

**Minutes of the Annual Mayor Making Ceremony held at the Town Hall, Rye, on Monday 14 May 2007**

**PRESENT** Councillors Granville Bantick, John Breeds, Jonathan Breeds, Brian Elliott, Bernardine Fiddimore, Lorna Hall, Sonia Holmes, Jo Kirkham, Paul Osborne, Frank Palmer, Ian Potter, Shaun Rogers, David Russell, Sam Souster, Sylvia Willgoss, David Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE** Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; George Brown – Town Sergeant; David Paine – Second Mace Bearer; Judy Pettitt - PA/Secretary to the Town Clerk; Revd Hugh Moseley - Mayor's Chaplain; Rex Swain - Town Crier; approximately 50 members of the public - including Distinguished and Invited Guests

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*The meeting commenced at 6pm.*

Prayers were said by the Mayor's Chaplain.

**1 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN 2007-08**

The Mayor, Cllr Paul Osborne thanked his Mayoress, Lyn for her support over the past year and asked his Sergeant to present her with a floral arrangement. He thanked – and presented framed photographs of Speaker's Day 2006 - to his two Cadets.

He thanked Rye Wheelers for providing him with back-up support during his (140-mile) Cinque Ports Cycle Challenge and advised that the event had raised £800 each for Rye Sea Cadets and Rye Scouts.

Gifts were presented to Judy Pettitt (Personal Assistant/Secretary to the Town Clerk) and Richard Farhall (Town Clerk). The Mayor proceeded to express his appreciation for their contributions of David Pawsey (Town Hall Keeper), George Brown (Town Sergeant) and David Paine (Second Mace Bearer).

The Mayor advised that, over the past year, he had attended – often with the Mayoress – 161 functions in/around Rye.

He paid tribute to the Rye Sea Cadets, one of the best units in the country and gave accounts of his invitation to the naming of the new in-shore rescue boat at Pett Level and the town's hosting of Speaker's Day.

Finally he thanked Councillors for their support and paid special tribute to two Councillors who had lost their seats at the recent full elections: Roger Breeds (31 years' service) and Paul Carey (16 years').

Cllr Osborne invited nominations for the position of Mayor/Chairman for 2007-08.

Cllr John Breeds proposed, and Cllr Palmer seconded, Cllr Osborne. There being no other nominations the Mayor declared himself to be re-appointed.

**2 OATH AND DECLARATION**

Cllr Osborne swore the Traditional Mayoral Oath and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**3 1951 PENNIES**

The Clerk placed the 1951 Pennies into the Mayor's safekeeping for the ensuing year. The Mayor passed the Pennies back to the Clerk (to look after them on the Mayor's behalf) who proceeded to explain their historical significance.

**4 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

**5 OUTSTANDING DECLARATIONS**

There were no outstanding Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

**6 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND VICE CHAIRMAN 2007-2008**

The Mayor called for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman for the year 2007-2008.

Cllr Russell proposed and Cllr Jonathan Breeds seconded, Cllr Souster.

Cllr Holmes proposed and Cllr Rogers seconded, Cllr Bantick.

Cllrs Russell and Potter requested a signed ballot.

Cllrs Russell and Jonathan Breeds spoke in favour of their candidate.

Cllr Holmes spoke in favour of Cllr Bantick.

The ballot slips having been collected and counted by the Clerk, the Mayor declared that Cllr Bantick had received 7 votes and Cllr Souster 9 votes.

The Mayor declared that Cllr Souster had been elected to the Office of Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman and declared the meeting adjourned for the purpose of robing the new Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting

**7 OATH AND DECLARATION**

Cllr Souster swore the Traditional Oath and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**8 TOWN CLERK'S OATH**

Mr Richard Farhall swore the traditional Town Clerk's Oath.

**9 APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR'S SERGEANT AND MACE BEARER**

The Mayor appointed Mr George Brown to the Office of Mayor's Sergeant and Mace Bearer.

Mr Brown swore the traditional Mayor's Sergeant Oath.

**10 APPOINTMENT OF SECOND MACE BEARER**

The Mayor appointed Mr David Paine as Second Mace Bearer.

**11 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN**

The Mayor appointed the Reverend Hugh Moseley as the Mayor's Chaplain and announced that his Chaplain was shortly to be made a canon.

**12 MAYOR'S ADDRESS**

The Mayor stated that he was pleased to see the Principal of Thomas Peacock present – together with the Head Boy and Head Girl. The Mayoress had raised significant funding for the college by holding art exhibitions there.

The Mayor expressed his pleasure that he had been elected to serve another year.

**13 CLOSURE**

The Mayor closed the meeting at 6.43.

Date ..... Chairman .....

Members of the public, Distinguished and Invited Guests joined the Mayor and Council in the Chamber for a glass of wine, the traditional Throwing of the Hot Pennies and toasts to the Queen, Lord Warden and Antient Town of Rye.

The Distinguished Guests attending the meeting were: the High Sheriff of East Sussex; the Chairman of Rother District Council; the Vice-Chairman of East Sussex County Council; the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Winchelsea and the Mayor of Battle.