



ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY 5 JUNE 2017

Key Decisions

No	Item	Decision
1	Apologies	<i>Alderman Robinson, Councillor Fielding, Holmes, Blair, Harding</i>
2	Outgoing Mayor's Address	<i>Note</i>
3	Declarations of Interest	<i>None</i>
4	Nominations to Positions of Responsibility Year 3	
4.1	Election of Mayor	<i>Councillor Baird</i>
4.2	Election of Deputy Mayor	<i>Councillor McLaughlin</i>
4.3	Nominations by Parties for Positions of Responsibility - Year 2017/18	<i>Members Confirmed</i>
5	Incoming Mayor's Address	<i>Note</i>
6	Committee Allocations	<i>Democratic Services to be informed of any changes</i>
7	Appointments to Partnerships and External Bodies	<i>For information</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HEADQUARTERS
MONDAY 5 JUNE 2017 AT 7 PM**

- In the Chair** : Alderman Hickey
Councillor Baird
- Present** : Aldermen Campbell, Cole, Finlay, King, Hillis,
McKeown and McKillop S
Councillors Beattie, Callan, Chivers, Clarke, Deighan,
Duddy, Fitzpatrick, Harding, Hunter, Knight-McQuillan,
Loftus, McCandless, McCaul, McCorkell, McGlinchey,
McKillop MA, McLaughlin, McLean, McShane C,
McShane P, Mulholland, Nicholl, Quigley, Stevenson,
Watton and Wilson
- Officers Present** : D Jackson, Chief Executive
M Quinn, Director of Performance
P Donaghy, Democratic Services Manager
D Allen, Committee and Member Services Officer
- In attendance** : Press x 2

The Mayor asked Members to stand for a few moments to support the families and friends of the victims of the London tragedy.

CONDOLENCES

The Mayor offered her condolences to Councillor Fielding on the death of his father.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Alderman Robinson; Councillors Fielding, Holmes, Blair and Harding.

2. OUTGOING MAYOR'S ADDRESS

- * Councillor McGlinchey joined the meeting at 7.05pm
- * Councillor Beattie and Councillor Duddy joined the meeting at 7.06pm
- * Councillor C McShane joined the meeting at 7.10pm

Before seeking nomination for the position of Mayor for 2017/18, the outgoing Mayor took the opportunity to reflect on her time in office as follows:

“Good evening everyone and welcome to our Annual Meeting. I know it is a much used phrase, but where does the time go? I cannot believe that this is the end of my year as Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council. And what a year it has been.

Some of you may know that this time last year, I set myself ten challenges that I wanted to complete. I knew it would be a busy year, but I wanted to take the opportunity to leave behind a lasting legacy that would not be about me, but for our wonderful Borough.

One of these challenges was to refresh and future-proof the Mayor’s Parlour, so that it would reflect our Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

The beautiful new corporate colours were chosen as the colour scheme, and the room is now bright, warm and modern. Pieces of art by local artists are on display, as a showcase of the amazing wealth of talent in this new Borough, where creativity is available in abundance.

I initiated a schools project, corresponding with all the Primary Schools in the Borough inviting their school council members to a reception in the Mayor’s Parlour followed by a debate in the Chamber. I was delighted with the quality of the debate and I am sure some of those children will become politicians of the future.

I have worked behind the scenes for almost 3 years with Council officers, the Rotary Club of Coleraine, and other stakeholders to develop and support the Mountsandel project which has recently moved to a very important public consultation stage. It is the most historic site on the entire island of Ireland, and was described by the late Professor Woodman, who discovered it, as being one of the most important sites in Europe, worthy of World Heritage status. To this end, I have put a motion to Council to install a permanent public art feature that recognises Coleraine and the Mountsandel’s uniqueness as the earliest settlement on the entire island of Ireland at the Lodge roundabout. I also had hoped to see the return of red squirrels to the site but unfortunately that cannot happen in my year as Mayor, but I shall endeavour to continue to ensure that this will happen sometime in the future.

I also wanted to raise awareness of the Angel of Hope garden adjacent to the Causeway Coast and Glens Headquarters, and I did this by commissioning a young artist from the Borough to paint the Angel of Hope garden on my official Christmas card.

