

DEVIZES TOWN COUNCIL
12 MARCH 2015

Councillors:	Mrs Bridewell	Mrs Burton	Carter
	East	Evans	Mrs Evans
	Geddes	Giraud-Saunders	Johnson
	Nash	Parker	Mrs Rose
	Smith	Wooldridge	

Officers: Sarah Todhunter – Town Clerk
Simon Fisher – Deputy Town Clerk

Members of the Public: None

A minute's silence was held in memory of former Councillor, Mr Hugh Burn, who recently passed away.

584. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18 December 2014 having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

585. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hopkins and Ody.

586. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

None declared.

587. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

588. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 15

None.

589. MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION

The committee noted the list of meetings, whose minutes have been signed, held since the last meeting of the Council.

590. PROCEDURE: SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO 5

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Giraud-Saunders and RESOLVED

THAT For the purposes of dealing with the remaining items on the agenda, Standing Order No 5 (Members to stand when speaking) be suspended.

591. REPORT FOR INFORMATION REPRESENTATION FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Councillor Evans gave an update on projects.

592. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – PROJECT LIST

The committee received and noted the report.

593. REPORT FOR DECISION – SELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2015/2016

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bridewell, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rose and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT Councillor Wooldridge is the Council's nomination for Deputy Mayor the civic year 2015/2016.

594. REPORT FOR DECISION – APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR – MR MORRISON

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Nash and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT Mr Alistair Morrison be appointment Internal Auditor for the 2015/2016 financial year.

595. COMMON SEAL

It was proposed by Councillor Giraud-Saunders, seconded by Councillor Wooldridge and agreed

THAT the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to or the Town Clerk do sign on behalf of the Council where appropriate any Orders, Deeds or Documents necessary to give effect to any of the matters and recommendations contained in the reports received and adopted at this meeting or other decisions of the Council thereat.

596. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

597. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Members of the Public were present.

598. PROCEDURE: CONFIDENTIALITY OF EXEMPT BUSINESS

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bridewell seconded by Councillor Johnson and AGREED

THAT In view of the confidential nature of the remaining exempt items of business to be considered, this is dealt with In Committee in the absence of the press and members of the public.

Councillors Mrs Rose, East and Geddes requested that it is recorded that they voted against the discussion being held in exempt session.

599. REPORT FOR DECISION – MAYORAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Following the initial resolution, the Council felt it should debate what should be used to cover the picture; however, it was further debated that there was no justification for this element of the discussion to be in exempt session, therefore it was proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Giraud-Saunders and unanimously AGREED

THAT given the nature of the remainder of the discussion it was not necessary for the press or public to be excluded.

It was proposed by Councillors Smith and seconded by Councillor Mrs Burton and unanimously AGREED

THAT Initially a sheet of white paper should be used bearing solely the following short text “This picture has been removed following a Council resolution 12 March 2015” however to keep the historic record the name in gold lettering should always remain.

It was further agreed that at a future meeting of the Council a decision should be made as to a suitable image to be displayed to replace the blank sheet however the statement should always remain.

599. EXEMPT REPORT FOR DECISION – MAYORAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Whilst all members of the Council had an opportunity to give their opinion essentially two opposing viewpoints were voiced. One was that the picture for Mayoral year 2000/2001 should remain on display as the incumbent was elected as a Mayor for the Town and carried out those duties with honour and dignity and therefore history cannot be altered by the covering over of a picture. The opposing point was that having being been convicted of a crime allowing a picture of an offending Mayor, past or present can reflect on all Councillors who have served as Mayor and therefore has the ability to devalue the position and for this reason the picture of the Mayor who held office in 2000/2001 should be covered over.

It was proposed by Councillor Carter and Seconded by Councillor Wooldridge

THAT the Mayoral picture for year 2000/2001 should remain on display.

7 members of the Council agreed that the picture should remain on display,

7 members of the Council did not agree believing it should not remain on display.

The Mayor having the casting vote voted against the proposition and therefore it was AGREED

THAT the Mayoral picture for year 2000/2001 should not remain on display.

CHAIRMAN