

## **MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE ON 21 MAY 2016**

**Present:** Mr Daniel Moriarty (The Mayor) and Councillors Mrs Blackmore, Boughton, Brice, D Burton, M Burton, Butler, Clark, Cox, Cuming, Daley, Ells, English, Fermor, Fissenden, Fort, Garland, Garten, Mrs Gooch, Greer, Mrs Grigg, Harper, Harvey, Harwood, Hastie, Hemsley, Mrs Hinder, Mrs Joy, Lewins, McLoughlin, B Mortimer, D Mortimer, Munford, Naghi, Newton, Perry, Pickett, Powell, Prendergast, Revell, Mrs Ring, Mrs Robertson, Round, J Sams, T Sams, Springett, Mrs Stockell, Vizzard, Webb, Webster, de Wiggondene, Wilby, Willis and Mrs Wilson

1. **PRAYERS**

Prayers were said by the Reverend Ian Parrish. During the prayers, the Council observed a minute's silence in memory of Councillor Dave Sargeant who had died the previous week.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Adkinson.

3. **DISPENSATIONS**

There were no applications for dispensations.

4. **DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

There were no disclosures by Members or Officers.

5. **DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING**

There were no disclosures of lobbying.

6. **ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR**

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Blackmore, seconded by Councillor Naghi, supported by Councillors Mrs Gooch, Harper and Powell, and

**RESOLVED:** That Derek George Butler, a Councillor of the Borough, be duly elected Mayor of the Borough of Maidstone until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

Councillor Butler then made the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was duly witnessed in accordance with Section 83(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**\*\*THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR BUTLER) IN THE CHAIR\*\***

7. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MAYOR

The Mayor received congratulations on his election from scholars representing schools as follows:

Tom Lindsey                      Maidstone Grammar School

Alexandra Hadaway              Maidstone Grammar School for Girls

8. THE RETIRING MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Gooch, seconded by Councillor Mrs Wilson, supported by Councillors Mrs Blackmore, Harper and Powell, and

**RESOLVED:** That the hearty thanks of this Council be given to Mr Daniel Moriarty and Mrs Shirley Moriarty for the admirable discharge of their duties as Mayor and Mayoress during the past year, and for their courteous approach to all sections of the community.

9. EXEMPT ITEMS

**RESOLVED:** That the items on the agenda be taken in public as proposed.

10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON 13 APRIL 2016

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Borough Council held on 13 April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

11. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Blackmore, seconded by Councillor Daley, supported by Councillors Mrs Gooch, Harper and Powell, and

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Malcolm Frank Greer be duly appointed Deputy Mayor for the Borough of Maidstone until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

12. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor and Group Leaders paid tribute to Councillor Dave Sargeant who had died the previous week.

The Mayor then announced that:

- He wished to extend his condolences to the relatives and friends of those killed in the Egypt Air plane crash earlier in the week.
- He wished to congratulate Maidstone United Football Club on its promotion to the National League. He would be hosting a reception for the Club Manager and players in June, and all Members and Officers were welcome to attend.

13. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Ring, seconded by Councillor Perry, that Councillor Mrs Blackmore be elected as the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

It was moved by Councillor Daley, seconded by Councillor Cox, that Councillor Mrs Wilson be elected as the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 21.4, five Members of the Council requested that a named vote be taken. The voting was as follows:

**Councillor Mrs Blackmore (23)**

Councillors Mrs Blackmore, Boughton, Brice, D Burton, M Burton, Butler, Cuming, Fort, Garland, Garten, Greer, Hemsley, Mrs Hinder, McLoughlin, Perry, Prendergast, Revell, Mrs Ring, Round, Springett, Mrs Stockell, Webster and de Wiggondene

**Councillor Mrs Wilson (27)**

Councillors Clark, Cox, Daley, Ells, English, Fermor, Fissenden, Mrs Gooch, Mrs Grigg, Harvey, Harwood, Hastie, Mrs Joy, Lewins, B Mortimer, D Mortimer, Naghi, Newton, Pickett, Mrs Robertson, J Sams, T Sams, Vizzard, Webb, Wilby, Willis and Mrs Wilson

Abstained: Councillors Harper, Munford and Powell

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mrs Wilson be elected as the Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

Note: Councillors Garland, Springett and de Wiggondene left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.

14. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was moved by Councillor Cox, seconded by Councillor B Mortimer, and

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mrs Gooch be appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.

15. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

In accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council considered the allocation of seats to each Political Group in relation to its various Committees.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Cox, that the allocation of seats on Committees be as set out in amended Appendix A to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources (circulated separately).

**RESOLVED:** That the allocation of seats on Committees be as set out in amended Appendix A to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources (copy attached as Appendix A).

16. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

In accordance with Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council considered the appointments to its Committees and Substitutes.

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor B Mortimer, that the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointments to Committees and Substitutes be accepted.

**RESOLVED:** That the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointments to Committees and Substitutes be accepted.

17. RE-APPOINTMENT OF TWO NON-VOTING PARISH COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE AUDIT, GOVERNANCE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor English, that since the Maidstone Area Committee of the Kent Association of Local Councils will not be in a position to put forward nominations until after its AGM in June, Councillors Eileen Riden and Paul Butcher be re-appointed as Non-Voting Parish Councillor Representatives on the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee until the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That since the Maidstone Area Committee of the Kent Association of Local Councils will not be in a position to put forward nominations until after its AGM in June, Councillors Eileen Riden and Paul Butcher be re-appointed as Non-Voting Parish Councillor Representatives on the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee until the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

18. ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION INCLUDING THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION AND RECENT UPDATES

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Cox, that the Constitution, including the Scheme of Delegation and recent updates, be adopted.

**RESOLVED:** That the Constitution, including the Scheme of Delegation and recent updates, be adopted.

To view the Constitution adopted with effect from 21 May 2016, please follow the link below:

<https://services.maidstone.gov.uk/meetings/documents/s48549/MBC%20Constitution%2021%20May%202016.pdf>

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL ACTING AS CORPORATE TRUSTEE OF THE CHARITY KNOWN AS THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE**

19. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE CHARITY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Mrs Gooch, that the allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1

**RESOLVED:** That the allocation of seats on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1

20. APPOINTMENT OF THE COBTREE MANOR ESTATE CHARITY COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor English, that the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be accepted.

**RESOLVED:** That the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Cobtree Manor Estate Charity Committee be accepted.

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL ACTING AS CORPORATE TRUSTEE  
OF THE QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT MUSEUM  
TRUST**

21. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON THE QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT MUSEUM TRUST COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor B Mortimer, that the allocation of seats on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1

**RESOLVED:** That the allocation of seats on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be as follows:

Conservative	2
Liberal Democrats	2
Independent	1

22. APPOINTMENT OF THE QUEEN'S OWN ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT MUSEUM TRUST COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Wilson, seconded by Councillor Mrs Gooch, that the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be accepted.

**RESOLVED:** That the wishes of the Group Leaders with regard to the appointment of Members and Substitutes to serve on the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment Museum Trust Committee be accepted.

23. DURATION OF MEETING

9.30 a.m. to 11.25 a.m.