I chose not to host a Mayor's reception and instead chose to acknowledge staff for their contribution to Council in the wake of our challenging amalgamation. I met with staff in all the 4 Legacy Councils and thanked them on behalf of you and the organisation and presented each member with a small corporate gift.

My charities for the year were Adam's Camp and the Northern Ireland Children's Hospice and I thank all those who contributed to these very worthwhile causes. Our Council staff were most generous at the fundraisers I held across our four Council offices, and my thanks go to them for their very generous support.

At the end of May I led a day of commemorative events for those who died in the Girona disaster, culminating in an evening reception at the Giant's Causeway Visitor Centre. This was a real highlight of my year and I look forward to seeing us realise the tourism potential of this incredible maritime story.

I hoped to foster better relations within the political groups here in the Chamber. I chose to do this by inviting Councillors and staff members who attended the full council meetings to enjoy some food together in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. I hope you all enjoyed this, as I know I certainly did.

Looking back through my diary for the year, the variety and amount of events and engagements never ceases to amaze me.

My year as Mayor began with an event to mark Volunteer Week, and earlier today I spent my last engagement at another volunteer event, which was a fitting way to bring my term full circle. The value that volunteers add to our community is most significant. It is great to see a strong sense of community spirit and the desire volunteering to help others feel alive and well throughout our Borough.

There are so many highlights I couldn't possibly list them all but the Royal Visit where I enjoyed lunch with Queen, my trip to Washington to showcase Causeway Coast and Glens and the recent Garden Party at Buckingham Palace all stand out as once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Though closer to home I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting people, from school children working to improve their environment in Feeney, to children in Rathlin raising money for their school. In contrast I was privileged to meet some of our oldest residents, from all across this Borough. In community groups from Ballymaconnelly to Dungiven I enjoyed countless community festivals throughout the Borough and I want to thank them all for welcoming me so warmly. It was a year I will never forget and each and every person I met along the way helped to make it so special.

Throughout my year, I have benefited from invaluable support and direction. I particularly wish to thank David Jackson, our Chief Executive, for his wisdom and guidance, the Democratic Services team for their unrelenting patience and the PR department for all their constant support and assistance.

In the Mayor's Office, Eithne and Ivy have organised every aspect of my role, their diligence and professionalism has made every day seamless. Eithne, my PA, ensured every T was crossed and every I dotted. When my children heard that I was getting a PA to assist me in my role, they immediately sent their condolences to Eithne and I'm sure she now knows why they did so.

I want to say a special thank you to Councillor James McCorkell, my Deputy Mayor. I think we have worked well together throughout the year, and I want to thank him for all the assistance you offered me.

I would also wish to thank all the Chairs who helped at various times throughout the year. Their support is also invaluable in helping me to mould the organisation. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my SDLP colleagues for proposing me for this role as Mayor. I hope they believe that one year later they made the right choice - I do!

I would also like to thank all of you here in the Council Chamber - my Council colleagues, irrespective of our political differences, for all your support throughout the year.

Lastly, but not least, I wish to thank my consort Liam for his patience. At times I believe I did try him beyond the limit of his endurance, but his support never faltered. I know he is now absolutely dreading me having more time on my hands to dream up more projects for him.

Finally, I wish the incoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor my sincerest best wishes for the year ahead and I hope you both enjoy your year as much as I did.”

Several members on behalf of their parties paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the work carried out during their term in office. Comments made included:

- The Mayor had been a hands-on, past orientated, innovative ambassador
- The Mayor reached out to every member of the Community
- The Mayor strongly supported the business sector
- The Mayor had shown remarkable leadership
- The Mayor had hosted many functions for both groups and individuals
- Everyone felt the Mayor’s warmth of character
- There had been a good working relationship between Mayor and Deputy Mayor
- The Mayor made a tremendous contribution to the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

Alderman Hickey thanked members for their generous comments.

