

**MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
DEVIZES TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM, TOWN HALL, DEVIZES
ON THURSDAY 14 MAY 2015 AT 6.45PM**

Present: Chairman (Councillor Mrs Bridewell)

Councillors:	Mrs J Burton	Carter	Corbett
	East	Evans	Mrs S Evans
	Geddes	Giraud-Saunders	Hopkins
	Johnson	Nash	Ody
	Parker	Mrs Rose	Smith
	Wooldridge		

1. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR FOR 2015/2016

The Meeting having assembled, it was brought to order by the Mayor's Officer who called upon the assembly to rise and receive the Town Mayor's Chain of Office. The Mayor's Officer entered the Assembly Room followed by the Macebearers and the Town Clerk. The Mayoral Chain of Office was laid on the table alongside the Hanap Cup and the Maces and other insignia.

It was proposed by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rose and RESOLVED

THAT Councillor Giraud-Saunders is elected Town Mayor of Devizes for 2015/2016.

The newly elected Town Mayor then retired into the Grand Jury Room in order to enable the latter to robe.

On returning to the Assembly Room, Councillor Mrs Bridewell will formally invest the Town Mayor with the Chain and Badge of Office.

2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Upon the Town Clerk's invitation, Councillor Giraud-Saunders makes the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which both he and the Town Clerk then sign. The Town Mayor thereupon assumed the Chair. He advises the meeting that her Mayor's Appeal charities will be Devizes Budo Club, Devizes Almshouse and Drews Pond wood.

3. MAYORAL THANKS

Councillor Giraud-Saunders then rose in his place and suitably thanked his proposer and seconder and the members of the Council for his election and for the confidence they had placed in him.

4. MAYORESS' BADGE OF OFFICE

Mr Bridewell passed the Mayoress badge to Mrs Giovanna Giraud-Saunders for the coming Mayoral year.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 12 March 2015 having previously been circulated, were signed by the Chairman.

6. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

7. IMMEDIATE PAST TOWN MAYOR: VOTE OF THANKS

It was proposed by Councillor Nash, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rose and RESOLVED

THAT This council resolves that a vote of thanks be given to Sarah Bridewell, Mayor for Devizes 2014/2015, for the conscientious and enthusiastic manner in which she has carried out her duties as Mayor for the benefit of all the residents of Devizes.

8. IMMEDIATE PAST TOWN MAYOR: REPLY

The immediate past Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs Bridewell then suitably replied in response to this resolution and in turn thanked the members of the Council for their support during her Mayoral Year and gave a vote of thanks to Councillor Mr Giraud-Saunders and Mrs Giraud-Saunders for all they work they carried out on her behalf during the past 12 months. Councillor Mrs Bridewell concluded her address by formally handing over to the Town Mayor the bunch of keys he will be required to use during his year in office. She advised the Council that she has raised in excess of £6,600 for her charities.

9. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2015/2016

It was proposed by Councillor Giraud-Saunders, seconded by Councillor Mrs Rose and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

THAT Councillor Wooldridge is elected Deputy Town Mayor for 2015/2016.

The Town Mayor thereupon invited Councillor Wooldridge to come forward and take his designated place beside him at the Council table.

The Town Mayor then invested Councillor Wooldridge with his Badge of Office after which Councillor Wooldridge addressed the Council and thanked the members for his election.

10. MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

The Town Mayor announced to the meeting the prerogative appointments he had made and suitably thanked those named for accepting them. The appointments are as follows: -

Chamberlains	-	Councillor Mrs Bridewell and Councillor Mrs Burton
High Constables	-	Ian Rose
Mayor's Chaplain	-	Reverend Cannon Paul Richardson
Macebearers	-	Mr Peter Powell and Mr Andrew Bewley
Mayoresses Macebearer	-	Mr Nick Rusby
Mayor's Officer	-	Mr Marcus Hopgood

11. MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION

The Council received and noted the report.

12. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Town Mayor then asked the Town Clerk whether she had any matters to bring to the Council's attention at this time. The Town Clerk indicated there were none.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Mayor reminded members of the Council of the invitation extended to them to process in State and attend morning service at St John's Church on Sunday, 14 June 2015⁴ (Inaugural Service) and hoped that as many members as possible together with their partners would support her on this occasion.

14. QUESTIONS

The Town Clerk replied that there were no questions.

15. DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS IN 2015/2016

Councillors were asked by the Town Mayor to note the dates of meetings during the forthcoming year, a copy of which had previously been circulated and which would be annexed to and form part of these minutes.

16. COMMON SEAL

In accordance with custom the Town Clerk read out to the meeting the Sealing Resolution which is as follows:-

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 taken thereat.

It was proposed by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Parker and
RESOLVED

THAT The Sealing Resolution be adopted.

17. CLOSURE

The Town Mayor then declared the meeting closed at 7.15pm and the Town Clerk made an announcement inviting Councillors, their partners and the Mayor's family and personal guests to join her for the civic reception, once the Assembly Room had been made ready.

CHAIRMAN