

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Sue Clarke (Chair) Paul Georghiades (Deputy Chair), John Bailey, Steven Burch, Joanna De Groot-Marzec, Ron Fox, Sylvee Phillips, and Judith Hart (Town Clerk).

In attendance: Stuart Rogers (Teignbridge District Council) and 2 members of the public (arrived at 7.30pm)

Press: None

24/21. Election of Town Mayor and Chair of the Town Council for 2024/25 and Declaration of Acceptance of Office:

The Clerk invited nominations for the position of Town Mayor and Chair. Cllr Sue Clarke was nominated by Cllr John Bailey and seconded by Cllr Paul Georghiades. With no further nominations Cllr Clarke was duly elected with all members in agreement.

24/22. Apologies for absence: Cllr Leigh Walker-Haworth and Cllrs John Nutley and Jack Major (Teignbridge District Council)

Cllr Clarke expressed disappointment regarding the lack of representation from District Councillors and that following the loss of Cllr Cox, who is standing up for the needs of Buckfastleigh residents?

Councillors invited to declare any interests: None

24/23. Election of Deputy Town Mayor and Deputy Chair of the Town Council for 2024/25 and Declaration of Acceptance of Office:

The Chair invited nominations for the above position and Cllr Paul Georghiades was nominated by Cllr Fox which was seconded by Cllr Burch with all members in agreement. With no further nominations, Cllr Paul Georghiades was duly elected.

24/24. Appointment of the Chair of the Finance Committee and Members of this Committee:

Cllr Georghiades was proposed as Chair with all Members in agreement. Cllrs Bailey, Burch and Fox were appointed to this committee.

24/25. Appointment of the Chair of the Tourism, Recreation and Community Development Committee and Members of this Committee:

Cllr Phillips was proposed as Chair with all Members in agreement. Cllrs Bailey, Burch, Clarke, De Groot-Marzec and Walker-Haworth were appointed to this committee.

24/26. Appointment of the Chair of the Personnel Committee and Members of this Committee:

Cllr Bailey was appointed as Chair with all Members in agreement and Cllrs De Groot-Marzec, Georghiades, and Phillips as committee members.

24/27. Appointment of Members to the Planning Review Group:

Cllrs Bailey, Burch, Fox, and Phillips were appointed as members of this group. All Councillors to be included in the circulation of planning applications which require a response.

24/28. Review and appointment of new signatories to the Town Council bank account:

No further action required following a recent review. Councillors Clarke, Georghiades, Fox, and Walker-Hawaorth are the current signatories.

24/29. Appointment to the following organisations:

- Victoria Park and Swimming Pool (1 Councillor to represent the Town Council). Cllrs Clarke and Fox will continue in their capacity as trustees.
- Buckfastleigh Youth Forum (1 or 2 Councillors). Cllrs Clarke and Georghiades appointed.
- Bungalow Youth Management Committee (1 Councillor). Cllr Phillips appointed.
- Ashburton and Buckfastleigh Wellbeing Centre League of Friends (1 Councillor). Cllr Clarke appointed.

24/30. To adopt the General Power of Competence:

To achieve the General Power of Competence the Town Council must ensure that it meets the conditions of eligibility as set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012.

The Clerk advised Members that as the Council currently does not meet the criteria regarding the number of elected Councillors, the General Power of Competence will not be reinstated until the next election and only if at least two thirds of the Councillors are elected.

24/31. To review and adopt the Town Council Treasury and Investment Policy:

Decision: Resolved

24/32. To review and adopt the Town Council Protocol for filming and recording of Local Council and Committee Meetings:

Decision: Resolved

Copy to be displayed on the Town Council notice board in the Town Hall.

24/33. Public Question Time: No questions raised.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm and proceeded to the May Town Council Meeting