

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE BALL
ROOM, WELLS TOWN HALL ON SATURDAY 21ST MAY 2016
(AND AJOURNED TO THURSDAY 26TH MAY 2016 AT 7.00PM)

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Brandon; C Briton; C Cox; A Gibson; N Kennedy; J Ludovino;
R MacKenzie; J North; J Osman; C Price; T Robbins; H Siggs; G Wilson;
C Wride

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White
Approximately 120 members of the public and press

Informal session: The proceedings commenced with the procession of the Mayor and City Council. Prayers were said by the Chaplain. The Town Clerk welcomed the assembled guests; apologies were received from Canon G Dodds the outgoing Mayor's Chaplain, and from Cllr D Unwin. A vote of thanks to the outgoing Mayor was made by Cllr Kennedy, the Father of the Council. The Mayor Cllr Wilson gave his speech and presented gifts; he was presented with the City Badge by the Cllr Kennedy.

Formal meeting: **The Mayor then opened the formal business meeting of the Council:**

16/57C ELECTION OF MAYOR

The outgoing Mayor called for nominations for Mayor: Cllr Siggs nominated Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr North; there were no further nominations. A vote was taken and Cllr Gibson was unanimously elected. Cllr Wilson declared the election of the 643rd Mayor of Wells and invested Cllr Gibson with the chain of office. The mayoral party left the room for the exchange of robes and chain whilst the Archivist, Dr Julia Wood, spoke about the history of retail in Wells. The Mayoral party returned.

16/58C ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE

The Town Clerk led the Mayor through the signing of the following legal and historic documents:

- i. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office
- ii. The Oath of Allegiance
- iii. The Roll of Mayors
- iv. The Mayor gave her speech of acceptance and thanked her fellow Councillors for electing her. She appointed her consort and presented his badge of office.

16/59C ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor called for nominations for Deputy Mayor: Cllr Osman nominated North, seconded by Cllr Wride; there were no further nominations. A vote was taken and Cllr North was unanimously elected. The Mayor declared the election of Cllr North as the Deputy Mayor of Wells and invested him with the chain of office. The Deputy Mayor spoke and presented the traditional gift of cheese to the Mayor.

16/60C TRANSFER OF CUSTODY OF TWIN TOWN KEYS

The Chairman of Wells Twinning Association presented the keys of Paray-le-Monial, Bad Durkheim and Fontanellato to the Mayor, for safe keeping.

16/61C APPOINTMENT OF HONOURARY OFFICERS

The Mayor confirmed the following appointments, assisted by the Town Clerk:

- i. The Mayor's Chaplain
- ii. The Churchwarden, St Cuthbert's church
- iii. The High Constables
- iv. The Serjeants-at-Mace
- v. The Town Crier

16/62C THE PROCLAMATION

The Town Crier went to the balcony, ringing his bell, and proclaimed to the people of the city the Election of the 643rd Mayor of Wells.

16/63C MINUTES AND ALL FURTHER BUSINESS

The Council adjourned and all further business was deferred until Council be reconvened at: 7pm Thursday 26th May 2016 in the Council Chamber, Wells Town Hall.