

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO

Council Offices, Blaina Institute, High Street, Blaina NP13 3BN

Swyddfa'r Cyngor, Sefydliad Blaenau, Y Stryd Fawr, Blaenau NP13 3BN Tel: 01495 292817

e-mail: clerk@nantygloandblainatc.co.uk

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Nantyglo & Blaina Town Council held in Blaina Community Centre, High Street, Blaina at 15.55pm on Monday 24th May 2021.

A meeting to which members of the public were entitled to attend.

Present: Councillor D Hillman, Town Mayor, presiding
Councillors G Morvan, K Jenkins, C Hillman, L Harris, L Emanuel, M Williams
and K Jones

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO
Mrs N Horner, assistant Officer
Invited guests

1. Declarations of Interest:

Members were reminded that all Declarations of Interest must be recorded in the book provided for this purpose.

Resolved to note that no such declarations were received.

2. Apologies for absence:

Members were invited to consider the apologies for absence received and to formally resolve to accept.

Resolved to note that apologies were received from Councillors G Watkins & R Pagett
Further Resolved to accept the apologies received.

3. Councillor K Jones JP:

To offer a Civic Welcome.

The Town Mayor offered a greeting and civic welcome to all Members, guests and the incoming Mayor and thanked the Assistant Officer, Nicola and Blaina Community Centre for hosting the meeting. The Town Mayor informed all present of the reason for the rearranged date of the meeting.

Resolved to note the information received

4. Councillor K Jones JP:

To review his Term of Office as Chairman of the Council.

Town Mayor explained that he had been in post since May 2019 with covering a second term in office due to Covid 19. His first year in office as Town Mayor proceeded as normal

with the usual events attended. The Town Mayor stated that he'd had a thoroughly enjoyable experience during his two years as Mayor of attending events such as: Christmas School concerts, 75th Anniversary of VE Day, Remembrance Sunday and giving the donations to Blaenau Gwent Foodbank, Easter, Eggs donations to the 4 local schools, laying a wreath in respect of the Duke of Edinburgh and the Sunflower competition to local 4 schools".

The Town Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Consort, Councillors Des and Carole Hillman for attending his and his Consort's duties on the few occasions they were unable to attend.

The second term was somewhat a different experience with remote meetings being held via the Starleaf App, staff working from home when necessary, for which he thanked the staff for. Events were few and far between with severe restrictions being in place for a big part of the year.

The chosen charity of Citizens Advice Bureau had received over £1000 donations and another donation was handed over today and the Town Mayor gave thanks for the donations.

The Mayor also gave thanks to his wife, Joyce and family for supporting him through his term of office. The Town Mayor also thanked his Deputy Mayor and Deputy Consort, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Leader of the council, staff, and colleagues for their continued support.

Resolved to note the information received.

5. Councillor K Jones JP:

Councillor Jones JP invited nominations for the Office of Town Mayor 2021/22.

Resolved that Councillor D Hillman be appointed as Town Mayor for 2021/22.

6. Councillor K Jones JP:

To invite the incoming Town Mayor to join him on the Dias. Councillor Jones placed the Official Chain of Office around the shoulders of the Town Mayor.

Photographs were taken of hand over of the Chain of Office at this juncture.

Resolved to note the information received.

7. Declaration of Acceptance of Office:

The Town Mayor to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Town Mayor:

Councillor Des Hillman signed the Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council and was thereupon appointed as the Town Mayor of Nantyglo and Blaina for the year 2021/22.

Resolved to note the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

8. To receive the Mayor's Consort:

The Town Mayor introduced the Consort and invite her to join him on the Dias.
The Town Mayor thanked Councillor Carole Hillman for her acceptance as consort of the Town Mayor.

Resolved to note that Councillor C Hillman joined the Town Mayor as his Consort.

9. Consort Chain of Office:

Mrs Joyce Jones, the outgoing Mayoress presented the Consort Chain of Office to Councillor Carole Hillman.

