

AGENDA ITEM No 3a

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** held in **THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DRAKE ROAD, TAVISTOCK** on **TUESDAY 19th MAY, 2026** at **6.30pm**.

PRESENT Councillor S Hipsey (Retiring Mayor),
Councillors R Edlmann, Ms M Ewings, A Hutton, Mrs A Johnson, A Lewis, N Martin, Mrs B Moody, J Moody, T Munro, G Parker, R Poppe, B Smith, P Ward, Ms S Wood, A Venning.

IN ATTENDANCE Town Clerk, Office & Finance Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Note – prior to the Meeting there was opportunity for;

- Quiet Reflection, led by Reverend Matthew Godfrey, St Eustachius' Church, Tavistock; and
- The Mayor presented Jan Horrell from Tavistock Library with a cheque for £1,718.13, being the funds raised for the Mayor's chosen Charity during his Mayoral year.

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2026-2027 Civic Year.

A nomination was received in respect of Councillor Mrs A Johnson (proposed by Councillor S Hipsey and seconded by Councillor P Ward).

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED THAT Councillor Mrs A Johnson be elected Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2026-2027 Civic Year.

The Mayor was invested with the Chain of Office by the Retiring Mayor, Councillor S Hipsey. The new Mayor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for the opportunity to represent it as Mayor for new term.

The Retiring Mayoress, Mrs Cathy Hipsey, invested the new Consort, Mr Paul Johnson, with the Chain of Office.

Councillor P Ward gave a tribute to the Retiring Town Mayor, Councillor S Hipsey.

The Retiring Mayor was presented with a Past Mayor's badge by the new Mayor, and then expressed his appreciation to Councillor colleagues, his Mayoress, Officers and staff for their support and endeavours over the past Civic Year which he had enjoyed immensely.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of Deputy Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2026-2027 Civic Year.

A nomination was received in respect of Councillor J Moody (proposed by Councillor G Parker and seconded by Councillor T Munro)

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED THAT Councillor J Moody be elected Deputy Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the 2026-2027 Civic Year.

The Deputy Mayor was invested with the Chain of Office by the Retiring Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mrs A Johnson. The new Deputy Mayor signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Council for the opportunity to represent it as Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming year.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No Apologies had been received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Tavistock Town Council held on 28th April 2026, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Appendix 1).

6. OTHER MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

a) 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 – xx) 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.

Noted That

- i) the Mayor Declared an Interest in the above item by virtue of the Office held and left the room during consideration thereof, during which time the Deputy Mayor took the Chair;
- ii) a Member expressed the view that the quantum of the allowance might be re-visited in the next budget setting round.

8. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES & CONSULTATIVE GROUPS

The Council considered the list of proposed appointments of Committees and Consultative Groups (Appendix 2).

RESOLVED THAT the Membership of Committees and other fora as set out in the appended Schedule be endorsed.

9. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

The Council considered a draft Programme of Meetings for the 2026-2027 Civic Year (Appendix 3).

RESOLVED THAT the submitted 2026-2027 Civic Year Programme of Meetings be adopted.

10. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CHARITIES AND OTHER BODIES

The Council considered the list setting out the proposed

appointment of representatives to Charities and Other Bodies (Appendix 4).

RESOLVED THAT representatives be appointed to the Charities and Outside Bodies for the 2026-2027 Civic Year as set out in the amended list provided at the meeting.

Noted That by mutual consent it was agreed Councillor S Wood replace Councillor S Hipsey on item (r) (Tavistock Health and Wellbeing Alliance) – a revised schedule was circulated.

11. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

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, it was:

RESOLVED THAT Tavistock Town Council re-adopt the General Power of Competence.

12. RECORD OF ATTENDANCES

The record of Councillor Attendances at Meetings during the 2025 – 2026 Civic Year was noted (Appendix 5)

Noted That the figure for total expected attendances for Councillor A Johnson be amended to 38 - a revised schedule was circulated.

The Meeting closed at 7.02pm

Chairman

Date