



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIPON

ANNUAL MEETING & MAYOR MAKING CEREMONY WEDNESDAY 23RD MAY 2018 at 11am

IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE TOWN HALL, RIPON

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting prayers will be said by the Mayor's Chaplain, The Very Reverend The Dean John Dobson.

67/18. The Council to elect The Right Worshipful The Mayor – Councillor McHardy.

Proposer – Councillor Horton Seconded – Councillor Hawke
Resolved by a unanimous show of hands.

68/18. The Proposer and Seconded to make the Customary Search for the Mayor Elect, who is then conducted to the Council Chamber.

History of the Mayor

The post of Mayor is relatively young as it only dates back to the 1604 Charter of King James I which created the role from that of the Wakeman. The Wakeman was the oldest post stretching back to the early Middle Ages, and is not to be confused with the Hornblower which was always a separate function and person, always a male. The rules for the Wakeman were fortunately written down in the 'Ripon Towne Book' of 1598 and it is quite clear that "The Wakeman is to arrange for the horn blowing in the market place and for setting the watch until 3 or 4am during which time he is responsible for guarding premises from burglary and shall pay compensation to those who suffer loss". Failure to do any of the tasks set out in the Towne Book resulted in a large fine, and this is alluded to in today's Mayor making ceremony each year when the Mayor elect is 'dragged' into the Council Chamber to be made the Mayor. The fines were specific: - £20 for not providing a supper for fellow Aldermen and their wives between 10th June and 31st August; 20/- for using the common seal of Ripon without the consent of 4 Aldermen; £4 for failing to serve as Wakeman and another expensive fine of £20 was "The Wakeman is not to leave the town in his year of office except because of plague". The plague referred to is bubonic plague and was prevalent in the Middle Ages after 1347 and into the 17th century as the King's Court left London when there was an attack of the plague. Clearly a Wakeman must have left the town at some stage prior to 1598 for this rule to have been written down.

69/18. The Mayor to make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Local Elections (Declaration of Acceptance of Office) Order 2012 (SI 2012 No 1465), take the Oath of Allegiance; take the Ancient Oath of the Mayor of Ripon; signing accordingly in each case and then to sign The Ancient Roll.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Oath of Allegiance and Ancient Oath of the Mayor of Ripon were duly signed by Cllr McHardy.

Now to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

70/18. The Consort to receive his Chain of Office – Councillor Parkin.

Councillor Parkin received the Consort's Chain of Office.

71/18. The Right Worshipful The Mayor to take the Chair.

72/18. The Right Worshipful The Mayor returned thanks for her election.

Councillor McHardy gave thanks for her election.

82/18. To appoint Committees of the Council and delegate powers and duties to such committees for the ensuing year in accordance with the Terms of Reference and Delegated Powers as agreed by Council on 05.02.11.

Staffing Committee; Hugh Ripley Hall Committee; City Plan Committee; Alderman Spence Committee.

Proposer – Councillor Bate Seconder – Councillor Hawke
Resolved by a unanimous show of hands.

83/18. To consider and approve the following:

- that the Staffing Committee membership shall be reduced in number to six members;
- that the amended terms of reference be adopted;
- that nominations are accepted and membership of the Staffing Committee agreed.

Proposer – Councillor Horton with a nomination of Cllrs Bate, Horton, Powell and Williams.
Seconder – Councillor Chambers with a nomination of Cllrs Chambers and Martin.

That Cllr Bate remains as Chair of Staffing with Cllr Horton remaining as Deputy Chair of Staffing for the term of their election.

Proposer – Councillor Williams Seconder – Councillor Chambers
Resolved by a unanimous show of hands.

84/18. To record that the Council meet the criteria for eligibility to adopt the General Power of Competence, as defined (LA 2011 s.8) Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and to agree to adopt said power.

Proposer – Councillor Williams Seconder – Councillor Chambers
Resolved by a unanimous show of hands.

With business concluded the meeting was closed at 11:55 am.

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Paula Benson, Clerk to the City Council.

SIGNED

DATE

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE
MAYOR