

MINUTES

of

The Annual Meeting
of New Romney Town Council
held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, New Romney on
Monday 13 May 2019 commencing at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: **The Right Worshipful the Mayor of New Romney,
Councillor P J Coe**

Town Ward Councillors:

Mrs P S Rolfe, A Rodriguez, J Cramp, Rev Canon S McLachlan,
J Rivers, Mrs B Lonbay-Kapoor, J Phipps, W D Wimble

Coast Ward Councillors:

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

Deputy Town Clerk:

Mrs C T Morris

Planning Clerk:

Mrs M Worf

Clerical Assistant:

Mrs S Hall

Mayor's Sergeant:

Mr S Woolgar

In Attendance:

Reverend John Richardson
Invited Guests and Dignitaries and
Members of the Public (approx 50)

IN THE CHAIR

At 6.00pm Councillor P J Coe

At 6.20pm Councillor P D Thomas

PRAYERS

Reverend John Richardson opened the proceedings with prayers.

001/2019-20

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND TOWN
MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

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

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Cramp

SECONDED BY: Councillor Miss Hiscock

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

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

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Picco
SECONDED BY: Councillor Rivers

That Councillor P D 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 for Town Mayor and Chairman of the Council and it was

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs Lonbay-Kapoor
SECONDED BY: Councillor Phipps

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

There were no further nominations.

The Deputy Town Clerk advised Councillors of the Town Council's approved Leadership Policy, which all Councillors had agreed to abide by when signing their Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which Policy made Councillor Wimble ineligible for nomination. She also advised she was unsure of the legal implications of Councillors breaking their own rules.

During the above advice a remark was made by Councillor Cramp to which the Deputy Town Clerk requested he not be rude to her.

Councillor Wimble withdrew from the nominations.

The Proposers and Seconders spoke in favour of their nominations, following which the Mayor called for a show of hands in favour of the nomination for Councillor Rodriguez - **Vote: 5 For**

The Mayor called for a show of hands in favour of the nomination for Councillor Thomas – **Vote: 11 For**

It was

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

Councillor Thomas read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to observe the Council's Code of Conduct.

The out-going Mayor passed thanks to his fellow Councillors and the Town Hall staff for their support over the last year and advised he would be presenting his nominated charities one thousand, one hundred pounds each and again gave thanks for the support he had received.

6.18pm

The Deputy Town Clerk then announced there would be a short break in proceedings whilst the newly elected Mayor, Councillor Thomas, the out-going Mayor, Councillor Coe, the Town Sergeant and herself retired to the Mayor's Parlour to exchange the Mayoral Chain and robes.

6.20pm

The newly elected Mayor, Councillor Thomas, Councillor Coe, Deputy Town Clerk and the Mayor's Sergeant returned to the Council Chamber. Councillor Thomas took the Chair and the meeting resumed.

Councillor Thomas then took the Oath of Allegiance and the Official Oath and gave thanks for his election to office.

He then requested his wife, Mrs Janet Thomas, to be his Mayoress for the ensuing year. On her agreement the Mayor's Sergeant presented her with the badge of office.

The incoming Mayor then presented Councillor Coe with his past-Mayor's badge and pin and thanked him for his past service.

002/2019-

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 Miss Hiscock
SECONDED BY: Councillor Cramp

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

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

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Picco

That Councillor A Rodriguez be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council and Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

Prior to seeking a seconder for the proposal Councillor Rodriguez withdrew from the nomination.

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

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mrs Lonbay-Kapoor
SECONDED BY: Councillor Wimble

That Councillor J Phipps be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council and Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

There were no other nominations.

The Deputy Town Clerk again reminded Councillors of the Town Council Leadership Policy following which Councillor Phipps withdrew from the nomination.

The Proposer and Seconder spoke in favour of the nomination for Councillor Mrs Metcalfe and after putting the matter to the vote it was :

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – That Councillor Mrs P Metcalfe is hereby elected Vice-Chairman of the Council and Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

Councillor Mrs Metcalfe read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to observe the Council's Code of Conduct and to fulfil her role to the best of her ability.

6.35pm

The outgoing Deputy-Mayor, Councillor Mrs Rolfe and Councillor Mrs Metcalfe retired to the Mayor's Parlour to exchange the Deputy Mayor badge.

6.38pm

Councillor Mrs Metcalfe and Councillor Mrs Rolfe returned to the Council Chamber.

Councillor Mrs Metcalfe then took the Oath of Allegiance and Official Oath. She gave thanks for her election.

003/2019-20

DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that Declarations of Acceptance of Office had been received from all Town Council Members following Local Elections held on 2 May 2019

004/2019-20

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

005/2019-20

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

006/2019-20

APPOINTMENT OF SERGEANTS-AT-MACE

The Town Mayor's Sergeant, Mr S Woolgar, and Town Sergeant, Mrs C T Morris, confirmed their willingness to continue in post for the ensuing year.

007/2019-20

APPOINTMENT OF TOWN MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Reverend John Richardson agreed to his appointment as Mayor's Chaplain for the ensuing year.

008/2019-20 **CONFIRMATION OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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

009/2019-20 **NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

The Mayor announced that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would take place on Wednesday 15 May 2019 at 6.45pm in the Council Chamber.

010/2019-20 **CLOSURE OF THE MEETING – 6.45pm**

The Mayor announced that the business of the Meeting had now concluded. The Mayor, Mayoress, the Deputy Mayor, Mayor's Sergeant and the Deputy Town Clerk retired to the Mayor's Parlour to disrobe and make their way to the Mayor's Reception

Councillor Mrs Rolfe advised that whilst the Mayor and his party prepared for the Reception, guest speakers Mr and Mrs Wire of The Country Fayre Committee would give a short presentation to invited dignitaries and guests.

ADDRESS

Following the conclusion of the meeting Mr and Mrs Wire addressed the remaining Councillors, invited guests and members of the public giving a brief history of, and outlining the achievements of, the Country Fayre which, this year, celebrated twenty-five years.

At the conclusion Councillor Mrs Rolfe thanked Mr and Mrs Wire for their extremely interesting, informative presentation and hard work over the years in ensuring the Country Fayre was such a successful event year on year.

She then requested remaining Councillors and invited guests to make their way to the Mayor's Reception.