The outgoing Deputy Mayor congratulated the Mayor on her successful time in office and thanked her for sharing the official duties. He also thanked the Chief Executive, officers and staff for their invaluable support, his party for their faith in him, his family and Councillor Duddy who had been a mentor over the past year and wished the incoming Mayor and Deputy Mayor all the best for the year ahead.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY YEAR 3

4.1 Election of Mayor

Alderman Hillis nominated Councillor Baird to the position of Mayor.

Councillor Baird was declared Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council for the year 2017/18.

Councillor Hickey relinquished position of Mayor and Councillor Baird took up her position as Chair.

4.2 Election of Deputy Mayor

Councillor Nichol nominated Councillor McLaughlin as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor McLaughlin was declared Deputy Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council for the year 2017/18.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were both congratulated by members on their nominations.

4.3 Nomination by Parties for the Remaining Positions for Year 2017/18

Appointment/Committee	Elected Member	Party
Chair of Environmental Services	Councillor McLean	DUP
Vice Chair of Environmental Services	Councillor Loftus	SDLP
Chair of Leisure & Development	Councillor Duddy	DUP
Vice Chair of Leisure & Development	Councillor Douglas	TUV
Chair of Corporate Policy & Resources	Councillor McCandless	UU
Vice Chair of Corporate Policy & Resources	Councillor Knight-McQuillan	DUP
Chair of Planning	Alderman McKeown	UU
Vice Chair of Planning	Councillor MA McKillop	SDLP
Chair of Audit	Councillor Beattie	SDLP
Vice Chair of Audit	Councillor Hunter	UU
Partnership Panel	To be confirmed	DUP
Northern Ireland Housing Council	Alderman Finlay	DUP
Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association	Councillor McCandless	UU

5. COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS – APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

Members received a report which outlined that Council had agreed at its meeting on 26 February 2015 to establish five committees made up of 16 members using the quota greatest remainder. Details of appointments to the 5 committees had been agreed for the 4 year term of Council circulated previously.

It was **AGREED**: that if there were any changes to the membership of the Committees Democratic Services would be informed.

6. APPOINTMENTS TO PARTNERSHIPS AND EXTERNAL BODIES

A schedule outlining nominations to partnerships and external bodies was circulated to members for information.

7. INCOMING MAYOR'S ADDRESS

"I would like to say thank you to the Council and in particular the Ulster Unionists Party for nominating me as Mayor this evening.

It is a great honour to take up this important position on Council and a great privilege to represent our citizens in this absolutely beautiful Borough.

I promise to do all in my power in the year ahead to ensure we are recognised as a highly successful and vibrant Council which delivers for its people.

There are many uncertainties and challenges ahead and I recognise the need for strong leadership in Council and to ensure that we work to a common purpose, that is to improve and enhance the lives of all our citizens. Given the large geographic area which this Council represents and the diversity of its citizens we must work together in the interests of progress, and I know that everyone here wants to see the Borough progress.

We all have the best interests of our citizens at heart, and the success for our Council starts here in this Chamber. Underpinning that success relies on each one of us to ensure participation by all its Members, good communication, involvement by all and consensus in decision-making where it is at all possible, and importantly mutual respect, all attributes which I intend to foster in this chamber as your Mayor.

The ties which support the governance in Council come from the support of colleagues, which is everyone in this Chamber and includes the Chief Executive and his staff. That co-operation and support is vital for the success of this Council and I look forward to having that support and co-operation from everyone.

I pledge to work hard on your behalf in this Chamber and in the many public duties which I will take part in, in the year going forward. I am looking forward to working with you all and with Council staff.”

The incoming Mayor congratulated the incoming Deputy Mayor, Councillor McLaughlin on his appointment, and looked forward to working with him in the year ahead. She also congratulated all the Chairs and Vice Chairs on their appointments.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor McLaughlin, addressed the meeting. He thanked his colleagues for nominating him for the position of Deputy Mayor, the party for giving him their full support and that he was very honoured to be appointed as Deputy Mayor, and looked forward to working with the Mayor over the coming year.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the outgoing Mayor extended an invitation to elected members and staff to join her for a small reception in the Mayor's Parlour.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at **7.40pm**.

Mayor