



Minutes of the ANNUAL CEREMONIAL MEETING of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY 15 MAY 2013 at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillor Morris (Mayor)
Councillors Alexander, Bald, Barney, Bint, Brackenbury, Bramall, Brock, Brunning, M Burke, S Burke, Coventry, Dransfield, Eastman, Edwards, Exon, Ferrans, A Geary, P Geary Jury, Klein, Hawthorn, Hopkins, Hoyle, Maric, Marland, D McCall, I McCall, McDonald, McKenzie, McLean, Middleton, Miles, O'Neill, Richards, Shafiq, Small, Tallack, Wales, Wallis, Webb, Wharton, White, C Williams, P Williams and Zealley

Alderspersons Bristow, Connor, Howell, Lloyd, Pugh and Saunders

Apologies: Councillors Bradburn, Kennedy, Legg and Long and Alderspersons Ellis, Hardwick, E Henderson, I Henderson and Irons

Also Present: 90 members of the public

CL01 ELECTION OF MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Marland and seconded by Councillor A Geary that Councillor Brian Arthur Robert White be elected Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2013/14.

Other Members spoke in support of the nomination.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Brian Arthur Robert White be elected Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2013/14.

The retiring Mayor (Councillor Morris) presented Councillor White with the Mayor's Chain of Office and Councillor White signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor (Councillor White) thanked the Council for the honour of being elected Mayor of Milton Keynes, and stated that he would be following a dynasty of respected mayors.

The Mayor took the opportunity to thank local employers who had supported councillors by being understanding and allowing them to undertake their duties over the years.

The Mayor praised the attitude of mind of the residents and businesses of Milton Keynes which meant that it was an innovative and 'can do' city, which was exemplified by companies like NiftyLift,

a Milton Keynes based company which had recently been awarded the Queen's Award for Innovation and the Queen's Award for International Trade, recognising the Company's focus on innovation and its success in building international markets.

The Mayor also took the opportunity to congratulate Francesca Skelton who was soon to become the High Sheriff.

The Mayor announced that:

- (a) Mrs Lindholm-White would be the Mayoress
- (b) the Civic Service would be held at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, Central Milton Keynes on Sunday 7 July 2013; and
- (c) his charities would be Ted's Gang, a local charity supporting children with Shwachman Diamond Syndrome and the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and he hoped that the Council would be considering a motion at its meeting in June seeking support for a Charter on Landmines and inviting other cities to also endorse the Charter.

CL02

VOTE OF THANKS

Councillor A Geary moved a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor (Councillor Morris), which was seconded by Councillor Miles, and approved unanimously.

The Mayor presented Councillor Morris with a Past Mayor's badge.

The Council was read a poem by the Mark Neil, Poet Laureate for Milton Keynes, commemorating Councillor Morris's year in office. Councillor Morris also received a presentation from the Mayor's Charity 2012/13, Milton Keynes Dons Sports and Education Trust.

Councillor Morris related experiences from her year of office and thanked the many people who she had met and who had supported her through the year, which included family, friends, fellow councillors, past mayors and officers.

Councillor Morris specifically referred to many of the 500 plus events she had attended, which included the International Festival, many armature and school theatre productions, performances by the City Orchestra, sporting events, food fares, various openings of buildings, events in the older towns and many citizenship ceremonies.

Councillor Morris particularly remembered the Queen's Jubilee Garden Party and the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant.

Councillor Morris hoped that certain events such as the Mayor's Carol Service; the Variety Show, which showcased many of the local acts she had seen over the year; and the cricket tournament would be continued.

Councillor Morris thanked her Charity, Milton Keynes Dons Sports and Education Trust, particularly John Cove and Judith Hildreth, for their support and reported that over £50,000 had been raised from the many events organised.

Councillor Morris hoped that she had further raised the profile of the Mayor for the good of the office and the good of Milton Keynes.

CL03

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor:

- (a) thanked the Bradwell Silver Band for playing as persons attending the meeting entered the Civic Offices;
- (b) announced with regret the recent death of Mr Christopher Rose, who was best known to Members as a former Independent Member of the Council's Standards Committee and was also well known amongst Magistrates, serving for a period as the Bench Chairman; and
- (c) also announced the recent death of Councillor Rita Venn, who had been the Member for the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Ward since her election in May 2012. Councillor Venn's Funeral would be held on 21 May 2013 at 10:45am in the Oak Chapel at Crownhill Crematorium.

Members spoke in memory of Mr Rose and Councillor Venn.

The Council stood to mark the memory of Mr Rose and Councillor Venn.

CL04

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Council noted that, in accordance with the selection procedure agreed by the Council, the nomination for Deputy Mayor fell to the Conservative Group, as the Conservative Group had 15 points, the Liberal Democrat Group 14 points, the Labour Group 5 points and the Independent Member 1 point.

Councillor A Geary, the Leader of the Conservative Group, reported that the Conservative Group had agreed to pass its nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor to the Liberal Democrat Group, which currently has the second highest points score, due to the Conservative Group's candidate being unable to accept the nomination at this time for health reasons.

Councillor D McCall moved and Councillor A Geary seconded a motion to defer the appointment of the Deputy Mayor until the Annual Business Meeting of the Council on 22 May 2013.

On being put to the vote the motion was declared carried unanimously.

RESOLVED -

That the appointment of the Deputy Mayor be deferred until the Annual Business Meeting of the Council on 22 May 2013.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9.10 PM