

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING of the TOWN COUNCIL held WEDNESDAY 16th MAY 2018 at HEBDEN BRIDGE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

PRESENT Councillors; Stow (Chair item 2 onward) Bampton Smith, Boggis, Cammack, Courtney, Crosland, Fearon, Fenton, Fraser, Harrison, Patient, Timbers, Trickett and Young

Also present Deputy Mayor and Consort of Ripponden Parish Council, Mayor Elect from Heptonstall Parish Council, Deputy Mayor of Todmorden and 74 of the public.

Clerk – Jason Boom, Hebden Royd Town Council.

The Town Clerk welcomed guests by explaining the annual process of appointing a new Mayor and that Parish and Town Council across the land will be holding similar meetings.

1. **APPOINTMENT OF TOWN MAYOR**

Cllr Fraser called the meeting to order.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Courtney

Seconded by Cllr Fearon

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that Cllr Dr Carol Stow be elected Mayor of Hebden Royd for 2018/19.

The Retiring Mayor, Cllr Pat Fraser placed Chain on New Mayor, Cllr Dr Carol Stow.

Cllr Dr Carol Stow read the Declaration of Office aloud and signed it witnessed by proposer – Cllr Courtney.

It was announced that Cllr Dr Carol Stow's consort for the year will be Alice Barford, Alice joined Cllr Dr Carol Stow and the new Mayor placed the consorts Chain on Alice.

Cllr Dr Carol Stow presented the retiring Mayor with her Past Mayors Medal and record of the year. Cllr Pat Fraser presented the five Retiring Mayors Consorts with flowers and thanked them all warmly for their support during the year.

The Retired Mayor, Cllr Pat Fraser reflected on a year in office.

Votes of thanks were offered to the Chairs of the Town Council Committees by the Retiring Mayor. The achievements of each committee were outlined.

Community Funding – Cllr Stow

Environmental, Allotments & Events – Cllr Young

Picture House – Cllr Stow

Neighbourhood Plan – Hilltop Parish Representatives Roger Greenwood (Erringden) & Mick Davies (Blackshaw) & Current Chair Cllr Karl Boggis
Staffing – Cllr Young
Strategy & Review – Cllr Scullion & Cllr Crosland

The retiring Mayor thanked Hebden Royd Town Council for the very great privilege of allowing her to have a Mayoral Year. She thanked Rebekah Cox for all her help and support in supervising her diary and the very valuable help and advice in organising the civic ceremony in October and the recent charity event.

She thanked her consorts Anna Warwood, Jennifer Fairclough-Wade, Ellen Fellows, Alison Littlefair and fellow Town Councillor Christine Bampton Smith.

She reflected that from the start of the year it would be dedicated to the community of Hebden Royd and that she would attend a wide cross section of community events. She came into contact with many groups, events and charities and was humbled by the tireless work and enthusiasm which exists within these groups who add to the diversity, creativity and general well-being of the Calder Valley.

Cllr Fraser enjoyed visiting all of our local schools and had been honoured to present awards from the Kenneth Kaberry fund and the Fred Barker Fund to be spent on books.

Cllr Fraser had been greatly involved with the Twinning Society and during the term had visited both St Pol in France and Warstein in Germany and met with groups from both towns in Hebden Bridge. A highlight she mentioned was the visit of Thomas Shöne and his wife Yvonne who were impressed with our work on flood resilience and met up with Slow the Flow and various flood wardens, visited the Fox and Goose to see how a co-operative pub works in practice and the independent shops and the cultural life of the valley were much admired.

Cllr Fraser attended the launches of such events as the Piano Festival, the Open Studios, the Arts Festival and enjoyed the great privilege to chair the Hebden Bridge Partnership Annual General Meeting where the rather daunting task of making sure that each representative of the twenty six local community groups spoke for just two and half minutes proved to be a challenge. The retiring mayor stated that she was in awe of just how many and varied the groups attending were and the variety and energy of the people involved.

