

AGENDA ITEM No. 3a

MINUTES of the Virtual **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL** conducted remotely via Zoom and Youtube on **WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY, 2020** at **5pm.**

PRESENT Councillor Mrs A Johnson (Retiring Mayor),
Councillors Ms L Crawford, J Ellis, A Fey, A Hutton, A Lewis, Mrs U Mann, J Moody, Mrs G Parker, G Parker, B Smith, H Smith, P Squire, A Venning, P Ward and P Williamson.

IN ATTENDANCE Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk

Note – prior to the meeting there was opportunity for quiet reflection led by the Retiring Mayor.

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the remainder of the ensuing 2020-21 Civic Year.

A nomination was received in respect of Councillor Mrs A Johnson (proposed by Councillor P Ward and seconded by Councillor A Venning).

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED THAT

- a) Councillor Mrs A Johnson be re-elected Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the remainder of the 2020-21 Civic Year;
- b) Council authorise the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office within one week of the appointment.

The Mayor thanked the Council for the opportunity to represent it as Mayor for another year. She further expressed her appreciation to colleagues and the hardworking staff of the Council for their support and endeavours over the past Civic Year, which had turned out to be a particularly challenging one due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mayor also thanked her family, and in particular her husband and Consort, for their unfailing support.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Nominations were invited for the election of Deputy Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the remainder of the ensuing 2020-2021 Civic Year.

A nomination was received in respect of Councillor A Hutton (proposed by Councillor Mrs U Mann and seconded by Councillor G Parker).

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED THAT

- a) Councillor A Hutton be re-elected Deputy Mayor of Tavistock Town Council for the remainder of the 2020-21 Civic Year.
- b) Council authorise the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office within one week of the appointment.

The Deputy Mayor thanked the Council for the opportunity to represent it as Deputy Mayor for another year.

Noted That Councillor A Lewis joined the Meeting.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Mrs M Ewings.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this point in the Meeting.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Tavistock Town Council held on 1st July 2020, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman (Appendix 1).

6. ORDER OF BUSINESS

In order to facilitate the conduct of the meeting it was:

RESOLVED THAT Standing Orders Nos. 5 (j) (iv) – (vi), and (viii) – (x) and (xiii – xx) be suspended to allow the following business to be transacted.

7. MAYOR'S EXPENSES

The Council considered the treatment of Mayoral expenses arising from which it was:-

RESOLVED THAT Tavistock Town Council endorse the payment of an allowance of £2,000 to the Town Mayor to defray the expenses attached to this Office in pursuance of Section 15(5) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Noted That the new Mayor Declared an Interest and left the Meeting during consideration of the above during which the Deputy Mayor took the Chair.

On re-joining the Meeting, the Mayor advised that in view of the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on community, and Council, that she would not

claim the Mayor's Expenses for the first half of the 2020-21 Civic Year. The position regarding the second half of the year would be reviewed in November 2020 when an assessment of the Council's finances at that time, could be made.

8. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES & CONSULTATIVE GROUPS

The Council considered how best to proceed in relation to the appointment of Committees and Consultative Groups (Appendix 2).

RESOLVED THAT the Membership of Committees and other fora as set out in the appended Schedule be endorsed.

9. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Council considered, received and noted the Calendar of Meetings, as previously approved by Council, (Appendix 3) for the 2020-2021 Civic Year.

10. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CHARITIES AND OTHER BODIES

The Council considered a report setting out the proposed appointment of representatives to Charities and Other Bodies (Appendix 4).

RESOLVED THAT representatives be appointed to the Charities and Outside Bodies for the 2020-2021 Civic Year as set out in the report.

Tribute to the Mayor

The most recent past Mayor, Councillor P Ward, paid tribute to the Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs A Johnson, referencing the challenges which had been faced over the previous year, and how the Mayor had worked diligently behind the scenes to support the work of the Council. It was recognised that the highlight of the 2019-2020 Civic Year had been the Royal Visit in July 2019, when the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall had visited the Town. The Mayor was thanked for having been an excellent ambassador for Tavistock, together with her long-standing support of the youth of the Town, recognised by the award of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to her.

11. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Having met the criteria for eligibility for the General Power of Competence (GPC) relating to the Electoral Mandate (66%), and the relevant training of the Clerk, it was;

RESOLVED THAT Tavistock Town Council re-adopt the General Power of Competence.

12. RECORD OF ATTENDANCES

The Council considered and noted Schedules setting out the Record of

Attendances at Meetings of the Council/Committees, Civic and Training
Events during the 2019-2020 Civic Year (Appendix 5).

The Meeting closed at 5.20pm

Chairman

Date