

**Minutes of the Annual Mayor Making Ceremony held at the  
Town Hall, Rye, on Monday 2 May 2016**

**PRESENT** Councillors Mike Boyd, John Breeds, Jonathan Breeds, Cheryl Creaser, Justin Erswell, Bernardine Fiddimore, Rebekah Gilbert, Pat Hughes, Jo Kirkham, Ian Potter, Ray Prewer, Andi Rivett, Shaun Rogers, Andy Stuart

**IN ATTENDANCE** Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; Kevin Barry - Town Sergeant; David Paine – Second Mace Bearer; Judy Pettitt - Assistant Town Clerk; The Reverend Canon David Frost – Chaplain to the Mayor & Speaker; Rex Swain - Town Crier; approximately 65 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 11am.*

**1 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR 2016-17**

The Mayor, Cllr Bernardine Fiddimore welcomed the Distinguished Guests, Invited Guests and members of the public. She took the opportunity to say how much she had enjoyed the privilege of holding the Mayoralty over the last two years and meeting those who work tirelessly - and voluntarily - to improve the well-being of those needing support in their communities.

She announced that she intended to use the balance of her allowance to commission a spare key for the old lock on the double doors leading up from the Buttermarket – and then to divide the rest between three charities: Ebony Horse, a local charity supporting the homeless and Women's Aid (formerly known as Refuge).

She concluded by thanking her fellow Councillors, the Council's staff, the Deputy Mayor and Colonel Anthony Kimber for his substantial work on the Rye Neighbourhood Plan.

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Mayor for 2016-17.

Cllr Ian Potter proposed, and Cllr Shaun Rogers seconded, Cllr Jonathan Breeds. There being no other nominations Cllr Jonathan Breeds was declared elected and the meeting was adjourned to facilitate his robing.

**2 OATH AND DECLARATION**

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

**3 1951 PENNIES**

Cllr Fiddimore passed the 1951 Pennies to the Mayor. He, in turn, handed them to the Clerk (to look after on his behalf) who proceeded to explain their historical significance.

**4 RECOGNITION OF SERVICE RENDERED**

The Mayor presented Cllr Fiddimore with a Past Mayor's Badge.

**5 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence – and the reasons as lodged with The Clerk - were accepted from Cllr Charles Harkness.

**6 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2016-17**

The Mayor called for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for the year 2016-17.

Cllr John Breeds proposed, and Cllr Shaun Rogers seconded, Cllr Michael Boyd. There being no other nominations Cllr Michael Boyd was declared elected and the meeting was adjourned to facilitate his robing.

**7 OATH AND DECLARATION**

Cllr Michael Boyd 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 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 reappointed the Reverend Canon David Frost as Chaplain to the Mayor.

**12 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S CADETS**

The Mayor re-appointed Elizabeth Emson and Nathan Halliday.

**13 MAYOR'S ADDRESS**

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and hoped that everyone would join him after the Throwing of the Hot Pennies and Toasts for a Mayor Making Celebration at the Tilling Green Community Centre. A free shuttle bus service would be provided by Rye & District Community Transport.

He thanked the previous Mayor, Cllr Fiddimore, for having been such a wonderful ambassador for the town and the excellent manner in which she had performed the role. He was looking forward to the completion of the Rye Neighbourhood Plan, continuing to improve the public realm and realising the Council's ambition of providing more affordable housing.

*The Mayor closed the meeting at 11.31am.*

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

*Members of the public and the Distinguished and Invited Guests joined the Mayor and Council in a short service in the Parish Church. The Guests returned to the Town Hall for a glass of wine and to throw hot pennies to a group of young people below, accompanied by the Town Crier.*

*Following Toasts to Her Majesty the Queen, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and the Antient Town of Rye, many of those present departed for the Mayor Making Celebration at the Tilling Green Community Centre.*

*The Distinguished Guests attending the meeting were: Deputy Lieutenant, Derek Stevens; The Vice-Chairman of East Sussex County Council; The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hythe and Speaker of the Cinque Ports; The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Sandwich; The Right Worshipful the Mayor of New Romney; The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Winchelsea; The Worshipful Mayor of Deal; The Worshipful Mayor of Ramsgate; The Worshipful Mayor of Folkestone; The Worshipful Mayor of Faversham; The Worshipful Mayor of Margate; The Mayor of Battle.*