

## BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of FULL COUNCIL meeting held on MONDAY, 11 APRIL 2016 at 6.50pm in the MAIN CHAMBER, THE GUILDHALL, BARNSTAPLE.

Present: Councillors Mrs V Elkins (Chairman), Mrs V Monk, F Vernon, A Windsor, Mrs S Haywood, I Roome, Mrs J Hunt (Vice-Chairman), J Phillips, Mrs E Davies, J Carter, Mrs J Wilsher, F Jefferies, Miss M Lovering, I Williams, Ms N Haywood, M Kennaugh, C Perkins-Beard, M Chamings, and G Langford.

Also in attendance, Mr W Austin (Town Clerk), G Lovering (Mayor's Beadle), Mrs M Bremnes (Mayor of Harstad, Norway), Lt Col T Thomassen (Chief of Allied Training Centre, Norway), B Akselsen (officer of Harstad Kommune), Lt Col R Baxendale (Royal Marines), A Gracie (Barnstaple Twinning Association), 22 members of the public and 2 representatives of the press.

### TC112 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence, as recorded on the attendance sheet were received from Cllrs C Haywood Mrs A Dawson, L Dawson, and A Rennles.

### TC113 DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Mrs S Haywood, I Roome and Mrs J Hunt, as members of North Devon Council, declared dispensations under Standing Order 64 to discuss and vote on any item on the agenda unless the item refers to the financial or legal agreement or dispute between the two authorities.

### TC114 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016 be received and approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

(NC)

### TC115 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on her recent engagements and reminded members of upcoming events in the Council's calendar.

TC116 TOWN TWINNING – AGREEMENT WITH HARSTAD, NORWAY

The Mayor proposed a motion that the Council should sign a twinning agreement with Harstad, Norway, and spoke in favour of the motion. The motion was seconded by the Deputy Mayor, who also spoke in favour.

The Chairman of Finance & General Purposes spoke in support, and advised members that her committee had originally agreed to proceed towards an agreement. Other councillors also spoke in support.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended to allow Marianne Bremnes (Mayor of Harstad), Lt Col Baxendale (Royal Marines), Lt Col Trond Thomassen (Commander of Allied Training Centre, Harstad) and Alan Gracie (Barnstaple Twinning Association) to address the Council.

(NC)

Mayor Bremnes, Lt Col Baxendale, Lt Col Thomassen and Alan Gracie (Barnstaple Twinning Association) presented to members on the town of Harstad and its longstanding links with the Royal Marines. A video presentation featuring the culture and history of Harstad was also shown.

RESOLVED: That the Mayor proceed to sign a twinning agreement with the town of Harstad, Norway.

(NC)

The Mayors of Barnstaple and Harstad signed two copies of the agreement and there was an exchange of gifts.

TC117 QUESTIONS

No questions had been received from members of the Council under Standing Order 26, or public registered electors in the town under Standing Order 83.

The meeting ended at 8.15pm.

Chairman.

Signed .....

Dated .....