

CARMARTHEN TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 15TH MAY 2015

The Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd, presided pro tem over the Annual Meeting of Carmarthen Town Council held in the Guildhall, Carmarthen, on Friday, 15th May 2015, at 6.30 pm. The Mayor and Council were preceded into the Chamber by the Sword Bearer, Mr Andrew Mattick, and Mace Bearers, Mr Andrew King and Mr. Brian Phillips , accompanied by the Town Crier, Mr Adrian Perret.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Dorothy Bere, Reverend Tom Defis, Non Edwards, Dr Richard Edwards, Dr. Dewi Evans , Philip Grice, Peter Hughes Griffiths, Anthony Jenkins, Alun Lenny, Arwel Lloyd, Kenneth Lloyd, Douglas Rose, Emlyn Schivone, Alan Speake, Wyn Thomas, Barry Williams,

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Baba Gana and Dr. Ioan Matthews.

2. OPENING EXHORTATION

The proceedings opened with an exhortation by the retiring Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Beti-Wyn James .

The retiring Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd, thanked Reverend Beti-Wyn James for her support during the year.

3. RETIRING MAYOR'S ADDRESS

The Retiring Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd, reviewed a busy year, supported throughout by the Mayoress, Mrs Catrin Howells Lloyd. Very proud of the birth of their baby daughter Marged Elen, during the year he had attended over 160 engagements including coffee mornings and sporting events. He had met many volunteers during his mayoral year and realised how the Community had become dependent on them. He gave thanks to the hard work undertaken by Mrs. Eleri James who had helped to make his year so much easier for him. Special thanks were also given to the, soon to retire, Town Clerk, Selwyn Thomas who had worked tirelessly for the Council . He said the Council was very fortunate to have had him for his help and guidance over the years. He gave thanks also to Mrs. Margaret Evans who has organised the Town Guides over the last eight years. Margaret has been on sick leave for some time and he wished her a speedy recovery and hoped that she would return to work soon.

Cllr. Lloyd gave thanks to Cllr. Barry Williams and Cllr. Wyn Thomas for their support during the year such as attending functions in his absence.

Cllr. Lloyd made reference to the highlights of his year. For example, over 650 adults and children took part in the Mayor's Fun Run, thanks here to the Organiser, Mr. Noelwyn Daniel and the Mayor's Committee. In addition, the Sports Awards held in January brought to the fore the array of sporting talent in Carmarthen and the surrounding area. The River Festival was also a great success and thanks here should go to the Riverside Committee and the Gwendraeth Valleys Paddlers who helped organise the event. One sad note that touched the Community during the year was missing school boy Cameron Comey who disappeared while playing by the River Towy.

He ended his review of the year by saying how privileged he was to have been Mayor and how much more he had learned of the historical nature of the Town and looked confidently to the future.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Cllr Arwel Lloyd presented framed award certificates to:

Phil Kesteven of Lesneven Twinning Committee. He set up the Town Twinning Committee which has gone from strength to strength over the years. He is instrumental in organising meetings and making arrangements for the visits. The town Twinning has been a great success.

Sulwyn Thomas – Popular broadcaster until his retirement. He set up Radio Glangwili in 1972 and has provided cassettes for the Blind. Together with his wife, Glenys, they have been very active with the Urdd and other organisations.

5. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR FOR 2015/2016

On the motion of Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths, seconded by Cllr Anthony Jenkins, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Barry Williams be elected Town Mayor for Carmarthen for the year 2015/2016.

Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths and Cllr Anthony Jenkins outlined Cllr Barry William's background,

Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths reminded the meeting that Cllr Barry Williams was a native of Llanelli who had lived in Carmarthen for over forty years. Gaining his first degree at Trinity College, and his MEd at Cardiff University, Cllr Williams's career with the health sector had included posts as Tutor in Nursing Studies, Lecturer in Health Studies at Swansea University, and as External Examiner to Schools of Medicine in Cardiff and Sunderland. As a loyal member of Carmarthen Town Council, Cllr Williams was noted for the clarity and wisdom of his contributions, and for his active support of projects in the town and beyond.

