

NANTYGLO & BLAINA TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF NANT-Y-GLO A BLAENAU

Mrs T Hughes - Town Clerk/RFO Mrs N Horner – Assistant Officer
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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held at 6.00pm on Tuesday 24th May 2022 at the Council Chamber, Blaina Institute, Blaina.

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

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

In attendance: Mrs T Hughes, Town Clerk / RFO
Mrs N Horner, Assistant Officer
Mr E Watts MBE, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Gwent
Mr M Davies OBE CstJ, High Sheriff of Gwent
Reverend R Watson
Invited guests

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Town Clerk informed that no members of the press or public were in attendance remotely. **Resolved** to note the information received.

The Chair informed all present all the relevant fire regulations and arrangements. **Resolved** to note the information received.

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 no apologies were received.

3. **Councillor D Hillman:**

To offer a Civic Welcome.

The Town Mayor offered a greeting and civic welcome to Members, guests and the incoming Mayor.

Resolved accordingly.

4. Councillor D Hillman:

To review his Term of Office as Town Mayor / Chairman of the Council.

Councillor Hillman reviewed his 12 months in office and gave an overview of his activities highlighting several which had taken place throughout the year despite the restrictions due to the Covid 19 including Nantyglo and Blaina In Bloom and its presentation event, Civic Sunday, NHS Day, the distribution of selection packs and Easter eggs to all primary school pupils within the area together with the distribution of jubilee gifts to all primary school pupils.

Councillor Hillman informed that his Town Mayor's Appeal was in respect of Down's Syndrome Association and Breast Cancer Now (Wales) and that although it had been difficult to raise funds with the restrictions in place due to Covid, funds had been raised by holding a bric a brac stall periodically and by an event held by Blaen y Cwm Primary school. Councillor Hillman thanked all who had supported his Mayoral Appeal.

Councillor Hillman thanked everyone for their wonderful support, especially his Consort Councillor Carole Hillman, the communities of Nantyglo and Blaina, local schools and dignitaries who have supported the Council throughout his time in Office including the Lord Lieutenant of Gwent and High Sheriff of Gwent, Revered Roy Watson, family & friends, Mr Russell Dunham and Mr Richard Hancocks.

Councillor Hillman congratulated his successor and wished her a very successful year in Office.

Resolved to note the information received.

5. Councillor D Hillman:

Councillor Hillman invited nominations for the Office of Town Mayor 2022/23.

Resolved that Councillor Lilian Harris be appointed as Town Mayor for 2022/23.

6. Councillor D Hillman:

Councillor Hillman invited the incoming Town Mayor to join him on the Dias. Councillor Hillman placed the Official Chain of Office around the shoulders of the Town Mayor.

Resolved to note the information received.

7. Declaration of Acceptance of Office:

Councillor Lilian Harris signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Town Mayor which was witnessed by the proper Office of the Town Council and was thereupon appointed as the Town Mayor of Nantyglo and Blaina for the year 2022/23.

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

8. To receive the Mayor's Consort:

The Town Mayor introduced her Consort and thanked Councillor Carole Hillman for her acceptance as Consort for the coming year.

Resolved accordingly.

Photographs were taken at this juncture.

At this juncture, Councillor D Hillman took his seat with Members of the Council.

9. The Town Mayor:

The Town Mayor addressed the Council.

Councillor L Harris thanked her fellow Councillors for nominating her as Town Mayor for the year. Councillor Harris promised to represent and serve the communities of Nantyglo and Blaina to the best of her ability.

Councillor Harris commented that it would be a privilege to serve the Town Council after those who had preceded and thanked the Council for the honour.

Resolved accordingly.

10. The Town Mayor:

The Town Mayor invited the Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Roy Watson to lead Council in Prayer.

Reverend Roy Watson then congratulated the Town Mayor on her appointment and informed that he had acted as Mayor's Chaplain to the previous 14 Town Mayors.

Resolved accordingly.

11. Vote of Thanks to Councillor D Hillman:

The Town Mayor invited a vote of thanks to Councillor D Hillman.

Councillor G Morvan, Leader of the Council thanked Councillor D Hillman for his dedication and duty whilst elected to the Office of Town Mayor. Councillor D Hillman together with his Consort Councillor C Hillman performed the role with enjoyment, enthusiasm, professionalism and was a credit to the Town Council.

The Town Mayor thanked Councillor D Hillman for undertaking the role of Town Mayor during a very difficult time. Whilst the presence of Covid 19 posed many difficulties for Councillor Hillman in carrying out the duties of Town Mayor, he represented the Town Council admirably during his year in Office.

Resolved accordingly.

12. Deputy Town Mayor:

The Town Mayor invited nominations for the Office of Deputy Town Mayor for 2022-2023.

Resolved that Councillor Keith Jenkins be appointed to the Office of Deputy Mayor for 2022/23.

13. Leader of the Council:

The Town Mayor invited nominations for the position of Leader of the Council 2022-2023.

Resolved that Councillor G Morvan be appointed to the Office of Leader of the Council for 2022/23.

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:**

Resolved to approve the previously distributed itemised list.

15. **Mayoral Appeal 2022/23:**

The Town Mayor informed that her Mayoral Appeal for 2022/23 was in support of the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army was chosen due to its relentless work carried out for many years in aid of many people for many different reasons such as war, homelessness and reuniting families. Many of the Salvation Army gave their time to help as volunteers. A raffle would take place during the evening to help start the appeal.

Resolved to note the information received.

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

The Town Mayor declared the business of the Council closed and thereupon invited all present to join her for a social evening with refreshments.

Meeting declared closed at 6.45pm

4 (22/23)

L E Harris