

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE WOODSTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
ON TUESDAY 8th MAY 2018
AT 7.30pm
IN THE TOWN HALL, WOODSTOCK.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Mrs T Redpath (Mayor)
Cllr. P Jay
Cllr. F Collingwood
Cllr M Parkinson
C Cllr E Poskitt
Cllr P Redpath

Cllr. A Grant (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr. J Cooper
Cllr. S Parnes
Cllr U Parkinson
Cllr S Rasch

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: CCllr Ian Hudspeth and approximately twenty five members of the public which included Mr B Yoxall attending on behalf of the Woodstock & Bladon News to write a monthly report for the publication.

WTC1/18 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR AND SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:

The Mayor, Cllr T Redpath announced that although she was asked to stand for the forthcoming year after careful thought she had reluctantly decided for personal reasons not put her name forward. She believed that in the last year Council has acted in a far more cohesive way than she had experienced in previous years and hoped her method of chairmanship had been instrumental in that. She referred to the one blot in her term of office, the extensive harassment she had received by email and had found this and the personal slights totally unacceptable. Having taken on the role in 2017 to support the new Clerk and protect her from unnecessary provocation (something the Council had been accused of in the past), in consequence she had found herself in the line of fire. It was therefore not a role that she would wholeheartedly recommend and stated that her successor would need to be tough and firm.

The retiring Mayor proposed Cllr P Jay as Mayor 2018/19 which was seconded by Cllr S Rasch. There were no alternative nominations.

Cllr S Parnes requested a named vote.

VOTE: For:	8	Cllrs T Redpath, P Redpath, M Parkinson, F Collingwood, S Rasch, U Parkinson, E Poskitt & J Cooper
Against:	0	
Abstained:	3	Cllr S Parnes, P Jay and A Grant

RESOLVED: Cllr P Jay's election was confirmed and he signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took over the chair of the meeting. The Mayor thanked the Council for the compliment it had paid him and the confidence it had in him, confirming he would serve the Council to the very best of his ability. He paid tribute to the retiring Mayor Cllr T Redpath and stated that in his judgment she had been an excellent Mayor during a difficult and transitional time in the Council's affairs, and had given outstanding support and encouragement to the new Clerk. He complimented her on the way in which she had chaired the meetings with a remarkable combination of firmness and tolerance and desire to

let all Councillors say what they wish to say. On behalf of the Council he thanked her for her outstanding service.

WTC2/18 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR:

The Mayor, Cllr P Jay, nominated Cllr A Grant for the position of Deputy Mayor seconded by Cllr J Cooper.

VOTE: For: 11 Against: 0 Abstained: 1

RESOLVED: Cllr A Grant was elected as Deputy Mayor.

WTC3/18 ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS FOR SPECIFIC ROLES:

It was agreed that Councillors would continue for another year in their specific roles as shown below:-

Cllr F Collingwood	-	Council Member for Finance
Cllr A Grant	-	Council Member for Property
Cllr P Redpath	-	Liaison Councillor for Environment
Cllr D Davies	-	Council Member for Winter Weather

Councillors were appointed to the internal working groups and panel as shown in Appendix 1 to these minutes

WTC4/18 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

Councillors agreed to serve on the outside bodies as shown in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

WTC5/18 TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST:

No disclosures of interest were received relating to items on this agenda.

WTC6/18 APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES:

The Mayor proposed to appoint the following professional bodies:-

Property Agent – Breckon & Breckon
Banks - Unity Bank & Barclays Bank
Insurers – Zurich
Water Meadow Management – Wychwood Project

The above were unanimously agreed.

It was agreed to review the appointment of the following professional bodies:-

Councils Solicitors
Employment and H&R Advisors
Planning Adviser - At present the Council are without a planning adviser and will consider appointing one when the need arises.
Internal Auditor - a review will take place after the first audit has been received.

WTC7/18 STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:

After some debate Council agreed the continued use of the current Standing Orders and Financial Regulations with a proviso that Council commit to reviewing and updating them as a priority.

WTC8/18 ASSET REGISTER AND RISK ASSESSMENT FOR 2018/19:

Post Meeting Note: The risk assessment for 2017/18 was noted at the February Town Council Meeting (**WTC227/17**) and the reference to the year 2018/19 was a typing error.

The fixed asset register (2017/18) will be an item for the June meeting as it is a year-end activity and will be presented with the year-end accounts. The risk assessment for 2018/19 will be reviewed thoroughly in June/July and will be presented at the September meeting.

WTC9/18 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS:

The dates of meetings and events for the coming year were agreed as shown in Appendix 2 to these minutes.

The meeting closed at 19.52hrs