

**DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**HELD VIRTUALLY ON MICROSOFT TEAMS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC  
AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS  
(CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL  
MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020**

**ON MONDAY 18 MAY 2020**

Present: Councillor Sid Abbott (Retiring Town Mayor); Councillor Liz Jones (Retiring Deputy Town Mayor); Councillors, Wendy Bater, Lisa Bird, Matthew Brennan, Mark Cant, Philip Crawley, Greg George, Pamela Ghent, John Gurney, Kenson Gurney, Peter Hollick, Gloria Martin, Cameron Restall, Lee Roberts, Gladys Sanders and Johnson Tamara with David Ashlee (Town Clerk and Chief Executive)

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Alan Corkhill

Before the commencement of the meeting Dr Johan Schoeman led the Council in prayer.

**62 AMENDMENT TO THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS AND CONSTITUTION**

Members considered the Town Clerk and Chief Executive's report proposing amendments to the Council's Standing Orders and Constitution that would allow remote meetings to take place as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the corresponding Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

**RESOLVED:** That the amended Constitution and Standing Orders as presented at Appendix 1 of the covering report be adopted by the Council for the purposes of holding remote meetings for the duration of the Covid-19 Pandemic 'lockdown' period and until such time as Council meetings can be held safely with all necessary members attending in person.

**63 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR**

It was proposed by Councillor Jones, seconded by Councillor Bird and

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Peter Hollick be and is hereby elected Town Mayor of Dunstable for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The newly elected Town Mayor thereupon made the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office. He would announce his chosen charities for the year shortly.

**64 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS**

There were no specific declarations of interest.

**65 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Alan Corkhill

**66 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR**

It was proposed by Councillor Restall, seconded by Councillor Abbott, and

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Gloria Martin be and is hereby elected Deputy Town Mayor of Dunstable for the ensuing Municipal Year.

The newly appointed Deputy Town Mayor thereupon made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**67 TOWN MAYORS' CHAPLAIN**

The Town Mayor was pleased to report that Reverend Rachel Phillips of the Priory Church of St Peter had agreed to be the Town Mayor's Chaplain for the ensuing Municipal Year.

**68 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**RESOLVED:** that the following Committees be appointed for the ensuing Municipal Year 2020/2021:

**Finance and General Purposes Committee**

Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor (ex-officio), Councillors Abbott, Bater, Brennan, Cant, Corkhill, Crawley, J Gurney, K Gurney, Jones, Restall, Roberts and Tamara

**Grounds and Environmental Services Committee**

Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor (ex-officio), Councillors Bird, Brennan, Cant, Corkhill, George, Ghent, K Gurney, Jones, Sanders and Tamara

**Community Services Committee**

Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor (ex-officio), Councillors Abbott, Bater, Bird, Crawley, George, Ghent, J Gurney, Restall, Roberts and Sanders

**Dunstable Joint Committee**

Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and Chairmen of three Standing Committees and Councillor Restall

(Named substitutes: Vice-Chairmen of the three Standing Committees)

**Personnel Sub-Committee**

Councillors Abbott, Bird, Brennan, J Gurney, Hollick, Jones and Martin

**Plans Sub-Committee**

Councillors Cant, Corkhill, Crawley, J Gurney, Jones, Restall and Tamara

**Appeals and Appointments Committee**

Town Mayor and Chairmen of the three Standing Committees and Vice-Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee

**69**     **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meetings of the Community Services Committee held on 2 March 2020; the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 9 March 2020 and the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 16 March 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**70**     **CHAIRMANS REMARKS**

The Chairman made no remarks

**71**     **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS, ETC**

It was moved by Councillor Abbott, seconded by Councillor Crawley, and

**RESOLVED:** that the representatives to serve on outside organisations be as follows:

<b><u>Body</u></b>	<b><u>Representative</u></b>
Observer at Development Committee (Central Beds)	Cllr Abbott (named substitute Cllr Martin)
Dunstable International Town Twinning Assoc.	Town Mayor and Cllrs Corkhill & Abbott
South Beds Dial-a-Ride Management Cttee	Cllr Martin
CAB Management Committee	Cllr Bater
Hospice at Home Management Cttee	Cllr Jones
Dunstable District Scout Council Executive	Cllr Restall
Dunstable Town Band	Cllr Martin
Ashton Almshouses Charity	Cllrs Corkhill and Hollick (4-year term of office until May 2023)

**72**     **DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – DISPENSATION**

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Abbott, and

**RESOLVED:** i) that the Council grants all members a dispensation from any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) relating to decision making when setting the annual revenue and capital budget and associated precept and council tax charge

ii) that the Council grants all Councillors who are also Central Bedfordshire Councillors a dispensation from any DPI relating to decision making on matters that are associated with Central Bedfordshire Council.

**73**     **QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 16**

There were no questions under Standing Order 16