

CHARTER TRUSTEES OF BEXHILL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BEXHILL ON WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2017

Present: Cllr S Elford - Mayor
Cllr T Graham - Deputy Mayor
Councillors: A Azad, J Carroll, R Carroll
P Douart, S Earl,
Mrs B George, I Hollidge,
Mrs J Hughes, Mrs G Johnson,
B.Kentfield M Kenward,
Mrs J Potts, M Watson

Also present were The Chairman of ESCC Cllr Michael Ensor and Mrs Sue Ensor
Cllr Mrs Mary Barnes Chairman of RDC and her husband Cllr. J Barnes, The
Mayor of Winchelsea Jurat Cynthia Feast and her Consort Richard Feast,
Trustees family members, and a large number of honoured guests

Prayers led by Revd. Olivia Werrett.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Clark and Cllr Mrs Earl-Williams. Revd. David Reynish. The Mayor of Rye and The Mayor of Hastings whose Mayor Making date clashed with our meeting

The Mayor welcomed all guests to the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING AND MAYOR MAKING were duly signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

3 MAYOR'S CHARITY – The Mayor informed the meeting that he had raised the sum to date of £5433 and he was delighted to pass a presentation cheque to Mr Jay Wootten Chairman of CHARITY FOR KIDS. All collected monies have been banked with JustGiving. Mr Wootten thanked both the Mayor and the Mayoress Mrs Tanya Elford for their wonderful support and spoke about the direct benefit monies raised gave to local disabled children.

4 THE BEXHILL TRUST celebrates their centenary this year. In recognition of their service to local people and organisations the Mayor announced that the Trust would be granted the right to use the Charter Trustees Crest on their stationary and publicity materials. Mr Tony Lee received the Crest and documentation on behalf of the Bexhill Trust. and spoke briefly on the history and purpose of the Trust.

5 THE MAYOR'S CIVIC AWARD. The Mayor said that the Trustees had decided to make this award to Mr. CHRIS ASHFORD in recognition of his outstanding community service to the people of Bexhill. The Mayor said that Mr Ashford served tirelessly for a number for a number of groups and organisations dedicated to the health, welfare and environmental causes of

local people. The Mayor presented Mr Ashford with a commemorative scroll in thanks and recognition of his service. Mr Ashford responded and thanked the trustees for their award.

- 6 ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR** – The Mayor called for nominations. Councillor Kenward seconded by Councillor Watson nominated Councillor Thomas Graham. Councillor Graham signified his willingness to stand and there being no further nominations **Councillor Thomas Graham was duly elected as Mayor for the ensuing year.**

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

- 7 DECLARATION OF OFFICE.** Councillor T Graham 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.

- 8 ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR.** The Mayor called for nominations. Councillor |Graham said it was his wish and pleasure to nominate Councillor Abul Azad. His nomination was seconded by Councillor Kenward. Councillor Azad indicated his willingness to serve and there being no further nominations it was **RESOLVED that Councillor Azad 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.

- 9 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR** – Councillor Kenward spoke warmly of the work of the Mayor during his year in office, and he *proposed that "The Charter Trustees record their appreciation of the services rendered to the Town of Bexhill by Councillor Simon Elford during his period of office as Town Mayor, and tender to him sincere thanks for the keen interest he has always shown in the welfare of the Town."* This was seconded by Councillor Mrs Joy Hughes. **AGREED.**

- 10 THE RETIRING MAYOR'S RESPONSE** – Councillor Elford thanked the Trustees and recorded his appreciation to all the clubs and societies he and his wife had visited during his year in office. He spoke of the success of the fund-raising Mayor's Civic Ball. He spoke warmly of Paul Harris the founder of Kids for Charity and of Tanya his wife and her support and assistance during the year particularly with his charitable fund-raising and the Mayor presented her with flowers. A number of floral and other gifts were also distributed and he spoke warmly of his Chaplain the Rev Olivia Werrett and kindly of the contribution of the work of the Clerk during an administrative transitional year .

He had been honoured and so very pleased to meet many people, so many of whom serve the interests of our town so well.

11 The Town Mayor's communications.

The Town Mayor spoke of the support that he wished to give to a number of charities. For the arts through the support of the Bexhill Museum: for Dementia UK and for mental ill- health services.

His Chaplain would be the Team Rector of St Peters Father David Reynish – currently on sabbatical and the Mayor's Civic Service would be held on September 10th to which all are welcome.

12 Ay other business

From the floor Mr S Wood, a past Town Mayor spoke of the Charter Trustees work and asked if the privilege of use of the Trustees Crest could be used for a limited period during the Ninfield Flower festival 26-28th August to promote the achievement of the four Bexhill men who had rowed from Australia to Mauritius in the Indian Rowing Racing Race. This was AGREED

13 Next meetings of the Charter Trustees.

14th June and Wednesday 25th October 2017 both at 5.30pm.

14 The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.33 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: