

MINUTES
of
The Annual Town Meeting
of New Romney Town Council
held remotely on Wednesday 26th April 2023
commencing at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful The Mayor
Councillor P D Thomas

Town Ward

Councillors: A Rodriguez, J Rivers, Rev Cn S McLachlan,
J Davies, P Carey, E Carr

Coast Ward

Councillors: P J Coe, J M Hiscock, P Metcalfe

In Attendance:

Town Clerk:	Mrs C Newcombe
Finance Clerk:	Mrs C T Morris
KCC Councillor	Councillor A Hills
FHDC Councillor	Councillor P Rolfe
Guest Speakers	4
Members of Public	32

WELCOME

The Town Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were conveyed as detailed below:

Mayor's Chaplain	-	due to a pastoral commitment
Cllr R Tillson	-	for personal reasons
Cllr K Terry	-	for personal reasons
Cllr D Wimble	-	for personal reasons

Apologies for absence were duly received and noted.

2. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 27th April 2022 were considered and it was:

PROPOSED BY: Cllr P Metcalfe
SECONDED BY: Cllr A Hills

And by way of a show of hands, it was AGREED

- **that the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 27th April 2022 be formally received and approved as a true and correct record.**

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

Four presentations were given, as follows:

- New Romney in Bloom – on the work of the group to make the Town more attractive for residents and visitors, in particular, this year, planting at St Martin’s Field in readiness for the Town’s Big Coronation Picnic
- JAM on the Marsh – on the work of the charity to bring the arts to the local area, providing high quality arts experiences involving professional musicians and artists, local schoolchildren and local musicians
- CARM (Caring Altogether on Romney Marsh)– on the work of the charity in providing local voluntary services to reduce loneliness across Romney Marsh through befriending and social activities
- Sunflower Memory Café – on the work of the charity in providing support for dementia patients and carers/relatives through social activities, group talks and reminiscence sessions

There were no questions put to the presenters on this occasion.

4. **ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

The Town Council’s RFO (Responsible Financial Officer) presented the Council’s Financial Summary, highlighting the small decrease in the cost of the average Band D Council Tax for 2023-24 in comparison to the previous year.

There were no questions on the content of the summary report on this occasion.

5. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

It was confirmed that no written questions had been received from the public.

6. **REPORT OF KENT POLICE/NEW ROMNEY COMMUNITY WARDEN**

The written report of PCSO Zsinko, which highlighted local policing operations to tackle speeding and highlighted the ‘MY COMMUNITY VOICE’ app, was duly received and noted by those present.

7. **WRITTEN NOTICE OF RESOLUTIONS**

The Town Clerk confirmed that no written notices of resolutions had been received by her during the period stated.

8. **PRIDE OF NEW ROMNEY AWARDS**

The winners of this year's Awards, who had been selected from all nominations received, were announced at the meeting and received their respective Award from the present Mayor. The winners were:

Mr Leo Bagley – for outstanding service to the Community by a young person.

Mrs Yolanda Houston - for outstanding service to the Community by an individual.

Touched by Cancer - for service to the Community by a local organisation.

The 'Mayoral Star' award winners, personally chosen by the Mayor, were Mrs Kate Dearlove and Mrs Frances Wire.

9. **CHEQUE PRESENTATIONS**

The Town Mayor presented cheques for funding from the Mayor's Charity Fund to:

JAM on the Marsh – in the amount of £1,500.00

CARM – in the amount of £1,500.00

Sunflower Memory Café – in the amount of £1,500.00

10. **THANKS**

After promoting the forthcoming Big Coronation Picnic, the Mayor thanked everyone present for attending.

The meeting then concluded at 8.20pm.

NB Copies of all reports and documents referred to within these Minutes are appended to the relevant agenda and available for perusal on the Town Council website or on request to the Town Clerk at the Town Hall.

Minutes Prepared by the Town Clerk