

## FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### **Minutes for the meeting of the Council held at the Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone on Wednesday, 9 May 2018**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs Ann Berry, Miss Susan Carey, John Collier, Malcolm Dearden, Alan Ewart-James, Peter Gane, Clive Goddard, David Godfrey, Miss Susie Govett, Ms Janet Holben, Mrs Jennifer Hollingsbee, Mrs Claire Jeffrey, Mrs Mary Lawes, Len Laws, Rory Love, Michael Lyons (Vice-Chair), Philip Martin, Frank McKenna, Ian Meyers, David Monk, David Owen (Chairman), Dick Pascoe, Paul Peacock, Stuart Peall, Damon Robinson, Carol Sacre, Russell Tillson, Mrs Susan Wallace, Mrs Rodica Wheeler and Roger Wilkins

#### **1. Election of Chairman of the Council**

Proposed by Councillor Pascoe,  
Seconded by Councillor Ewart-James; and

**RESOLVED –**

**That Councillor David Owen be elected as Chairman of the District Council of Folkestone and Hythe until the next annual meeting of the Council, and until the acceptance of office by his successor.**

**(Voting figures: 30 For, 0 against, 0 abstentions)**

Councillor David Owen made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office, as required by Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972, and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

The Chairman of the Council then formally thanked the Council for re-electing him to office, and also thanked his proposer and seconder.

#### **2. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Council**

Proposed by Councillor Owen,  
Seconded by Councillor Martin; and

**RESOLVED: That Councillor Michael Lyons be elected as Vice-Chairman of the District Council of Folkestone and Hythe, until the next annual meeting of the Council and until acceptance of office by his successor.**

**(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)**

Councillor Michael Lyons made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office as required by Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1972.

He then formally thanked the Council for electing him to office and also thanked his proposer and seconder.

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

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There were no declarations of interest.

### 4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 10 May 2017 were submitted, approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman of the Council.

### 5. **Chairman's Communications**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

“During the past twelve months, I have been reporting on my various activities at each of our Full Council meetings so I will not extend these proceedings unnecessarily by repeating them here but will confine my remarks to events since I last chaired our meeting on 14 March 2018. As well as supporting our District Mayors, in their charitable fund raising efforts, I was pleased to attend the Chairman of KCC’s Charity Concert given by Maidstone Symphony Orchestra and noted particularly that the violins included the leader of our own Folkestone and Hythe Symphony Orchestra.

I was also able to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the unveiling of the national monument to the Few at Capel le Ferne. Part of this included a fly past by two Spitfires.

On a sadder moment, I also attended the funeral of former Councillor Denise Maskell who died after a long battle with cancer. She was a political opponent who after losing her seat in Hythe East when I was elected, never failed to try to keep me up to the mark as one of her Councillors. When she was re-elected 3 years ago as an Independent on Hythe Town Council, we sat together in the Chamber and I saw a different side to Dee – she had a wicked sense of humour and I will miss that!

Three weeks ago, I welcomed some 15 pupils and teachers from Stella Maris Primary School who wanted to find out about our democracy and how a Council works. As well as drinks and buns, we had the opportunity to view the civic regalia and explain what we do. The visit ended with a debate in this chamber on the subject “should the school tuck shop hours of opening be extended?”. Various pupils spoke and a vote was eventually taken – you don’t need me to tell you which way the vote went. However, I felt that older and more responsible forces were at work and that a compromise would be worked out in teachers common room.

I also attended the Scouts St Georges Day celebrations both in Folkestone and New Romney and it was good to particularly acknowledge the many long serving local volunteers who give their time to support our youngsters.

Ten days ago I was delighted to host some twenty visiting Mayors, many from London boroughs to a day trip on the Romney Hythe Dymchurch Railway. We chartered a train which ran non-stop to Dungeness where we enjoyed a fish and chip lunch and a very informative talk by the General Manager Danny Martin and his staff. Everybody who attended seemed to have had a great time, and it was good to draw attention to our District and the Marsh in particular. My abiding memory of the day was the incredulity on the face of one London borough mayor when I told her that the nearest supermarket to Dungeness Station was some 6 miles away and the nearest largish town of Ashford was perhaps 12 to 15 miles.

Last night, Hythe Civic Society presented their annual Civic Award to Folkestone and Hythe District Council in recognition of the restoration of the former tram skelter on Princes Parade. This award is only given in exceptional circumstances and it was good that this council was rewarded in this way. Councillor Dearden and I attended the event.

That's nearly all from me but before I close I just wanted to thank the Vice-Chairman for standing in for me at the Extraordinary Council meeting when we said farewell to our former Chief Executive Alistair Stewart, and announced the appointment of our new Head of Paid Service, Dr Susan Priest. I would just like to add my personal congratulations to Dr Priest and say how much I am sure we all look forward to her leadership of her team of officers as this Council enters perhaps its most challenging but at the same time exciting period for some years.

Before I move on there is another pleasurable event that I want to announce. I would like to welcome Heather Lumby of Improvement and Efficiency South East (IESE)".

Mrs Lumby then presented the award for Transforming through technology Gold Award, which had been achieved by the Revenues Team, to the Council. The Chairman and Councillor Love (as Cabinet Member), accepted the award, and paid tribute to the council on their achievement.

6. **Appointments to Committee's and Sub-Committee's of the Council (including the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen)**

The report listed the committees and sub-committees of the Council. The description of the role and function of each committee contained in the report was a summary only and the full definition and description of each is set out in the constitution.

Proposed by Councillor Monk,  
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Hollingsbee; and

**RESOLVED:**

1. That report A/18/03 be received and noted

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2. That the necessary appointments to the committees and sub-committees of the Council for 2018/2019, as set out in the report, be made.
3. That the chairman and vice-chairman be appointed to Committee's as follows (as set out in the appendum circulated at the meeting):

	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Audit and Governance	Cllr David Owen	Cllr Paul Peacock
Planning and Licensing	Cllr Clive Goddard	Cllr Roger Wilkins
Personnel	Cllr David Monk	Cllr Rory Love

(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

**7. Delegation of non-executive functions**

The Council's constitution required that the scheme of delegations be agreed by the Council at its annual meeting. Report A/18/02 set out the scheme.

Proposed by Councillor Monk,  
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Hollingsbee; and

**RESOLVED:**

1. That report A/18/02 be received and noted.
2. That the scheme of delegation set out in the appendix to the report be approved in so far as it relates to the non-executive functions of the Council.

(Voting figures: 27 for, 2 against, 1 abstention)

**8. Schedule of meetings for 18/19 and provisional schedule for 19/20**

In accordance with the council rules of procedure, part 4.2, paragraph 1.1 of the constitution, the Council is required to approve the annual schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2018/19. The proposed annual schedule of meetings for 18/19 was appended to report A/18/01 together with the draft provisional schedules for 19/20.

Proposed by Councillor Monk,  
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Hollingsbee; and

**RESOLVED:**

1. To receive and note report A/18/01 be received and noted.
2. That the schedule of meetings for 2018/19 appended to the report as appendix 1 be approved and adopted.
3. That the provisional schedules of meetings for 2019/20 appended to this report as appendix 2 be adopted as a draft.

(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

9. **Annual report on policies and strategies adopted by Cabinet and update on urgent decisions 17/18**

The report set out the policies and strategies that had been adopted by Cabinet during the 2017/18 municipal year.

Proposed by Councillor Monk,  
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Hollingsbee; and

**RESOLVED:**

1. To receive and note report A/18/04 be received and noted.
2. That policies and/or strategies outlined in the report be included in the Policy Framework.

(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

10. **Annual Audit and Governance report 17/18**

This report is the annual report of policies and strategies that have been adopted, by Cabinet, during the 2017/18 municipal year.

Proposed by Councillor Owen,  
Seconded by Councillor Peacock; and

**RESOLVED:**

That report A/18/05 be received and noted.

(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

11. **Annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 17/18**

Report A/18/06 report set out the work that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had completed during 2017/2018. This involved the identification of items from the pre-decision scrutiny and monitoring financial and performance monitoring information. The committee also developed their relationships with partners and contributed to the preparation of responses to consultations on various local matters for consideration by the Cabinet.

Proposed by Councillor Gane,  
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Jeffrey; and

**RESOLVED:**

To receive and note report A/18/06

(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

12. **Annual Scrutiny programme 18/19**

Report A/18/07 presented recommendations for the work programme for the overview and scrutiny committee for 2018/19.

Proposed by Councillor Gane,  
Seconded by Councillor Mrs Jeffrey; and

(Voting figures: 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)