

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
MAYOR MAKING CEREMONY
HELD ON 24th JUNE 2022

The Mayor, Cllr Gareth John, presided over the Annual Meeting of Carmarthen Town Council held in the Guildhall, Carmarthen, on Friday 24th June May 2022, at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Heledd ap Gwynfor, Tom Defis, Dai Evans, Peter Hughes Griffiths, Angharad Jones Leefe, Gareth John, Andy King, Arwel Lloyd, Ioan Matthews, Miriam Moules, Jeff Thomas, Wyn Thomas and Barry Williams.

66. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Marc Ingram, Alun Lenny, Emlyn Schiavone and Russell Sparks.

67. Opening Exhortation

The proceedings opened with a prayer by Councillor Peter Hughes Griffiths on behalf of the retiring Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Beti-Wyn James.

68. Retiring Mayor's Address

The retiring Mayor, Councillor Gareth John welcomed everyone to the ceremony noting that it was an honour to sit in the chair, wearing the chain in the historical surroundings of the Guildhall. Cllr. John reflected on his two years as Mayor, during the pandemic and other challenges where the town had responded and overcome the difficulties faced by all noting that the town will continue to adapt and change in the face of current struggles. Cllr. John expressed his thanks to the dozens of community support groups who had helped over the last two years, highlighting the work of the foodbank, Salvation Army, and Carmarthen Round Table. The retiring Mayor noted a new appreciation of the pivotal role of the Town Council in proactively using links to bring people together for a common cause. Cllr. John spoke of wonderful events that had been held as the town emerged from the pandemic. He also paid tribute to the Town Clerk, Mr. Alun Harries who had recently announced his retirement. Mr Harries was thanked for his work over the past seven years and presented with the Town Council plaque.

Cllr. John expressed his best wishes to the incoming Mayor.

69. Election of Town Mayor of Carmarthen for 2022/23

On the motion of Cllr. Angharad Jones Leefe, seconded by Cllr. Ioan Matthews, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Miriam Moules be elected as Town Mayor for Carmarthen for the year 2022/2023.

The new Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office. The outgoing Mayor Cllr. Gareth John invested Cllr. Miriam Moules with her chain of office.

The Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules, presiding.

The Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules, then made and subscribed the Oath of Admiralty.

Cllr Miriam Moules thanked all Members for their trust in her and continued to briefly outline some of the aims she had for her year as Mayor.

Cllr Miriam Moules appointed Reverend Lorette J Hinson, Minister of Carmarthen Wesley Methodist Church, as Mayor's Chaplain.

Cllr. Moules appointed Huw Garan as her consort. The retiring Mayoress, Mrs Claire John, invested the new consort with his chain.

70. Election of Deputy Mayor for 2022/23

On the motion of Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths, seconded by Cllr. Tom Defis, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Wyn Thomas be elected as Deputy Mayor for 2022/23.

Cllr. Wyn Thomas read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

The Mayor, Cllr. Miriam Moules invested Cllr. Wyn Thomas with the chain of office.

71. Election of Town Sheriff for 2022/23

On the motion of Cllr. Arwel Lloyd, seconded by Cllr. Jeff Thomas, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone be appointed Sheriff of the Town for 2022/23.

Cllr. Emlyn Schiavone was absent from the meeting due to ill health. Best wishes were sent to Cllr. Schiavone for a speedy recovery.

72. Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor

At Councillor Ioan Matthews' proposal, seconded by Cllr. Wyn Thomas, it was **RESOLVED** that thanks be given to the retiring Mayor, Cllr. Gareth John, for his achievements as Mayor during the year.

73. Mayor's Sunday

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and announced her Civic Service would be held on Sunday 26th June at 10.30 at the Wesley Methodist Church.

74. Closing Prayer.

The Reverend Lorette J Hinson, the Mayor's Chaplain, closed the meeting with a prayer

The meeting closed at 19.17.

DRAFT