



Annual General Meeting Thursday 11th May 2023

(A face to face and virtual meeting)

1. Appointment of Mayor 2022/3

Cllr Reg Davies nominated Cllr Mike Kermode for the position of Mayor, seconded by Cllr Arwel Roberts and there being no other nominations, Members voted unanimously for Cllr Kermode. **Resolved.**

Cllr Kermode thanked his fellow Councillors for the honour bestowed on him and said that he would do his utmost to fulfil the responsibilities of Mayor to the best of his ability.

2. Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office (Mayor)

Cllr Kermode was asked to read the declaration, sign it for all to see, and return a hard copy to the Clerk.

3. To Record attendance and apologies for the AGM

a) Present Cllr Mike Elgin (Retiring Mayor)

Cllr Mike Kermode (Retiring Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Ivor Beech

Cllr Jackie Burnham

Cllr Reg Davies

Cllr Arwel Roberts

Cllr Val Simmons

Town Clerk

Clerical Assistant/Minute Clerk

b) Apologies Cllrs Ann Davies, Gareth Rowlands, Bleddyn Williams, Rob Williams

At this point Cllr Mike Kermode as Mayor welcomed all to the meeting. Nine members of the public were present and all present were informed that the AGM was being recorded on audio only.

4. Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Cllr Val Simmons had been nominated as Deputy Mayor. Cllr Kermode said that although Cllr Simmons had only been a Councillor for 12 months, she had already made a positive impact in a number of ways and had proved to be a valuable team member. Members voted unanimously for Cllr Simmons. **Resolved.**

Cllr Val Simmons thanked the Members for the honour of being appointed Deputy Mayor and pledged her support for the Mayor and the decisions of the Town Council.

5. 2023/4 Mayor's Welcome Speech

The Mayor said that he was pleased to see so many family and friends at the meeting, along with past Town Councillors and the current Chairman of Denbighshire CC as well as the immediate past Chair.

Cllr Kermode and his wife had moved to Rhuddlan in 1970. Their family had soon appreciated the town's facilities, the friendliness of fellow residents, and saw what a lovely place it was for their daughters, Jackie and Gill, to grow up and prosper. Their various careers were highlighted to Members along with some of voluntary activities they have undertaken and continue to be involved in.

Cllr Kermode and his wife were looking forward to an enjoyable year ahead as Mayor and Mayoress and he was looking forward to his new role in the Council. He has two key themes for the year. Firstly, to continue the great work done by previous Mayor's in supporting the Council's positive actions and the Town Plan. Secondly, to encourage more volunteering and community service which can make such an important difference within the town. This was clearly evident in the efforts made by various groups to make the recent Coronation weekend such a success.

He was very pleased to note that Cllr Val Simmons had been honoured as Volunteer of the Year by Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council.

The new Mayor's charities for the year 2023/4 are St Kentigern Hospice, and The Alzheimer's Society. A charity dance is already organised for mid-September and other fund raising activities will be announced as the year progresses.

6. 2022/3 Mayor's Farewell Speech

Cllr Mike Elgin in his speech reflected on the three separate Royal events which happened in a very short period of time. Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee, her death, and the announcement of King Charles III as our new king. The town did a great job in organising appropriate and successful activities to mark these Royal events culminating in the Coronation celebrations last weekend. Cllr Elgin was particularly pleased to see Y Ddraig Goch flying high on the Rhuddlan Castle battlements noting Lord Langford's contribution in making this happen.

Cllr Mike Elgin then highlighted several happenings during his tenure as Mayor. This included his Civic Service at St Mary's, the annual Remembrance Day parade, and of course the town's biggest project for a long time, Y Hwb, which was officially opened on March 1st 2023. He wished to thank all who have helped and participated in the various happenings but especially the Town Clerk, Steve Wilson who had worked tirelessly in managing Y Hwb project and saving the Town Council a large sum of money by doing so. Steve has proved a great asset to the Council along with all the elected Members during Mike's year. Cllr Elgin pledged his help and support to Cllr Mike Kermode during 2023/4. Cllr Kermode in particular had been a great help with his astute advice, intellect and level headedness.

The Assistant Clerk, although receiving medical treatment to improve his health, has shown a positive attitude and Mike wished him all the best with the continuing treatment.

In his conclusion Cllr Elgin thanked his wife for her support as consort. Although naturally shy, she has bravely conquered this for this important supportive role, to be by Mike's side at many functions and events.

7. Formal Approval of the 2022 AGM Minutes

Members agreed the Minutes were a true record and no Matters Arising were noted. **Resolved.**

8. Appointments to Internal Committees & Working Groups

- a) **Information/website Committee** – Cllrs Gareth Rowlands, Mike Kermode, Jackie Burnham, Val Simmons, and Bleddyn Williams. **Resolved.**
- b) **Personnel Committee** – Cllrs Mike Kermode as Mayor and as the Council's Personnel Adviser, Val Simmons as Deputy Mayor and Mike Elgin as the immediate past Mayor. **Resolved.**
- c) **Biodiversity Committee** – Cllrs Jackie Burnham, Arwel Roberts, Val Simmons. Cllrs Ivor Beech and Rob Williams are to be asked to be members of this committee given their profession as farmers. **Resolved.**
- d) **Events Committee** – Cllrs Ivor Beech, Mike Elgin, Mike Kermode, Arwel Roberts, and Val Simmons. **Resolved.**

9. Appointments to External Bodies

- a) **Denbighshire CCTV Partnership** – Cllrs Ivor Beech, Arwel Roberts, and Bleddyn Williams. **Resolved.**
- b) **Rhuddlan Community Association** – The Association's constitution states that the current Mayor be the Town Council representative. Cllr Mike Kermode. **Resolved.**
- c) **Ysgol y Castell, Governor** – Cllr Jackie Burnham. **Resolved.**
- d) **Rhuddlan Local Nature Reserve** – Cllrs Ivor Beech, and Gareth Rowlands. **Resolved.**
- e) **Denbighshire Tourism Forum** – Cllrs Val Simmons, and Rob Williams. **Resolved.**
- f) **Road Safety** – all councillors. **Resolved.**

10. Cheque Signatories.

All Members are eligible to be signatories but Cllrs Ann Davies, Reg Davies, Mike Elgin, Mike Kermode, Arwel Roberts, and Gareth Rowlands were agreed along with the Clerk. **Resolved.**

Signed:Cllr Mike Kermode (Mayor)

Date: