
COUNCIL

Saturday, 29th June, 2024

- Present:** Councillor Mike Booth (Mayor), Councillors Judith Addison, Vanessa Alexander, Josh Allen, Heather Anderson, Noordad Aziz, Edward Blake, Scott Brerton, Stephen Button, Jodi Clements, Munsif Dad BEM JP, Bernard Dawson MBE, Stewart Eaves, Melissa Fisher, Andy Gilbert, Clare McKenna, Dave Parkins, Ethan Rawcliffe, Kate Walsh and Kimberley Whitehead
- Also in Attendance:** Ms Christine Sollis (Mayoress), Mr and Mrs Terry and Jean Hurn (Mayor and Mayoress in 2023/24), Ms Robyn Bradshaw-Allen (Deputy Mayoress) Mr Mohammad Ayub, Mr Timothy O’Kane and Mrs Collette McCormack
- Apologies:** Councillors Danny Cassidy, Andrew Clegg, Loraine Cox, Paul Cox, Peter Edwards, Shabir Fazal OBE, Marlene Haworth, Zak Khan, Joyce Plummer, Kath Pratt, Clare Pritchard, Steven Smithson, Tina Walker, Clare Yates and Mohammed Younis
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44 Welcome

Mr David Welsby, Chief Executive, welcomed Honorary Freemen, Honorary Aldermen, Past Mayors and Mayoresses, Councillors and honoured guests, including the new Aldermen, as well as their friends and family to the 2024/25 Mayor Making Ceremony, to install the Mayor of the Borough.

This was a special occasion, as this year marked the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough of Hyndburn.

45 Declaration of Mayor - 2024/25

Mr Welsby announced that at the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23rd May 2024, Councillor Mike Booth had been elected Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2024/25.

The Mayor read aloud the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor and was presented with the Mayoral Fob by Mrs Terry Hurn, Mayor in 2023/24.

Councillor Munsif Dad BEM JP, Leader of the Council, gave a speech of welcome to the Mayor and his partner, Christine Sollis, the Mayoress, which was supported by Councillor Noordad Aziz, Joint Deputy Leader of the Labour group and Councillor Zak Khan, Leader of the Conservative group.

The Mayor made his speech of acceptance, in which he expressed his delight at being nominated for this honour and which he anticipated would be joyous time. He also expressed his gratitude to his friend and partner, Christine Sollis, for accepting the role of Mayoress, following which he presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

46 Declaration of Deputy Mayor - 2024/25

The Mayor announced that at the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23rd May 2024, Councillor Josh Allen had been elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2024/25. Councillor Allen read aloud the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Deputy Mayor.

Vote of Thanks to the Retiring Mayor and Mayoress

The Mayor then proposed a formal vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor, Mr Terry Hurn and his Mayoress, Mrs Jean Hurn. He noted that the couple were his great friends and he would value their advice and support in his mayoral year. The vote of thanks was also supported by Councillors Dad and Khan, who acknowledged the hard work of the retiring Mayor and Mayoress and the respect shown to them by the community they had served.

Mr Hurn gave a brief speech about his year as Mayor and in particular the money that had been raised by the Mayor's Charity Fund through the generosity of local people. Some £17k had been raised in total and this has enabled £5k each to be donated to Milly's Smiles, Accrington Stanley Women FC and Batten Disease and smaller amounts to be distributed to East Lancashire Hospice and Derian House Children's Hospice and Motiv8- Lancs

Mr Hurn also thanked his wife, Jean, and his family for their unwavering support throughout his mayoral year. He finished by stating he the role had been an honour and a privilege and wished the new Mayor and Mayoress all the best.

The Mayor then presented a Past Mayor's badge and framed resolution to the retiring Mayor and some flowers to the retiring Mayoress.

47 Conferment of the Title of Honorary Alderman

Members were reminded that at the Annual Council Meeting on 23rd May 2024, in pursuance of Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the title of Honorary Alderman had been conferred on Mrs Colette McCormack, Mr Mohammad Ayub, Mr Timothy O'Kane, and Mr Terry Hurn, in recognition of them each having rendered eminent services to the Council as a past member of the Council.

The recipients were called upon in turn as follows:

The Mayor welcomed Mrs Colette McCormack, who had been an elected member for Immanuel ward for 8 years and was Mayor in 2011/12. Councillors Munsif Dad, Stewart Eaves and Judith Addison all spoke to support the granting of this honour. Mrs McCormack signed the Roll of Honorary Aldermen and was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a certificate by the Mayor. She then gave a short speech in which she recalled the highlights of her time as a councillor and thanked her husband, family and political colleagues for their support.

The Mayor welcomed Mr Mohammad Ayub, who had been an elected member for Central ward for 16 years and was Mayor in 2018/19. Councillors Munsif Dad and Judith Addison spoke to support the granting of this honour. Mr Ayub signed the Roll of Honorary Aldermen and was presented with a gift and a certificate by the Mayor. He then gave a short speech in which he thanked the Mayor and Mayoress and reflected upon his aspirations as a young man and the community spirit which had underpinned his time in office. He thanked the Council for providing him with the opportunity to serve and expressed his wish to see Hyndburn continue to improve for the sake of his children.

The Mayor welcomed Mr Timothy O’Kane, who had been an elected member for Clayton-le-Moors ward for 21 years and was Mayor in 2016/17. Councillors Munsif Dad, Melissa Fisher and Judith Addison spoke to support the granting of this honour. Mr O’Kane signed the Roll of Honorary Aldermen and was presented with a gift and a certificate by the Mayor. He then gave a short speech in which he thanked his political colleagues and reflected upon his work on the Overview and Scrutiny committees, his work to champion the relocation of Clayton-le-Moors Amateur Boxing Club to its new premises and provided some humorous anecdotes. Finally, he thanked Councillor Judith Addison for supporting him and his Mayoress, Melanie Storey, during his mayoral year.

The Mayor reintroduced Mr Terry Hurn, who had been an elected member for Baxenden ward for 14 years and was Mayor in 2023/24. Councillors Munsif Dad and Kimberley Whitehead spoke to support the granting of this honour. Mr Hurn signed the Roll of Honorary Aldermen and was presented with a gift and a certificate by the Mayor. Mr Hurn’s grandson, Kaven Hurn, also spoke about his grandfather’s community involvement, which started from his work as an ambulance man, before drifting into the catering trade. He was known for taking families to visit loved ones in prison and for his work with the Probation Service, teaching young offenders how to bake and helping recovering alcoholics. The family bakery felt more like a community hub, with free food and charity buffets often provided. Mr Hurn continued to serve as a county councillor. However, none of this would have been possible without the steadfast support of his wife, Jean. The new Alderman added that he had moved to Accrington at age 15 from Ipswich, but that area was very special and was firmly his home.

At the conclusion of the presentations the Chief Executive noted the attendance of Aldermen Jean Battle and Sandra Hayes. He passed on the Council’s condolences for the loss their respective husbands, Les Battle who had passed away only a few years ago and form Mayor, Doug Hayes, whose passing was very recent. Councillors and officers missed them both dearly.

All guests were invited to join the Mayor in a short while in the Ballroom for the Civic Celebration meal.

Signed:.....

Date:

Chair of the meeting
at which the minutes were confirmed