Resolved to note the information received.

At this juncture proceedings paused for photographs to be taken of all members.

At this juncture Councillor K Jones JP & Mrs J Jones took their seats with Members of the Council.

10. The Town Mayor:

The Town Mayor addressed the Council:

Councillor Des Hillman, Town Mayor, thanked all present with special thanks to his wife and Consort, Councillor Carole Hillman, his family, Members of the Town Council and Officers of the Town Council.

The Town Mayor additionally informed that the Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Nantyglo & Blaina, Mrs Susan Gwyre-Roberts was unable to attend but had proved to be a very good friend to the Town Council. All present were informed that the Annual Meeting was a smaller than hoped for event due to the Covid 19 restrictions but it was hoped that a larger event for Civic Sunday could take place later in the year.

Resolved to note the information received.

11. Vote of Thanks to Councillor K Jones JP:

The Town Mayor invited a vote of thanks to the outgoing Town Mayor, Councillor Ken Jones JP and his wife and Consort, Mrs Joyce Jones, and expressed that both had represented the Town Council as Mayor and Consort with professionalism and dignity. The Town Mayor added that it had been a privilege to fulfil the role as Deputy Mayor for Councillor Jones JP.

Cllr G Morvan thanked the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Ken Jones JP for his hard work over the 2 years as Town Mayor and for his high standards representing the Town Council. Cllr Morvan expressed that it had been a privilege to work alongside the outgoing Mayor and wished him well.

Cllr M Williams thanks Mayor and all colleagues for making him welcomed.

Resolved to note the information received.

12. Deputy Town Mayor:

The Town Mayor to invite nominations for the Office of Deputy Town Mayor for 2021-2022.

Resolved that Councillor Lilian Harris be appointed to the Office of Deputy Town Mayor for the year 2021/22.

13. Leader of the Council and Leader of the Minority Group:

- i) The Town Mayor invited nominations for the position of Leader of the Council 2021-2022.

Resolved that Councillor Glyn Morvan be appointed to the Office of the Leader of the Council for 2021/22.

Cllr G Morvan thanked all for their continued support.

- ii) The Town Mayor invited information of who is the Leader of the Minority Group 2021-2022.
Resolved that Councillor Robert Pagett be appointed as leader of the Minority Group for 2021/22.

Clerk confirmed that she had received an email from Cllr G Watkins confirming she supported the appointments of Leader of Council, Cllr G Morvan and proposed Cllr R Pagett as Leader of the Minority Group.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Glyn Morvan informed that he had spoken to Councillor Robert Pagett and confirmed that Councillor Pagett was happy to accept the nomination as Leader of the Minority Group.

Resolved that Councillor Robert Pagett be appointed as Leader of the Minority Group for 2021/22.

Appointment of Town Council Committees and Delegates to Other Organisations:

14. Members were invited to consider the appointment of Chairman and Members of Committees and of Delegates to other Organisations:

Cllr D Hillman nominated Cllr K Jones as chair of Planning due to his experience and announced that he had enjoyed his position throughout his term.

Cllr G Morvan to remain in position of Chair of Finance

Cllr K Jenkins to remain in position of Chair of Events, with Cllr M Williams as Vice-Chair of the Events Committee.

Resolved to approve the previously distributed itemised list.

15. Mayoral Appeal 2021/22:

The Town Mayor informed that the Mayoral Appeal for 2021/22 would be in support of two charities that are close to his heart. Downs Syndrome Association with his Great Granddaughter having Downs Syndrome and Breast Cancer Wales as his family has lost lives or had survived from breast cancer. All proceedings would be divided equally between the two charities.

Resolved to note the information received.

16. Invitation for guests to join with the Mayor for refreshments.

The Town Mayor declared the business of the Council closed and thereupon invited all present to join him for light refreshments.

5 (21/22)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. A. [unclear]', written in a cursive style.