

**Minutes of part one of the Annual Meeting of Council held on Thursday, 27 May 2021 in The Haymarket, Wote Street, Basingstoke, RG21 7NW, at 6.30 pm**

**Members of the Council in attendance:** Councillor D Taylor (Chair), Councillor A Bowes, Councillor S Carr, Councillor K Carruthers, Councillor A Compton-Burnett, Councillor R Court, Councillor O Cubitt, Councillor S Dillow, Councillor H Eachus, Councillor L Edwards, Councillor G Falconer, Councillor L Follett-Maitland, Councillor A Freeman, Councillor J Ganesh, Councillor P Gaskell, Councillor S Godesen, Councillor P Harvey, Councillor R Hussey, Councillor G James, Councillor L James, Councillor S Jeans, Councillor T Jones, Councillor A Konieczko, Councillor S Kotecha, Councillor D Leeks, Councillor S Mahaffey, Councillor A McCormick, Councillor J McKay, Councillor D Mellor, Councillor P Miller, Councillor A Mummalaneni, Councillor A Peter, Councillor G Poland, Councillor D Putty, Councillor K Rhatigan, Councillor N Robinson, Councillor T Robinson, Councillor M Ruffell, Councillor I Tilbury, Councillor S Tom, Councillor C Tomblin, Councillor J Tustain, Councillor J Vaux, Councillor G Watts and Councillor C Wooldridge

1/21 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Donohoe, Grant, Howard-Sorrell, Izett and Phillimore.

2/21 **To Elect a Mayor for the Ensuing Year 2021/22**

Nominations were invited for the election of the Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing year 2021/22. Councillor S Godesen moved, seconded by Cllr L James, that Councillor Onnalee Cubitt be elected Mayor of the Borough to hold office for the ensuing year 2021/22.

**Resolved:** That Councillor Onnalee Cubitt be elected to the office of Mayor for the ensuing year 2021/22.

The Mayor then made her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.

3/21 **To Elect a Deputy Mayor for the Ensuing Year- 2021/22**

Nominations were invited for the election of the Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing year 2021/22. Councillor A Compton-Burnett moved, seconded by Cllr A Konieczko, that Councillor Paul Miller be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing year 2021/22.

**Resolved:** That Councillor Paul Miller be elected to the office of Mayor for the ensuing year 2021/22.

The Deputy Mayor then made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4/21 **Vote of thanks to the Retiring Mayor**

The new Mayor gave a speech of thanks to Councillor Diane Taylor as Mayor of the Borough and Dr Andy Taylor as Mayor's Consort during the Municipal years 2019/20 and 2020/21 for their excellent public service and commitment to the borough during the last two years.

5/21 **Reply from the Retiring Mayor (speech and Thanks)**

Councillor Taylor thanked the Mayor for her kind words and wished her well in the year ahead. She spoke of the wonderful, varied and privileged two years she had as Mayor with twinning visits, speeches, visiting theatres, opening places and meeting amazing people.

She paid tribute to recipients of her Mayors awards which she had previously presented:

- Lorraine Anstey – for her dedication to the homeless and vulnerable. She had been the driving force behind the Night Light Winter Shelter and Project Leader of the Dwelling Place.
- Mike Bowler – for his work with cadets and support at civic events.
- James Ketchell – for his adventurous achievements and inspiring example to young people.
- 4 Kingdoms Adventure Park and Family Farm - for its amazing charity support and excellent family facility.

She expressed her gratitude to Zoe McLaren, the Mayoral Events Co-ordinator and her husband for their dedication and support over the last two years and concluded by saying it had been an honour to be Mayor and she treasured every memory.

6/21 **Address to the Council by the New Mayor**

The Mayor thanked Councillors S Godesen and L James for their kind words and support. She also gave thanks to Matt Cleaver, the Chief Executive of the Anvil and Haymarket and his staff for their support and work to enable the council meeting to be held in person and paid tribute to the important role that the Haymarket and Anvil play in the arts.

She announced that the Reverend Canon Linda Scard would be her Chaplain for her year in office.

She also announced her charities for the year, The Friends of St Michaels Hospice and the Community Furniture Workshop, and looked forward to working and supporting them in the ensuing year. She highlighted her mayoral theme for the year, 'finding more volunteers' and paid tribute to all those that had generously given time and spirit to support the community. In developing her theme she would like to increase the number of adult volunteers who engage with and support the cadet

movement in the borough to enable more children to become involved.

The Mayor stated that guiding principles for her year in office would be Steadfast in Service and Strength in Faith and she looked forward to supporting, meeting and representing all in the borough's communities.

The meeting ended at 7.18 pm.

**Chair**