

AGENDA ITEM 3(a)

MINUTES

of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY 23rd MAY, 2017** at **6.45pm.**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs M Ewings (Retiring Mayor),
Councillors T Gibbins, Mrs A Johnson, A Lewis, J Moody, P Palfrey, C Rogers, P Sanders, J Sheldon, H Smith, P Squire, A Venning, P Ward, P Williamson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Note – prior to the meeting there was opportunity for quiet reflection led by Father John Greatbatch of Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church, Tavistock.

It being the first meeting of the new Council term the retiring Mayor took the opportunity to express appreciation to colleagues and to bid farewell to the Mayor's Cadet for the 2016-17 Civic Year – Sergeant Robbie Langton.

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2017-18 Civic Year.

A nomination was received in respect of Councillor P Sanders (proposed by Councillor Mrs M Ewings and seconded by Councillor Mrs A Johnson).

There being no other nomination it was:

RESOLVED THAT Councillor P Sanders be elected Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2017-18 Civic Year.

The Mayor was invested with the Chain of office. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for the opportunity to represent it as Mayor.

Councillor C Rogers gave a tribute to the retiring Town Mayor
Councillor Mrs M Ewings.

Retiring Mayor, Councillor Mrs M Ewings, expressed her appreciation to colleagues and staff for their support and endeavours over the past Civic Year together with those other partner organisations and community groups with whom she had been associated. Tribute was also made, in particular, to her Deputy Mayor – Councillor P Sanders.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of Deputy Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2017-2018 Civic Year.

A nomination was received in respect of Councillor P Ward (proposed by Councillor T Gibbins and seconded by Councillor J Moody).

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED THAT Councillor P Ward be elected Deputy Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2017-18 Civic Year.

The Deputy Mayor was invested with the Medallion of office. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for the opportunity to represent it as Deputy Mayor.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs L Roberts, E Sanders and Mrs J Whitcomb.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Tavistock Town Council held on 22nd May 2017, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. ORDER OF BUSINESS

In order to facilitate the conduct of the meeting it was:

RESOLVED THAT Standing Orders Nos. 5 (j) (iv) – (vi), and (viii) – (x) and (xiii – xviii) be suspended to allow the following business to be transacted.

7. MAYOR'S EXPENSES

The Council considered the treatment of Mayoral expenses arising from which it was:-

RESOLVED THAT Tavistock Town Council endorse the payment of an allowance of £2,000 to the Town Mayor to defray the expenses attached to this Office in pursuance of Section 15(5) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The new Mayor left the Meeting during consideration of the above item, the Chair being taken by the Deputy Mayor.

8. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

The Council considered how best to proceed in relation to the appointment of Committees (Appendix 1).

RESOLVED THAT the Committees and other fora as set out in the appended Schedule be endorsed subject to the inclusion, in the membership of the Budget and Policy committee, of Councillor Mrs A Johnson.

9. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Council considered a draft Calendar of Meetings (Appendix 2) for the 2017-2018 Civic Year.

RESOLVED THAT the submitted 2017-2018 Civic Year Calendar of Meetings be adopted.

10. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CHARITIES AND OTHER BODIES

The Council considered a report setting out the proposed appointment of representatives to Charities and Other Bodies (Appendix 3).

RESOLVED THAT subject to the inclusion of Councillor P Sanders (Dartmoor National Park Forum) and Councillor P Williamson (Chamber of Commerce) representatives be appointed to the

Charities and Outside Bodies for the 2017-2018 Civic Year as set out in the report.

Noted that in response to a question it was reported that representatives were appointed to the Jessie Anne Alford Charity on a four yearly basis and were not required to be Councillors.

11. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The Council considered re-adoption of the General Power of Competence.

RESOLVED THAT having met the criteria for eligibility for the General Power of Competence, (GPC) relating to the electoral mandate (66%) and the relevant training of the Clerk, the Council re-adopt the General Power of Competence.

12. RECORD OF ATTENDANCES

The Council considered and noted a Schedule setting out the Record of Attendances at Meetings of the Council and Civic Events during the 2016-2017 Civic Year (Appendix 4).

13. COUNCIL SEAL

RESOLVED THAT the Seal be affixed to the various deeds and documents to be made, or entered into, for the carrying into effect of those decisions or matters approved by the Council this day.

The Meeting closed at 7.35pm

Chairman

Date

