

**AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL held in the Desborough Suite - Town Hall on Tuesday, 22nd May, 2018**

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Lenton), The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Quick) Councillors N Airey, M Airey, Alexander, Bateson, Beer, Bhatti, Bowden, Burbage, Carroll, Clark, Cox, Dudley, D Evans, Dr L Evans, Gilmore, Grey, Hollingsworth, Hunt, Ilyas, Kellaway, Lion, Love, McWilliams, Mills, Rankin, C Rayner, Richards, Sharma, Sharp, Sharpe, Shelim, Smith, Story, D Wilson and E Wilson.

Officers: Alison Alexander, Andy Jeffs, Russell O'Keefe and Andrew Scott

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR LENTON) IN THE CHAIR

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bicknell, Brimacombe, Bullock, Coppinger, Da Costa, Diment, Hill, Hilton, Jones, Luxton, Majeed, Pryer, S Rayner, Saunders, Stretton, Targowska, Walters, Werner and Yong.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

3. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2018/19

The Mayor, Councillor Lenton, welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting and gave a brief résumé of his year in office. Councillor Lenton commented that last year's Annual Meeting had been held in shadow of the Manchester arena terror attack and shortly after the terrible Grenfell fire. However, he explained by contrast this year's Mayor making was taking place immediately after the spectacular wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex in Windsor, one of the largest and happiest events to take place in the Borough. Councillor Lenton congratulated all those people and organisations that had worked so hard to make that event such a success, in particular the Council's employees and volunteers.

Councillor Lenton paid tribute to the Mayoress who had accompanied and supported him on almost all his Mayoral engagements and in many cases had contributed to them, especially where school and cultural activities had been involved. He explained that they had made countless visits to organisations and charities who served local residents, were always made welcome wherever they went and was delighted that members from a number of those organisation were present at the meeting.

He also paid tribute to the many volunteers who gave up their time to support the many organisations working within the borough and was pleased to see so many young people taking part in community activities, particularly at a time when young people were so often criticised.

He advised that throughout the year they had been able to support the Council's twinning links by visiting Goslar and Bad Godesburg and had received visitors from St Cloud. Unfortunately, the visit to Goslar in December had been slightly spoilt by the closure of Heathrow airport after they had started their return journey.

He thanked the officers that had supported both himself and the Mayoress in their roles throughout the year, thanked the Leader of the Council and his fellow Councillors for their support and thanked all the employees of the Royal Borough who made Windsor and Maidenhead such a pleasant and happy place in which to work and live.

In conclusion, to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Royal Air Force, Councillor Lenton presented trophies to Cadet Flight Sergeant Jade Preece from 155 ATC (Maidenhead), for the work she had done over the last 12 months running the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme for the unit and carrying out training for the cadets, and Cadet Sergeant Joseph Patmore from 459 (Windsor) Squadron, who had been chosen as the leading cadet from his unit for the year.

THE MAYOR INVITED NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF THE MAYOR OF THE ROYAL BOROUGH FOR 2018/2019.

In proposing Councillor Paul Lion for the role of Mayor, Councillor Quick commented that the Mayor, as First Citizen of the Borough, was the public face of the Council and was an ambassador both inside and outside of the Borough. She explained that nothing could really prepare a person for the role of Mayor as every year was different and every year was special because of the people the Mayor would meet. However, she advised that, speaking from experience, Councillor Lion was the right man for the role.

Councillor Quick explained that Councillor Lion was not only a Maidenhead Councillor but a Maidenhead through and through having been born in Grenfell Road in 1960 into a well-established local business family. Councillor Lion had attended local schools and had trained as a chef at the highly regarded Slough catering College.

Councillor Quick advised that Councillor Lion had been introduced to rowing by his father and had acted as a cox at Maidenhead Rowing Club from the age of nine. She explained that Councillor Lion had participated in both national and international rowing events, and in 1977 won Gold for England in the Junior Single Skulls at the Silver Jubilee Regatta, Serpentine Home Counties Regatta, in 1978 was the National Champion of Great Britain at Holme Pierrepont single skulls and had represented Great Britain in the Junior Single Skulls at the National Championships. She stated that such dedication and self-sacrifice was a mark of Councillor Lion's character, which would serve him well for the year ahead. She also commented upon Councillor Lion's appointment as President of the Maidenhead Rowing Club in 2013 a position of which he was rightly proud.

Councillor Quick explained that Councillor Lion met his wife Laura in the romantic setting of the weight training room at the Magnet Leisure Centre and they have been pulling together ever since.

Councillor Quick commented upon Councillor Lion's career and explained that he had worked in the family business John Lion Construction and Elva Lodge Hotel, where he had been the Hotel Chef and landlord for 30 years. The family had employed many locals over a sixty five year period thereby supporting Maidenhead's local economy.

Councillor Quick commented upon Councillor Lion's political career, advising that he first became involved with politics as an anti-road hump campaigner. As an elected councillor he had served on the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel and

Highways and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel. She also advised that he had served as a school governor at Altwood Secondary School and was a volunteer cleaner at St Luke's Church. She commented that Councillor Lion had been a great supporter of civic events, which would stand him in good stead for the Mayoralty.

In conclusion, Councillor Quick commented that Councillor Lion, who would be ably supported by his wife Laura, would uphold the long and proud tradition of the Mayoralty and therefore she was delighted to propose him as Mayor for the next municipal year.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Carroll advised that he had known Councillor Lion since 2009 and since then has had a long standing friendship and fellow Ward Councillor companionship, representing the Boyn Hill Ward together, which Councillor Lion often referred to as the best Ward in the Royal Borough. He advised that Councillor Lion was the inspiration for him getting involved in local politics and had encouraged him to stand as a local Councillor.

Councillor Carroll reiterated that Councillor Lion would be ably supported by his wife Laura and he had viewed at first had the strong partnership that Councillor Lion and his wife Laura enjoyed, a marriage that was built on respect, love and complimenting each another. He advised that Councillor Lion and Laura had two children Benjamin, a commercial pilot, and Katy, an International Business Woman for SAP, both of whom were a credit to their parents.

He explained that following her graduation from Oxford Brooks University, Laura had worked in the City running the Midland Bank Directors' restaurant before co-running the local family business. He advised that Laura would make an ideal Mayoress as she was a very positive, hospitable and community spirited person.

In conclusion, Councillor Carroll stated that Councillor Lion was a community man and loved the area with a passion and would not only do the Borough proud as Mayor but would, with his inherently friendly and dynamically optimistic approach, give his all to the Mayoral Role.

It was moved by Councillor Quick, seconded by Councillor Carroll and:

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That Councillor Paul Lion be elected Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead for the ensuing Municipal Year.**

The Managing Director declared Councillor Lion duly elected Mayor. Councillor Lion made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by Councillors Quick and Carroll.

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR LION) IN THE CHAIR

Councillor Lenton presented the Mayor with the Mace, the Borough seal and the keys to the Mayor's Parlour.

In making his speech of acceptance, Councillor Lion thanked Councillors Quick and Carroll for their kind words and expressed gratitude to his fellow Councillors for electing him Mayor of the Royal Borough. Councillor Lion paid tribute to the former

Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor John Lenton and Mrs Margaret Lenton, who had worked tirelessly throughout the previous year.

Councillor Lion advised that he would be supporting the Royal British Legion and the Royal National Life Boat Institution during the mayoral year and commented that he was looking forward to meeting many of the voluntary organisation operating within the Royal Borough. He stated that Windsor had recently been in the limelight but explained that it was also going to be an important year for Maidenhead in the light of all the redevelopment that was taking place.

In conclusion, he expressed his appreciation to members of his family and his many friends for their support and thanked the Rev Will Stileman for his spiritual support.

The Mayor presented Councillor Lenton and Mrs Margaret Lenton with their Past Mayor's and Past Mayoress' badges.

4. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2018/19

In nominating Councillor Rayner for the office of Deputy Mayor, Councillor David Evans explained that you could tell a lot about a person from their pet. He commented upon the particular characteristics of Councillor C Rayner's pet dog, Stubbings, a West Highland Terrier. He explained that Councillor Rayner shared many of those characteristics, as he was intelligent, quick to learn, independent, assured and self-confident, although he jovially advised that they also had a tendency to be stubborn, leading to issues with training. However, he contended that by marrying his wife, Councillor Samantha Rayner, and together producing triplet daughters, Councillor Rayner had adequately dealt with the issue of training.

He explained that Councillor C Rayner was also territorial and could proudly trace his ancestry back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. He commented that the family have had a substantial farming business in the area for many years and explained that it was claimed that you could walk from one end of the Borough to the other without leaving Rayner land.

He advised that the Rayner family had built up a successful entrepreneurial family business and that Councillor C Rayner was recognised in both local and national farming organisations. For those early risers, Councillor C Rayner was also a regular contributor on the early morning BBC Radio 4 Farming Today programme.

He advised that Councillor Rayner was a man dedicated to public service and had served the residents of Horton and Wraysbury since 2005. He had served as a member of the Cabinet, had been Mayor in 2012/2013, having been Deputy Mayor the preceding year and had also served on Horton Parish Council since 2003.

In conclusion, Councillor D Evans commented upon Councillor C Rayner's strength of character, which he stated shone through in his leadership during the great floods in 2014. Along with others, Councillor C Rayner coordinated a team to assist stranded residents and played a leading role in bringing the plight of the local residents devastated by the floods to national attention.

In seconding the motion, Councillor Dr L Evans advised that Councillor C Rayner had been a great support to her when she was elected to serve on the Council. She explained that as Deputy Mayoress, his wife Samantha Rayner, who was not only a

Councillor but Lead Member for Culture and Communities, was ideally suited to support him in the role of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Dr L Evans commented upon the various community projects and organisations with which Councillor S Rayner was involved, in particular a number of the charities that she supported as a Trustee. Councillor Dr L Evans also commented upon Councillor Rayner's three daughters, who were all studying at university, and outlined their various achievements.

In conclusion, Councillor Dr L Evans advised that Councillor C Rayner would be ably supported by all the women in his family and therefore it was her pleasure to second the motion that he be elected Deputy Mayor for the coming year.

It was moved by Councillor D Evans, seconded by Councillor Dr L Evans, and:

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That Councillor Colin Rayner be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead for the ensuing Municipal Year.**

The Managing Director declared Councillor Colin Rayner duly appointed Deputy Mayor. Councillor C Rayner made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by Councillors D Evans and Dr L Evans.

In his speech of acceptance, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor C Rayner, explained how proud and honoured he was to be elected Deputy Mayor and expressed his sincere appreciation to his fellow Councillors for bestowing on him that great privilege and responsibility. He expressed his commitment to serving the people of the Royal Borough to the best of his abilities, which he would do with enthusiasm, compassion and devotion to the community.

Councillor C Rayner thanked Councillor D Evans and Councillor Dr L Evans for their kind words, thanked his family for their continued support and thanked the residents of Horton and Wraysbury. He also thanked the former Mayor and fellow Ward Councillor, Councillor Lenton, for his friendship over the years.

He commented that, together with his wife, Councillor Samantha Rayner, they looked forward to fulfilling the roles of Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress and supporting the Mayor and Mayoress in their busy schedule. He also took the opportunity to thank the officers that he had worked with over the past few years in his various roles, in particular as Chairman of the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel, Chairman of the Visitor Management Forum and Vice Chairman of the Windsor Rural Planning Panel. He advised that he had been amazed by their hard work and dedication and he would miss working with them.

In conclusion, he stated that he was very proud to serve the Royal Borough as Deputy Mayor. He would aim to support the many wonderful local organisations and would enjoy meeting all the voluntary organisations over the next year whose selfless commitment helped to ensure that residents lived a better life.

Councillor C Rayner then presented Councillor Quick and her husband John with their past Deputy Mayor's and past Deputy Mayor's Consort badges.

5. APPOINTMENT OF PANELS, CHAIRMEN/VICE CHAIRMEN OF PANELS 2018/19

Members considered the proposed committee/panel/forum membership for 2018/19.

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That:**

- a) **The membership of the Committees, Panels, Forums for the ensuing Municipal Year be approved as detailed in Appendix A.**
- b) **The Chairman and Vice-Chairman as indicated in Appendix A be appointed for the ensuing Municipal Year.**
- c) **Authority to amend/make further appointments on the nomination of the relevant Group Leader be delegated to the Service Lead - Democratic Services.**
- d) **Authority to amend the Constitution as appropriate in light of any amendments to the structure of Panels, Committees and Forums as detailed in Appendix A be delegated to the Monitoring Officer.**

6. 2018/19 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

Members considered the programme of meetings for 2018/19.

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That Council approves the programme of meetings for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.**

In closing the meeting, the Mayor invited Henrique Santos and Harry Joys to present bouquets to the Mayoress, immediate past Mayoress and immediate Past Deputy Mayor.

The meeting, which started at 7.30pm, ended at 8.29pm

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....