

**MINUTES**  
of  
**The Annual Meeting**  
of **New Romney Town Council**  
held on  
**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 commencing at 6.00 pm**

**PRESENT:**           **The Right Worshipful the Mayor of New Romney,**  
**Councillor P D Thomas**

**Town Ward Councillors:**

A Rodriguez, Rev Canon S McLachlan, J Rivers, P Carey,  
J Davies, D W Wimble, Mrs B Lonbay Kapoor and  
Mrs S Hodges

**Coast Ward Councillors:**

Miss J M Hiscock, Mrs P Metcalfe, R D Tillson, P J Coe,  
Ms W Nevard, M Hardy and Mrs J Paice

**In Attendance:**

|                                       |   |                       |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Town Clerk                            | - | Mrs C Newcombe        |
| Town Sergeant                         | - | Mrs C T Morris        |
| Mayor's Sergeant                      | - | Mr S Woolgar          |
| Mayor's Chaplains                     | - | Outgoing and Incoming |
| Members of Public<br>and Civic Guests | - | Approx 40             |

**IN THE CHAIR:**   **Councillor P D Thomas**

**PRAYERS**

The Outgoing Mayor's Chaplain opened the proceedings with prayers.

**@6.02PM** the formal business of the meeting then commenced.

**001/2022-23 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND TOWN  
MAYOR**

The Mayor called for nominations for Town Mayor and Chairman  
of the Council and it was

**PROPOSED BY:**   Councillor Coe

**SECONDED BY:**   Councillor Mrs Metcalfe

That Councillor Thomas be elected to the office of Chairman of  
the Council and Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

The Mayor called for any further nominations and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Ms Nevard  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Mrs Lonbay Kapoor

That Councillor Wimble be elected to the office of Chairman of the Council and Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

It having first been ascertained that there were no further nominations, and with the Proposer and Secunder of each nomination having reserved their right to speak, each then spoke in favour of their nomination. A vote ensued, the result of which was as follows:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| FOR COUNCILLOR THOMAS | 8 |
| FOR COUNCILLOR WIMBLE | 6 |
| ABSTAIN               | 1 |

It was, therefore:

**RESOLVED – that Councillor P D Thomas be and is hereby elected to the position of Chairman of New Romney Town Council and Town Mayor for the ensuing year.**

Councillor Thomas read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, declaring his agreement to observe the Council's Code of Conduct and to fulfil his role to the best of his ability.

Councillor Thomas then took the Oath of Allegiance and Official Oath.

Councillor Thomas then thanked Councillors for his re-election to office, addressed those present and confirmed that his wife, Mrs Janet Thomas, will be his Mayoress for the ensuing year.

#### 002/2022-23 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR**

The Mayor called for nominations for Vice-Chairman and Deputy Mayor and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Thomas  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Hardy

That Councillor Mrs Metcalfe be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council and Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

The Mayor called for any further nominations and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Carey  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Ms Nevard

That Councillor Rivers be elected to the office of Vice-Chairman of the Council and Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.

It having first been ascertained that there were no further nominations, and with the Proposer and Secunder of each nomination having reserved their right to speak, each then spoke in favour of their nomination. A vote ensued, the result of which was as follows:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| FOR COUNCILLOR MRS METCALFE | 7 |
| FOR COUNCILLOR RIVERS       | 8 |
| ABSTAIN                     | 0 |

It was, therefore:

**RESOLVED – that Councillor J Rivers be and is hereby elected to the position of Vice-Chairman of New Romney Town Council and Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year.**

Councillor Rivers read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, declaring his agreement to observe the Council's Code of Conduct and to fulfil his role to the best of his ability.

Councillor Rivers then took the Oath of Allegiance and Official Oath.

Councillor Rivers then thanked Councillors for his election to office and briefly addressed those present.

#### 003/2022-23 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence, as detailed below were duly received and noted.

Councillor Mrs Paice - who was unwell

It was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Rev Cn McLachlan

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Miss Hiscock

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that reasons for absence, as detailed above, be hereby received and approved.**

#### 004/2022-23 **DISPENSATION TO PARTICIPATE**

The Clerk advised that no new Dispensations to Participate had been granted.

#### 005/2022-23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**006/2022-23 CONFIRMATION OF SERGEANTS-AT-MACE**

It was confirmed that both the Town Mayor's Sergeant and the Town Sergeant were willing to continue in post for the ensuing year.

**007/2022-23 CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN**

The Reverend Chris Hodgkins confirmed his willingness to accept the role as Mayor's Chaplain for the ensuing year. The Town Mayor thanked the Very Reverend John Richardson for his past service as Mayor's Chaplain.

**008/2022-23 CONFIRMATION OF TOWN COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES**

The draft composition of Standing Committees, a copy of which had been previously circulated, was received and noted.

**(i) Planning & Environment Committee**

It was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Coe  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Hardy

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the composition of the Planning and Environment Committee for 2022-23, as presented and including two formal Reserve Members, be hereby confirmed and approved.**

**(ii) Finance & General Purposes Committee**

It was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Rivers  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Wimble

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the composition of the Finance and General Purposes Committee for 2022-23, as presented and including two formal Reserve Members, be hereby confirmed and approved.**

**(iii) Personnel Panel**

It was reported that, noting Terms of Reference for the Personnel Panel, which provides that the maximum membership shall be restricted to 5 Members – of which one must be the Chairman of the Council and one must be the Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, the composition of this Committee would be approved at the ensuing Full Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022, following election of Committee Chairmen.

**009/2022-23 KALC COMMUNITY AWARD**

The Town Mayor presented the KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils) Community Award to Mr Tayo Bella – Pharmacist, awarded in recognition of his support of the local community during the Coronavirus Pandemic in setting up a community vaccination centre which went on to deliver in excess of 30,000 vaccinations to local residents and the wider Romney Marsh community.

**010/2022-23 CONFIRMATION OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**

The Town Mayor confirmed that the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council would take place in the Assembly Rooms at 6.45pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**011/2022-23 CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Chairman thanked the Councillors, civic guests and members of public for their attendance and the meeting then concluded **@ 6.41PM.**

NB: All documents referred to herein are freely available for perusal on the Town Council website: [www.newromney-tc.gov.uk](http://www.newromney-tc.gov.uk) or at the Town Hall for perusal on request, except for those documents of a sensitive / legal nature discussed in private session, including documents relating to staff matters which remain Private and Confidential in accordance with Data Protection legislation.

Minutes prepared by the Town Clerk