

CHARTER TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BEXHILL ON WEDNESDAY 23 MAY 2018

Present: Cllr S Elford - Chair
Cllr A Azad - Deputy Mayor
Councillors: J Carroll, R Carroll, C Clark
P Douart, S Earl, Mrs D Earl-Williams
Mrs B Hollingsworth, I Hollidge,
Mrs J Hughes, Mrs G Johnson,
B.Kentfield M Kenward,
Mrs J Potts, M Watson

Also present were;

The Chairman of RDC Cllr J Johnson, The Deputy Mayor of Rye Cllr Gilbert, Representatives of Bexhill Heritage, Special Kids, Bexhill Caring Community, Alzheimer's UK, Bexhill Museum, Trustees family members, and a large number of honoured guests.

Opening Prayers led by Rev David Reynish

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Mayor of Bexhill Cllr T Graham, Cllr D Oliver, Mayor of Hastings, Mayor of Rye, Mayor of Battle and Mayor of Winchelsea, Past Mayors Mr Armstrong and Mr McEwan

Cllr Elford chairing the meeting as the past Mayor, welcomed all guests to the meeting and wished Cllr Tom Graham well and a speedy recovery.

- 2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on the 7th March 2018 were duly signed as a correct record of the proceedings.
- 3 MAYOR'S CHARITY** – Cllr Elford was delighted to present two cheques for £1200 each from Cllr Tom Graham to Mrs Crow for Alzheimer's UK and to John Betts representing Bexhill Museum. Cllr Kenward thanked Cllr Tom Graham for donating this money to these worthy causes.
- 4 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR** – Cllr Elford called for nominations. Councillor I Hollidge nominated Cllr A Azad and spoke about his ability to carry out the role, this was seconded by Councillor C Clark. Councillor Abul Azad signified his willingness to stand and there being no further nominations it was **RESOLVED that Councillor Abul Azad was duly elected as Mayor for the ensuing year.**

The newly elected Town Mayor together with Cllr Elford, and the Clerk and Mace Bearer then retired for robing.

- 6 DECLARATION OF OFFICE.** Councillor A Azad the newly elected Mayor took his seat. He read and signed the Declaration of Office. He thanked those who had nominated him, the Trustees that had elected him and his family and spoke of his hopes and plans for the year ahead.

- 7 **ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR.** The Mayor called for nominations. Councillor Mrs J Hughes said it was her wish and pleasure to nominate Councillor Ian Hollidge. His nomination was seconded by Councillor R Carroll. Councillor Hollidge indicated his willingness to serve and there being no further nominations it was **RESOLVED that Councillor Ian Hollidge was elected Deputy Mayor of Bexhill for the ensuing year.** The Deputy Town Mayor took his seat and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and thanked the Charter Trustees for his election.
- 8 **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR** – Councillor Kentfield spoke warmly of the Mayor during his short time in office and thanked Cllr Azad for his service as Deputy Mayor, and he *proposed that "The Charter Trustees record their appreciation of the services rendered to the Town of Bexhill by Councillor Tom Graham during his period of office as Town Mayor, and tender to him hope for a speedy recovery. The Charter Trustees also wish to record their thanks to the Deputy Mayor for supporting the Town mayor in his duties and for the keen interest he has always shown in the welfare of the Town."* This was seconded by Councillor Kenward. **AGREED.**
- 9 **RECOGNITION OF SUPPORT** – Councillor Azad offered thanks for the support both Cllr T Graham and he had received over the last year, including the Charter Trustees. Special thanks and gifts were presented to Rev David Reynish, retiring clerk Mr T Cox and his wife Khaleda.
- 11 **THE TOWN MAYOR’S COMMUNICATION** - Cllr Azad spoke of the honour he felt at being elected as Mayor and shared his hopes for this coming year that included working closely with all the Trustees in welcoming everyone into the town and ensuring that Bexhill continues to prosper. Cllr Azad nominated two charities that will be the focus of his fundraising for the coming year. Special Kids, who work with local families and children, providing activities and support and Bexhill Caring Community, an organisation that works tirelessly to support and improve the lives of people in need in Bexhill.
- Cllr Azad confirmed that his Chaplain would be the Team Rector of St Peters Father David Reynish.
- 12 **AWARD OF THE CHARTER TRUSTEE CREST** - In recognition of their commitment to Bexhill the Charter Trustees awarded Bexhill Heritage the use of the Charter Trustee Crest. Mr R Konyn responded to the award, thanking the Charter Trustees for their support and recognition.
- 13 **Next meetings of the Charter Trustees.**
Wednesday 13th June and Wednesday 24th October 2018 both at 5.30pm.
- 14 The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.35 p.m. and invited those present to join him and the Trustees for refreshments.

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Town Mayor

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Date: