

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL  
ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING****10<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2010**

**PRESENT :-** Councillor Yarker (the outgoing Town Mayor)(in the Chair for Minute 1 only); Councillor Cooke (in the Chair from Minute 2 onwards); Councillors Mrs Bailes, Blissett, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Hamilton, Harrison, Hinchcliffe, Peat, Watson and Wood.

**1. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

Nominations were sought in accordance with the seniority procedure agreed at Council Minute 174(1)/Apr/10. Councillor Cooke was proposed and seconded. There were no other nominations.

**Resolved –** That Councillor Cooke be elected Town Mayor for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

(**NOTE** - Councillor Wood voted against the above resolution. He asked for his vote to be recorded and summarised his reasons in a supporting statement.)

Following his election, Councillor Cooke was invested with his Chain of Office by the outgoing Town Mayor. He then made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and chaired the remainder of the meeting. He thanked the Council for his election and reported that Miss Rebecca Abrahams would be the Town Mayoress.

**2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

Nominations were sought in accordance with the seniority procedure agreed at Council Minute 174(1)/Apr/10. Councillor Harrison was proposed and seconded. There were no other nominations.

**Resolved –** That Councillor Harrison be elected Deputy Town Mayor for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

(**NOTE –** Councillor Wood abstained from the vote on the election of the Deputy Town Mayor and asked for his abstention to be recorded.)

Following his election, Councillor Harrison was presented with the Deputy Mayoral medallion. He then made and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**3. APOLOGIES:** - None.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with standard local government procedures, Members were asked whether they had any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members were reminded that a declaration could be given later in the meeting if a need arose during discussion. There were no declarations of interest at this juncture.

**5. REVIEW OF 2009/10 MAYORAL YEAR**

The outgoing Town Mayor (Councillor Yarker) reported verbally on his 2009/10 Mayoral Year, based on the previously circulated list of events which had been attended. He thanked a number of individuals and the office staff for their support during an enjoyable and worthwhile Year.

**Resolved** – (a) That the report be received.

(b) That the cordial thanks of the Council be extended and conveyed to Councillor Yarker and Mrs Yarker on the manner in which they have conscientiously carried out the roles of Barnard Castle's Town Mayor and Town Mayoress during the Municipal Year 2009/10.

## **6. STANDING ORDERS – ADOPTION FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

Submitted – The Town Council's Standing Orders, as previously approved at Council Minute 5/May/09.

**Resolved** – That the Standing Orders, as now submitted, be adopted for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

## **7. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – ADOPTION FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

Submitted – The Town Council's Financial Regulations, as previously approved at Council Minute 5/May/09.

**Resolved** – That the Financial Regulations, as now submitted, be adopted for the Municipal Year 2010/11.

## **8. DATES AND TIMES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS DURING MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11**

Submitted – A schedule of the dates and times of Council meetings during the Municipal Year 2010/11, as previously approved at Council Minute 163/Mar/10.

**Resolved** – That the dates, times and public participation 'slot' arrangements be confirmed.

## **9. COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIPS 2010/11**

Submitted – A report seeking the determination of memberships of the Council's various Committees and Working Groups for the Municipal Year 2010/11. Specific issues raised included the ex officio role of the Town Mayor, the sizes of Committees and Working Groups (particularly in respect of quorums) and the 6 Allotment Representative places being determined at a future meeting of the Allotments and Play Areas Working Group.

**Resolved** – That the memberships of the specific Committees and Working Groups for the Municipal Year 2010/11 be as follows :-

### **(a) Administrative Support Committee (4 seats)**

Councillors Blissett, Cooke (Town Mayor), Watson and Yarker.

### **(b) Christmas Festival Committee (5 Councillor seats + 3 co-opted seats)**

Councillors Mrs Bailes, Cooke (Town Mayor), Harrison, Peat and Wood and three co-optees (Mr P. Atkinson, Mr A. Beck (Barney Guild) and Ms R. Hamilton (Barney Guild)).

### **(c) Finance Committee (6 seats)**

Councillors Blissett, Cooke (Town Mayor), Mrs Dixon, Mrs Hamilton, Watson and Wood.

### **(d) Modernisation Committee (6 seats)**

Councillors Mrs Bailes, Blissett, Cooke (Town Mayor), Mrs Hamilton, Peat and Watson.

### **(e) Planning Committee (4 seats + 1 substitute)**

Councillors Blissett, Mrs Dixon, Harrison and Yarker, Councillor Watson (substitute) and Town Mayor (Councillor Cooke – in ex officio capacity).

### **(f) Allotments and Play Areas Working Group (5 Councillor seats + 6 Allotment Representative seats (to be determined later))**

Councillors Blissett, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Hamilton, Harrison and Yarker.

**(g) Editorial Board (5 seats)**

Clerk (G. Bosworth)(Editor), Town Mayor (Councillor Cooke) and one representative from each of the Finance, Modernisation and Planning Committees.

**(h) Floral Competition Working Group (4 seats)**

Councillors Blissett, Mrs Hamilton, Harrison and Yarker.

**(i) Floral Displays Working Group (6 seats)**

Councillors Blissett, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Hamilton, Harrison, Peat and Watson.

**(j) Street and Open Spaces Care Working Group (4 seats)**

Councillors Cooke (Town Mayor), Harrison, Peat and Watson.

**10. REPRESENTATION ON VARIOUS BODIES 2010/11**

Submitted – A report seeking appointments and nominations in respect of various bodies for the Municipal Year 2010/11. Specific references were made to the Hall Benefaction arrangements whereby Councillor Yarker was already a member as a non-Councillor and the South West Durham Heritage Line Working Group whose work was currently at a standstill due to a lack of funding. It was also reported that representatives in respect of the Barnard Castle Retail Heart Group and the Play Strategy Partnership were not required as those bodies no longer existed and the Environment and Transport and Health Thematic Groups (formerly of the Teesdale Local Strategic Partnership) had been replaced by the Transport for Health Committee which was part of the County Durham Primary Care Trust and involved consultation with individuals rather than local councils.

At the meeting, discussion ensued on the remit of this Council's representative on Teesdale Marketing Ltd. It was also reported that all three School Governing Body appointments were ongoing until 2011 and that therefore no vacancies currently existed.

**Resolved** – (a) That, for the Municipal Year 2010/11, this Council's representatives on the various bodies listed be as follows:-

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| a. Barnard Castle Vision Sub-Group (1)  | Clerk                             |
| b. Barney Guild (1)   | Councillor Peat                   |
| c. County Durham Clerks' Co-ordination Group (1)  | Clerk                             |
| d. Hall Benefaction (1)   | Town Mayor (Councillor Cooke)     |
| e. The Lady Barnard Memorial Fund (2)   | Councillor Yarker and one vacancy |
| f. NHS County Durham (County Durham Primary Care Trust) – Rural Ambulance Implementation and Monitoring Group (1) | Councillor Cooke (Town Mayor)     |
| g. Police Consultative Committee (2)  | Councillors Harrison and Watson   |
| h. St Mary's Barnard Castle Parish Hall Association (1)   | Councillor Mrs Hamilton           |
| i. South West Durham Heritage Line Working Group (1)  | Councillor Cooke (Town Mayor)     |
| j. The Stannard Trust (1)   | Councillor Yarker                 |

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| k. Teesdale Local Councils' Forum (2)          | Councillors Peat and Watson        |
| l. Teesdale Marketing Limited (1)              | Councillor Mrs Hamilton            |
| m. Teesdale Residents and Travellers Forum (1) | Councillor Blissett                |
| n. Trustees of Dawsons Cottages (2)            | Councillors Hinchcliffe and Yarker |
| o. The Witham Hall Management Committee (1)    | Councillor Mrs Hamilton            |

(b) That clarification be sought from Teesdale Marketing Limited on the remit of this Council's representative on that body and that the Town Mayor be authorised to attend any relevant meeting.

#### **11. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2010/11**

It was determined at Council Minute 238/Apr/09 that the Council's Internal Auditor for the financial years 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12 should be Addison & Co. of 91 Galgate, Barnard Castle. Confirmation of that decision in respect of 2010/11 was sought.

**Resolved** – That Addison & Co. of 91 Galgate, Barnard Castle be appointed as this Council's Internal Auditor for the financial year 2010/11.

#### **12. APPOINTMENT OF BANKERS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2010/11**

It was determined at Council Minute 203/Mar/09 that Barclays Bank PLC should be appointed as this Council's Bankers and that the appointment/re-appointment of this Council's Bankers be considered, on an annual basis, at each Annual Council meeting. Accordingly, a decision was sought in respect of the appointment for the financial year 2010/11.

**Resolved** – That Barclays Bank PLC be appointed as this Council's Bankers for the financial year 2010/11.