Cllr Anthony Jenkins reported that, in addition to a distinguished career in health and academia, Cllr Barry Williams had served in the Royal

Army Medical Corps as a Territorial Army Officer, and qualified as a Scuba Diving Instructor.

In retirement, Cllr Williams has worked part-time with the elderly, and has proved a highly effective Town Councillor.

Cllr Barry Williams then made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of Justice of the Peace, Mrs Bethan Harris. Cllr Barry Williams thanked Council and looked forward to serving the town in the year ahead.

The retiring Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd, invested Cllr Barry Williams with the chain and insignia of the office of Town Mayor.

The Mayor, Cllr Barry Williams, presiding.

The Mayor, Cllr Barry Williams, then made and subscribed the Oath of Admiralty, whilst holding the Silver Oar, being the badge of office.

Cllr Williams thanked his fellow Councillors for placing their trust in him, and for the privilege of being elected Mayor of Carmarthen. Cllr Williams congratulated Cllr Arwel Lloyd on his hard-working and active year in office and proceeded to invest the retiring Mayor with the Mayor's jewel and a silver oar.

Cllr Williams appointed Reverend Leigh Richardson, St. Peter's Church, as Mayor's Chaplain.

The Mayor then appointed Mrs Williams as Mayoress. The retiring Mayoress, Mrs Catrin Howells Lloyd, invested the Mayoress, Cllr Williams, with the chain of office. The Mayoress presented flowers to Mrs Howells Lloyd.

6. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2015/2016

On the motion of Cllr Alun Lenny, seconded by Cllr Reverend Tom Defis, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Wyn Thomas be appointed Deputy Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

Cllr Lenny summarised the career of Cllr Wyn Thomas, who, following his birth and upbringing in Llanpumpsaint and education in the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, had dedicated his working life to Carmarthen. Cllr Thomas had founded, and ran until recently, the first Welsh book and gift shop in South Wales and is a highly respected businessman in the locality. During the last year he had served as Town Sheriff.

Cllr Reverend Tom Defis said it was a pleasure to second the nomination of Deputy Mayor. As Chair of Finance Cllr Thomas had supported him as deputy over the last year.

The Deputy Mayor then made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of Justice of the Peace, Mrs Bethan Harris.

The Mayor invested Cllr Wyn Thomas with the chain and badge of office. Cllr Thomas thanked Council for the honour.

7. APPOINTMENT OF TOWN SHERIFF FOR 2015/2016

On the motion of Cllr Non Edwards, seconded by Cllr Dr. Dewi Evans, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Dorothy Bere be appointed Town Sheriff for the ensuing municipal year.

Cllr Non Edwards said it was a privilege to nominate Cllr Dorothy Bere as Town Sheriff. Cllr Bere is a Carmarthen girl, who attended Ysgol y Dderwen and Ysgol Bro Myrddin schools. She has been to Patagonia where some of her relatives still reside.

Cllr Dr. Dewi Evans said it was a pleasure to second the nomination of Cllr Dorothy Bere as Town Sheriff. He has found her to be a very active and kind person who has a bright future ahead of her as a Town Councillor.

The Town Sheriff then made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of Justice of the Peace, Mrs Bethan Harris.

8. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR

On the motion of Cllr Non Edwards, seconded by Cllr Dorothy Bere, it was **RESOLVED** that the thanks of this Council be accorded to the retiring Mayor, Cllr Arwel Lloyd, for the manner in which he had fulfilled the office of Mayor during the year 2014/2015.

Cllr Non Edwards referred to the energy and enthusiasm with which Cllr Arwel Lloyd had undertaken his mayoral duties. Cllr Non Edwards also remarked on the support that he had received from Catrin, especially during the birth of their child, Marged Elen in January

Cllr Dorothy Bere thanked the retiring Mayor for everything that he had done for the Town in his mayoral year. She wished him the best future and also to Catrin and Marged Elen.

9. MAYOR'S SUNDAY

The Mayor announced his intention to hold a Civic Service at St Peter's Church on Sunday, 17th May 2015, at 10.00 am.

10. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting stand adjourned until Wednesday, 27th May 2015, at 7.30 pm.

11. CLOSING PRAYER

The Reverend Leigh Richardson, the Mayor's Chaplain, closed the proceedings with prayer.

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm.