

Minutes of the **Annual Meeting of Bangor City Council** held at the Penrhyn Hall and through Teams video-conferencing, **Monday, 13 May 2024** at 6.30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** - Their Worship the Mayor Councillor Elin Walker Jones,  
The Deputy Mayor Councillor Gareth Parry,  
Councillors: Steve Bell, Simon Hibbs, Medwyn Hughes, John Wynn Jones, Michael Pattison, Gwynant Roberts, Delyth Russell, John Wyn Williams.

Officers:- Martin Hanks, City Director, Llinos Jones Deputy Director, Sioned Jones  
(Translator)

**At 6.30 pm Her Worship the Mayor, accompanied by the City Director and Councillor John Wynn Jones (acting as Mace Bearer), led the Councillors into the Council Chamber.**

Before the formal commencement of the meeting, the retiring Mayor welcomed everyone to the ceremony. She described what had been a very busy year for the Council, highlighting a host of events, including the formal Mayor's Sunday and Gwyl Haf, the host of events over the Christmas period, the opening of the Air Ambulance shop and Tafarn y Garth, the excellent response to Mayor's clean-up day in August and the Freedom of the City event. She reported that she was particularly happy to have worked with a host of other organisations in the City, including Friends of Garth Pier, MPCT and North Wales Recovery among others. She was particularly proud of the third sector event, which resulted in a national award from One Voice Wales and an initiative to establish a community hub in the City centre and she hoped that the project would continue. Finally, she thanked the Council staff and other Councillors for their support over the year.

#### **01/24 ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2024-25**

The Mayor asked for proposals for the election of Mayor for the forthcoming Municipal Year 2024-2025.

The name of Councillor Gareth Parry was proposed and seconded. No other names were put forward.

The proposal was made by Councillor John Wyn Williams and seconded by Councillor Gwynant Roberts.

**Resolved:** to appoint Cllr Gareth Parry to the position of Mayor of Bangor for the municipal year 2024-2025.

**The 2023-24 Mayor, Cllr Elin Walker Jones, the Mayor-elect Cllr Gareth Parry and the City Director, led by Cllr John Wyn Joens as acting Mace Bearer, left the Chamber.**

**The Mayor of Bangor for the new municipal year, led by the Mace Bearer, entered the Chamber with the City Director.**

**Cllr Gareth Parry read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor of the City of Bangor Council** in the presence of the City Director and Proper Officer, who also signed the Declaration.

## **02/ 24 ADDRESS BY NEW MAYOR**

The new Mayor, Cllr Gareth Parry addressed the Council. He thanked the Councillors who proposed and seconded his candidacy and the Council for electing him. Cllr Parry expressed his pleasure in supporting Cllr Walker Jones over the past twelve months and he thanked her for her hard work. As new Mayor, he stated he intended to support the Council's staff as much as possible to fulfil the Council's policies and ambitions. He also wanted to thank Menter Iaith Bangor for the work it puts into Gwyl Dewi Sant. In a note of warning, he acknowledged that the next year or two may prove challenging for the Council as the Local Authority is facing increasing financial restrictions and Bangor City Council will need to be prepared to respond to this.

Cllr Parry announced that his two Mayoral charities during his term will be the Cathedral Foodbank and Anheddau. He introduced his consort for the next twelve months as being his partner Mrs Parry and his Chaplin as being the Reverend Canon Tracy Jones. Finally thanked the Councillors for putting their trust in him.

## **03/24 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Huw Wyn Jones, Cllr Nigel Pickavance; Cllr Eirian Williams Roberts, Cllr Mark Roberts and Councillor Lisa Toth.

## **04/24 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST OR PERSONAL CONNECTION**

None.

## **05/24 ELECTION OF DEPUTY-MAYOR**

The Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of Deputy Mayor. The name of Councillor Medwyn Hughes was proposed by Cllr John Wyn Jones and seconded by Cllr Michael Pattison. Cllr Jones stated that he had seen Cllr Hughes work at firsthand on behalf of his community and the City as they represent the same Ward. He also thanked the former and new Mayor for their efforts over the last twelve months.

**RESOLVED:** Councillor Medwyn Hughes be elected as Deputy Mayor of the City of Bangor for the forthcoming Municipal Year, 2024/2025.

The Mayor then invested Councillor Hughes with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office.

**Cllr Medwyn Hughes read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Deputy-Mayor of the City of Bangor Council** in the presence of the City Director and Proper Officer, who also signed the Declaration.

Councillor Hughes thanked his proposer for nominating him and the Council for electing him. He felt that it was a huge privilege to be elected and resolved to do his best to support the Mayor and fellow Councillors.

## **06/24 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2023**

The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### **07/24 TO AGREE ON A MEETING TIMETABLE FOR THE NEW COUNCIL**

The City Director had circulated a timetable of meetings for the coming municipal year. It proposed to make a change to the date of the October Assets meeting as the proposed date fell during the school half-term.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the timetable with the amendment.

#### **08/24 TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS**

*The Standing Orders had been pre-circulated.*

The City Director reported that four elements of the current Standing Orders did not reflect the Council's current way of working. These points were been highlighted in red in the pre-circulated versions.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to remove these elements from Standing Orders.

#### **09/24 TO APPROVE NEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

A new version of Financial Regulations was presented to the Council. This version was based on the One Voice Wales model template and, it was reported, had been scrutinised and unanimously approved by the Finance Committee.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the new Financial Regulations as a document and to allow the Council to scrutinise some of the detail at the next meeting.

#### **10/24 TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to defer this item until the next meeting.

#### **11/24 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to defer this item until the next meeting.

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The Meeting finished at 7.15 p.m.