speech.

The Mayor welcomed her Honoured Guests, Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The year began with the privilege of granting 40 Commando Royal Marines the Freedom of the Town and the Mayor conveyed her feelings of honour and overwhelming pride at being part of something so special. Weston-super-Mare was at its best that day.

The Mayor attended many engagements and held many events throughout her term of office and had been involved, seen, visited and been visited by many people and their organisations.

The Mayor's Charity Ball had raised £3,200 for local groups. Other charity events raised

	<p>£4,100 for the Mayor’s chosen charities. The Mayor’s major fundraiser was the ‘In the Pink’ dinner when the Mayor dyed her hair pink. There had been ten receptions and 47 afternoon teas, the final number of engagements totalling 395.</p> <p>The Mayor’s aim had been to bring as many people as possible to the Mayor’s Parlour. The Town Mayor was the custodian of many historical artefacts held by the Town Council but these artefacts belonged to the town’s people.</p> <p>The Civic Officer’s invaluable role was recognised by the Mayor who thanked him for his organised administration for ‘Team Mayor’. The Mayor acknowledged with humour the Civic Officer’s forbearing and her latest engagement and participation in a live Radio 1 programme “Mayor from Where”?</p> <p>The Mayor reflected with humility on the privilege of being Mayor and the humbling comments from many people and groups, thanking everyone who had been involved in her year of office for their hard work, commitment, generosity and kindness. With gratitude, the Mayor thanked her own family and the Mayoress for their support throughout and through some difficult times. It had been a wonderful opportunity with only one real regret that her fundraising had not raised as much as she had hoped but that she hoped to continue her fundraising.</p> <p>It was now time to hand over the mantle and the Mayor concluded her end of term speech with a quote from Dr Seuss “Don’t cry because it is over – smile because it happened”.</p>
	<p><i>The Mayor invited Father Andrew Hughes (incoming Chaplain) to deputise for Reverend Keith Berry-Davis to say prayers.</i></p> <p><i>The Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making Ceremony was officially opened and the Mayor invited questions and observations from parishioners present, of which there were none.</i></p>
<p>1.</p>	<p>Election of the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare 2015/2016</p> <p>The Mayor invited Councillor Michal Kus to propose and Councillor Robert Payne to second the proposition that Councillor Raymond Armstrong be elected the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2015/2016.</p> <p>Councillors Michal Kus and Robert Payne endorsed Councillor Raymond Armstrong’s ascension to Mayor of Weston-super-Mare 2015/2016. Councillor Armstrong had been on the Town Council for four years and was a committed Councillor seeking to help wherever he could. As Deputy Mayor 2014/2015 he had been a great support during the retiring Mayor’s term of office.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Michal Kus SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Payne</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Councillor Raymond Armstrong be elected the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2015/2016.</p> <p>Councillor Raymond Armstrong assented to his election.</p> <p>The Macebearer announced that there would be a short adjournment for robing and requested that all present, rise.</p>

	<p>Preceded by the Mace and Macebearer, the retiring Mayor (Councillor Roz Willis), retiring Mayoress (Councillor Jos Holder), Mayor of Weston-super-Mare (Councillor Raymond Armstrong), Mayoress (Mrs Joan Dunne) and Town Clerk (Mr Malcolm L Nicholson) adjourned for a short period and returned to the Council Chamber when robing was complete.</p> <p>The Mayor, Councillor Raymond Armstrong, took his seat.</p> <p>The Mayor signs the Declaration of Office</p> <p>The Mayor, at the request of the Town Clerk, proceeded to read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2015/2016, signing the document and returning thanks for his election to office.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked Councillors Michal Kus and Robert Payne for proposing and seconding and to all the Councillors for electing him as Mayor for 2015/16. He also thanked his predecessor Councillor Roz Willis, the Civic Officer and other staff at Grove House for their help and advice. His special thanks went to his Mayoress, Joan Dunne, who had willingly accompanied him on so many events during his office as Deputy Mayor and he hoped not to make too many errors in his role as Mayor in the year ahead 2015/16.</p> <p>The Mayor's chosen charity was to be 'Winter Warmth'.</p> <p>Vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress</p> <p>Councillor David Hitchins proposed and Councillor Lisa Pilgrim seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress.</p> <p>Despite some difficulties in the early part of her term of office due to her husband's and first Mayoress's ill health, the retiring Mayor had had an amazing year, supported by her second Mayoress, the retiring Mayoress Councillor Jos Holder, the Civic Officer and the staff. In her endeavours the retiring Mayor, Councillor Roz Willis, had promoted the best of Weston-super-Mare for which she should be very proud and she was thanked for her excellent year of office as the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare 2014/15.</p> <p>The Mayor invited the retiring Mayor and Mayoress of Weston-super-Mare to come forward to accept Town Council Shields to mark the Town Council's appreciation of their services during their term of office 2014/2015.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Peter Crew and Mark Canniford together with Reverend Keith Berry-Davis and Reverend Richard Taylor.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Election of the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare 2015/2016</p> <p>The Mayor invited Councillor Michal Kus to propose and Councillor Michael Lyall to second the proposition that Councillor Alan Peak be elected Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2015/2016.</p> <p>Councillors Michal Kus and Michael Lyall endorsed Councillor Alan Peak's ascension to Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare 2015/2016. Councillor Alan Peak was a hard-working Councillor, wanting only the best for Weston-super-Mare. He would be a good and gracious Deputy Mayor.</p>

	<p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Michal Kus SECONDED BY: Councillor Michael Lyall</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Councillor Alan Peak be elected the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the Year 2015/2016.</p> <p>Following the election, the Macebearer announced a short adjournment for robing and requested that all present, rise.</p> <p>Preceded by the Mace and Macebearer, the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Alan Peak) and Deputy Mayoress (Mrs Jacqueline Peak) adjourned for a short period and returned to the Council Chamber when robing was complete.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor signs the Declaration of Office</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor, at the request of the Town Clerk, read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as the Deputy Mayor of Weston-super-Mare for the year 2015/2016, signing the document and returning thanks for his election to office.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor looked forward to the forthcoming year and acknowledged the importance of his wife, Mrs Jacqueline Peak’s support in her role as Mayoress.</p> <p>Appointment of Chaplain, Deputy Chaplain and Cadet</p> <p>The Mayor announced the appointment of his Chaplain, Father Andrew Hughes and his Deputy Chaplain, Father Stuart Boyd. Sashes of office were presented.</p> <p>The Mayor appointed Cadet Sophie Brooks as his Cadet for 2015/2016 and presented her with a badge depicting the Weston-super-Mare Coat of Arms.</p>
	<p><i>Business items 4-9 on the Town Council agenda followed.</i></p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Approve the accuracy of the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 16th March 2015.</p> <p>The minutes had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Michal Kus SECONDED BY: Councillor Clive Webb</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: The minutes be signed and approved.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Election of Leader and Deputy Leader of the Town Council</p> <p>The Mayor invited Councillor David Hitchins to propose and Councillor Steven Kane to second the preposition that Councillor Peter Crew be elected Leader of the Town Council and that Councillor Michal Kus be elected as Deputy Leader.</p>

	<p>Councillor Peter Crew was not in attendance. Councillor Michal Kus accepted the proposition for Leader of the Town Council on behalf of Councillor Peter Crew.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor David Hitchens SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Kane</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Peter Crew be elected Leader of the Town Council and Councillor Michal Kus be elected Deputy Leader for the year 2015/16.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Appointment of Town Councillors to Committees, Sub Committees, Working Parties and External Organisations.</p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk was tabled.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that, whilst there was no statutory duty applicable to parish/town councils to do so the Town Council, along with a majority of town councils, allocated committee seats broadly in accordance with the overall political balance. Three recommendations had been made following extensive discussions with Group Leaders and receipt of nominations.</p> <p>The Deputy Leader endorsed the Town Clerk’s recommendations.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Michal Kus SECONDED BY: Councillor Lisa Pilgrim</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the current committee structure continues with the amendment that committees of eight members (namely Planning, Personnel and Expenditure and Governance) be changed to nine members. 2. Accordingly that the appointments in the ‘Committee Memberships and External Appointments’ document (appended to these minutes) be approved. 3. That all 31 members of the Town Council be appointed as potential substitutes under the Town Council’s committee substitution scheme.
<p>8.</p>	<p>To agree Calendar of Meeting Dates May 2015/2016</p> <p>The draft Town Council Calendar of Meetings had been previously circulated with agenda.</p> <p>Approval was sought from full Town Council for the proposed Calendar of Meetings for 2015/2016 which had been compiled by the Town Clerk who had taken into consideration North Somerset Council’s diary of meetings for 2015/2016.</p> <p>The Calendar had been approved by the Policy & Finance Committee on the 16th May 2015. There were, however, amendments to bring forward the Personnel Committee in June 2015 to 4th June 2015 and the Expenditure and Governance Working Party in May 2016 to 9th May 2016. Also the Youth Council scheduled dates were not consistent.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Michal Kus SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Bailey</p>

	<p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The meeting date for the Expenditure and Governance Working Party of the 12th May 2016 be amended to the 9th May 2016. 2. Youth Council meeting dates be clarified with the YMCA. 3. The Calendar of Meetings for June 2015 to May 2016 (appended to these minutes) be approved with the aforementioned alterations.
<p>9.</p>	<p>To re-adopt the General Power of Competence</p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Town Council had adopted the ‘General Power of Competence’ (GPC), a statutory power found under the Localism Act 2011, on the 21st January 2013. The GPC authorises the Town Council to make decisions outside its specific statutory powers subject to certain restrictions. To continue to use the GPC a Town or Parish Council must formally confirm that it meets the eligibility criterion and reconfirm the resolution at every Annual Council meeting after ordinary elections. The eligibility criterion had been included in the Town Clerk’s report and were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the time of the resolution, the number of councillors elected (not co-opted) must equal or exceed two thirds of the total number of seats on the Council. 2. The Clerk to the Council being qualified, under either CilCA 2012 or the level 4 HE Qualification for Clerks from the University of Gloucestershire. <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Michal Kus SECONDED BY: Councillor Clive Webb</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: Weston-super-Mare Town Council meets the conditions in the Schedule to the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 no.965 and therefore the Town Council resolves to re-adopt the General Power of Competence described in the Localism Act 2011.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Mayor of Weston-super-Mare formally closed the meeting at 6.00 pm.</p> <p>The Macebearer requested that everyone present, rise.</p> <p>Preceded by the Macebearer, the Mayor and Mayoress of Weston-super-Mare, Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Weston-super-Mare, the Mayor’s Cadet, the retiring Mayor and Mayoress of Weston-super-Mare and retiring Cadet left the Chamber.</p>

Signed:
 Mayor of Weston-super-Mare

Dated: