

**Minutes of the Annual Mayor Making Ceremony held at the
Town Hall, Rye, on Monday 18 May 2015**

PRESENT Councillors Mike Boyd, John Breeds, Cheryl Creaser, Bernardine Fiddimore (**Mayor**), Rebekah Gilbert, Charlie Harkness, Pat Hughes, John Izod, Jo Kirkham, Andi Rivett, Shaun Rogers, Andy Stuart

IN ATTENDANCE Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; Kevin Barry - Town Sergeant; David Paine – Second Mace Bearer; The Reverend Canon David Frost – Chaplain to the Mayor; approximately 50 members of the public - including Distinguished and Invited Guests

Prior to the meeting Prayers were said by the Mayor's Chaplain.

The meeting commenced at 6.32pm.

1 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN 2015-16

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Mayor/Chairman for 2015-16.

Cllr John Breeds proposed, and Cllr Kirkham seconded, Cllr Bernardine Fiddimore. There being no other nominations Cllr Fiddimore declared herself re-elected.

2 OATH AND DECLARATION

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

3 1951 PENNIES

The Mayor passed the 1951 Pennies to the Clerk (to look after on her behalf) who proceeded to explain their historical significance.

4 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence – and the reasons as lodged with The Clerk - were accepted from Cllrs Jonathan Breeds (**Deputy Mayor**), Ian Potter and Ray Prewer.

5 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND VICE CHAIRMAN 2015-16

The Mayor called for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor and Vice Chairman for the year 2015-16.

Cllr Rogers proposed, and Cllr Boyd seconded, Cllr Jonathan Breeds. There being no other nominations Cllr Jonathan Breeds was declared re-elected.

6 OATH AND DECLARATION

Being absent, Cllr Jonathan Breeds was unable to swear the Traditional Oath and sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at this time.

7 OUTSTANDING DECLARATIONS

RESOLVED That the Declarations of Acceptance of Office outstanding should be made within two weeks.

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 re-appointed Mr Kevin Barry to the Office of Mayor's Sergeant and Mace Bearer.

10 APPOINTMENT OF SECOND MACE BEARER

The Mayor re-appointed Mr David Paine as Second Mace Bearer.

11 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Mayor re-appointed the Reverend Canon David Frost as Chaplain to the Mayor.

12 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CADETS

The Mayor appointed Elizabeth Emson and Nathan Halliday and presented each with a Mayor's Cadet badge.

13 MAYOR'S ADDRESS

The Mayor explained that her enthusiasm for the Mayoralty had not dimmed over the last year and remained just as bright. Having taken a closer look at the town after being elected Mayor last year she had realized that there was more to the role than chairing meetings and attending functions – there was a need to address the neglect that had been inflicted on the town by those who had no real connection with the town – or passion for it. She hoped that the town had benefitted a little from her efforts to rectify this.

The Rye Neighbourhood Plan should go a long way towards protecting Rye's future and ensuring that it remains an attractive and vibrant place.

Although the Council has said goodbye to some worthy and experienced Councillors, she was sure that its new faces would bring with them new energies and ideas.

The Mayor thanked all those who had supported her over the past 12 months – including her colleagues and members of staff.

14 CLOSURE

The Mayor closed the meeting at 6.48pm

Date Chairman

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 Deputy Mayor of Hastings - and The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Winchelsea.