The presentation of the Queens Award for Voluntary Service to Graham Mynott the Director of Hebden Bridge Community Association was a real moment to remember. This being the highest award a voluntary group can receive, well done to our community!

Other huge highlights for Cllr Fraser were the Civic Ceremony in October which was held in Hope Baptist Church on the themes of Hope, Peace and Reconciliation. Consorts and fellow Councillors contributed readings on these themes and she found it both uplifting and inspiring. The finale of the year

was the 1960's Charity party where, ably assisted by Hebden Radio, Dave Boardman quiz person extraordinaire and Bazzmatazz – a hugely enjoyable evening managed to raise a lot of money for Andy's Man Club.

Finally, Cllr Fraser recalled that in her speech last year she I hoped she could be a worthy ambassador for Hebden Royd and that amongst the visits to schools, sheltered housing, switching on Christmas lights, carol singing at Mytholmroyd and Hebden Bridge stations, involvement with Mytholmroyd Station Partnership, the White Ribbon Campaign, launching the Duck Race in arctic conditions, being presented with a long lost cricket cup amongst other things she hoped that in a small way she had succeeded in what she had set out to do.

The Retiring Mayor presented her secretary, Rebekah Cox with flowers and thanked her for the support and hard work she had received during the year.

Cllr Pat Fraser invited her charity, Andys Man Club to the stage and presented them with a cheque for £2075.20, funds raised during the year to support their work.

The Retiring Mayor, Cllr Pat Fraser re-joined the body of meeting

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Hodgins & Phillips.

3. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was **proposed** by Cllr Boggis

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that Cllr Stephne Harrison be elected Deputy Mayor of Hebden Royd for 2018/19.

Cllr Dr Carol Stow placed the chain on the Deputy Mayor who took her seat at the top table and announced that her consort for the year would be Roz Brown who was also invited to the top table after having the chain placed on them.

4. SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD

It was **proposed** by Cllr Bampton Smith

Seconded by Cllr Patient

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that the 2018/19 Service to the Community Award(s) in recognition of exemplary support of the community in the Parish of Hebden Royd by made to Sue and Geoff Mitchell of the Mytholmroyd Station Partnership.

Cllr Bampton Smith said that from Bug Hotels to National heroes of the Railway Sue & Geoff can help and advise how it should all be done. They have put Mytholmroyd on the map and now with an extra twenty services per day they are an exemplar of how to adopt, care for and nurture a train station.

Sue & Geoff Mitchell received an engraved shield and a gift.

5. MAYORAL ASPIRATIONS FOR 2018/19 & ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAYORS CHARITY

Cllr Dr Carol Stow outlined her personal desire for targets, objectives she could strive and a target that she could be measured against.

To this end she outlined what she hoped the next twelve months would bring and how she hoped that the meeting of these targets would serve the people of Hebden Royd.

Cllr Dr Stow hopes to see HRTC Councillors attend Calderdale Planning Committee meetings on contentious issues and that the future home of HRTC be secured in an accessible location. She wanted to see core services protected and look for opportunities to add to these.

Cllr Dr Stow hopes to become more involved with the Mayors for Peace movement and to educate the masses into understanding the Town Councils role in our area. The placing of Book Plates in our gifts of books to local schools, while small would further an understanding of what we can, and do, undertake.

Cllr Dr Stow hoped that the Town Council would finally guide the parish to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan and that it would continue to support the Disability Access Forum.

Finally Cllr Dr Stow passed comment that communities don't just happen by accident and that organisations present at the Annual meeting reflected that. They were there because of hard work and effort.

Cllr Dr Stow announced that her charity for the year would be 'Slow the Flow' who thanked the New Mayor and made a short video presentation.

Cllr Dr Stow thanked all for attending and invited them to enjoy the entertainment from the 'Flat Five' and refreshments.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm.