



MINUTES

Council

Date:	Wednesday, 24 May 2023
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes.
Members Present:	Mayor (Councillor Ben Aitken) Deputy Mayor (Councillor Alan Clayton) Councillors Frank Andrews, Peter Anthony, Liz Bickerstaffe, Damian Buckley, Karen Buckley, Edward Collins, Peter Collins, Chris Dixon, Martin Evans, Kelly Farrington, Sue Fazackerley MBE, Joanne Gardner, Ellie Gaunt, Gail Goodman JP, Noreen Griffiths, Gavin Harrison, Karen Henshaw JP, Paul Hodgson, John Kirkham, Jordan Ledger, Matthew Lee, Cheryl Little, Ed Nash, Jayne Nixon, Sandra Pitman, Richard Redcliffe, Andrew Redfearn, William Taylor, Tommy Threlfall, Viv Willder, Michael Withers.
Officers Present:	Allan Oldfield, Tracy Manning, Paul O'Donoghue, Ian Curtis, Mark Wilde, Mark Evans, Darren Bell, Gemma Broadley, Ian Williamson, Charlie Richards, Jo Collins, Sharon Wadsworth, Anita Elliott, Kerry Tonner, Eva McCullough, Christine Wood, Howard Dawson, Alan Ranfield.
Other Attendees:	Honorary Aldermen, invited guests and members of the public.

Prayers

Prayers were offered by the Mayor's Chaplain, Father Philip Newbold.

Mayors Welcome

The Mayor (Councillor Ben Aitken) welcomed everyone to the annual meeting of the council.

The Mayor spoke about what an honour and privilege it had been to serve as the Mayor of Fylde, special thanks were given to his Chaplain, Father Newbold, his attendant, Howard Dawson and to the Chief Executive, Allan Oldfield, and Deputy Chief Executive, Tracy Manning and to Jo Collins and the mayoral team for ensuring that his mayoral year was enjoyable and ran smoothly.

The Mayor was delighted to have met all the community groups and volunteers from all corners of the borough during his year as well as hosting two special occasions specifically to thank volunteers for their valued work.

The Mayor reported a phenomenal £24,038.18 had been raised for his chosen charities, Trinity Hospice, Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau and the 1st Lytham St Annes (St Cuthbert's) Sea Scout Group.

The Mayor expressed his thanks to his Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Clayton, for the honour and privilege of serving alongside him and the Deputy Mayoress, Helen Ementon, throughout the year and finally to his wife, the Mayoress, for her tactful and caring attendance at his side throughout his mayoral year.

1. To Elect a Mayor for the Borough of Fylde for the ensuing Municipal Year

Councillor Peter Anthony moved that Councillor Cheryl Little be elected as Mayor for the ensuing municipal year, seconded by Councillor Susan Fazackerley MBE and;

RESOLVED that Councillor Cheryl Little be appointed Mayor of the Borough of Fylde for the ensuing municipal year.

After making the Declaration of the Acceptance of Office, as required by Statute, the Mayor (Councillor Cheryl Little) thereupon occupied the chair.

(The Mayor also indicated that her appointee as Mayors' Consort was Mr Paul Little).

2. To appoint Deputy Mayor for the Borough of Fylde for the ensuing Municipal Year

It was moved by the Mayor, Councillor Cheryl Little, seconded by Councillor Andrew Redfearn and RESOLVED that Councillor Peter Anthony be appointed Deputy Mayor of Fylde for the ensuing municipal year.

The Deputy Mayor thereupon made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Statute.

(The Deputy Mayor indicated that his appointee as Deputy Mayor's Consort was Mr Paul Lomax).

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, expressed her sincere thanks and congratulations to Mr Ben Aitken for his successful year in office.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, presented to the immediate Past Mayor (Mr Ben Aitken) an Illuminated Record containing the resolution of the Council electing him to the office of Mayor of the Borough for the year 2022/2023.

The Mayor also presented Mr Ben Aitken his Past Mayor's Badge and, to Ms Bernadette Nolan, her past Mayoress's Badge.

The Mayor spoke to thank the residents of the new Carnegie ward for her re-election to office, her proposer and seconder as Mayor and to her family and friends for their support and encouragement. Her theme for the year would be that we never walk alone.

The chosen charities for the mayoral year would be Lytham Hall and World Horse Welfare Penny Farm.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members. There were no Declarations of Interest on this occasion.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Council meeting, held on 27 March 2023, as a correct record for signature by the Mayor.

5. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor announced that Reverend Christopher Scargill would be her Mayor's Chaplain for the forthcoming year that the Civic Sunday service would be held on Sunday, 4th June 2023 at St Thomas' Church, St Annes. The service would commence 10:30am followed by refreshments.

6. Chief Executive's Communications

On behalf of all staff Mr Oldfield, Chief Executive, extended a warm welcome to the new councillors and the new Mayor and expressed his thanks to the immediate past Mayor and his team for the past year.

Decision Items

7. Appointment of Leader and Deputy Leader

Councillor Jayne Nixon proposed Councillor Karen Buckley as Leader of the Council and Councillor Richard Redcliffe as Deputy Leader. Councillor Tommy Threlfall seconded the proposal.

It was RESOLVED that Councillor Karen Buckley be elected Leader of the Council and Councillor Richard Redcliffe be elected Deputy Leader of the Council.

8. Confirmation of Committees and Allocation of Membership

Prior to the introduction of the item, Councillor Karen Buckley offered her congratulations to the new Mayor and wished her a successful year ahead and thanked the past mayoral team on their term of office.

