Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the Town Council held at Rye Town Hall on Monday 9 November 2026

PRESENT Councillors Michael Boyd, Jonathan Breeds, John Breeds, Berni Fiddimore, Vagn Hansen, Chris Hoggart **(Mayor)** Pat Hughes **(Deputy Mayor)**, Sue Learoyd, Andi Rivett, Shaun Rogers, Dena Smith Ellis, Andy Stuart and Sophie Thorpe.

IN ATTENDANCE Amy Head - Town Clerk; Jessica Neame – Deputy Town Clerk; County and District Councillor Dan Bradley; Col Anthony Kimber – RNP Coordinator, Peter Connock and KT Bruce - Rye News, Richard Farhall and 5 members of the public.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

82 APOLOGIES – Apologies for absence – and the reasons as lodged with the Clerk – were accepted from Councillors Bookless, Creaser and Everett.

83 CODE OF CONDUCT
No interests were disclosed.

84 RICHARD ANDREW STEPHEN FARHALL

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION That, in pursuance of sections 249(5) and 249(6) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council of the Antient Town of Rye, assembled especially for this purpose, hereby admits RICHARD ANDREW STEPHEN FARHALL as an Honorary Freeman of the Town, this being the highest distinction within the Council's power to bestow, in recognition of his rendering over 26 years of outstanding service to the Town and its Townsfolk as Town Clerk.

Cllr Stuart proposed Richard and said the following: *It gives me huge pleasure to nominate Richard Farhall to become a Freeman of Rye - a fitting honour for someone who didn't simply work for Rye Town Council but truly served the town of Rye for just over a quarter of century.*

I was the last Mayor to serve a full term of two years whilst Richard was Rye Town Clerk and this gave me further insight into how Richard's quiet dedication, dogged determination, wise words and canny counsel have been so valuable to the town of Rye over the years. Richard always went beyond his job description because he was dedicated to public service and always worked to make things better for the people of Rye.

I trust my fellow Councillors agree that this, the greatest honour the Town Council can bestow, should be given to Richard, a hugely deserving recipient

and wonderful servant of and to the town and people of Rye. Cllr Stuart specifically spoke about Richard's hard work in recent years in helping to establish Rye Leisure Centre and set up the affordable housing Community Land Trust.

Cllrs Boyd, Fiddimore and Smith Ellis, amongst others, also spoke of their admiration of Richard and how he always had time and patience with them when they first became Members of Rye Town Council. Cllr Rogers seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED to admit Richard Andrew Stephen Farhall as an Honorary Freeman of the Town.

The Mayor presented Richard with a commemorative scroll and an Honorary Freeman of the Town badge. Richard gave a speech (including props!) retelling his memories of the many Mayors he had worked with over 26 years and his love of Parish and Town Councils and thanked Rye Town Council for bestowing this honour, which he gratefully accepted.

The meeting ended at 7pm.

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