

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday 17 May 2011 at
7.00 pm at the Council Chamber, Wayland Hall, Watton**

Councillors Present: P Blackmore R Ivory
B Bunning L McCarthy
P Cooper – Vice Chairman A Osborn
R Crabtree J Rogers
K Gilbert R Rudling
A Harvey R Turner
M Holmes M Wassell – Chairman

Officers Present: J Seal - Town Clerk

Others Present: District Councillor Claire Bowes

Members of the Public Present: Nine (9)

1 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Clerk reported that fourteen Members had signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/TOWN MAYOR

The Chairman called for nominations for election of Chairman/Town Mayor for the year 2011/2012.

Councillor Rudling proposed and was seconded by Councillor Harvey that Councillor Wassell be elected Chairman/Town Mayor for the year 2011/2012.

There being no other nominations Councillor Wassell was duly elected Chairman/Town Mayor for the year 2011/2012 with voting 13 for and 1 abstention.

The past Chairman Councillor Ivory then invested Councillor Wassell with the Chain of Office.

The Chairman signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk.

Councillor Wassell took the Chair and thanked the outgoing Mayor for his term of office and his fellow Councillors for electing him.

Both Councillors Rudling and Harvey stated that they felt Councillor Wassell would do a good job for Watton.

The Chairman called upon his wife Mrs Jan Wassell and thanked her in advance for her support and presented her with the Mayoress Jewel.

The Chairman then presented the outgoing Mayor with his Past Chairman's badge and invited him to make his speech.

Councillor Ivory thanked his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their support throughout his term of office and said that he had enjoyed it very much.

Councillor Holmes paid tribute to Councillor Ivory for carrying out the very good work he had done throughout his year, without the support of a partner and through two very personal tragedies.

3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman called for nominations for the election of Vice Chairman for the year 2011/2012.

Councillor Wassell proposed and was seconded by Councillor Rudling that Councillor Cooper be elected Vice Chairman for the year 2011/2012.

There being no other nomination Councillor Cooper was duly elected Vice Chairman for the year 2011/2012.

The Vice Chairman signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk.

4 APOLOGIES

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor J P McCarthy.

5 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chairman explained that the contractor had offered to do the extra re-pointing work, which had been suggested by the Historic Buildings Officer at Breckland, when he had inspected the building.

The cost would be £737.50 plus VAT and would be carried out at the time of the external completion which would commence on Thursday 19 May 2011.

It was agreed that the extra re-pointing work be carried out.

6 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk tabled the Committee forms and asked that Councillors return them by the end of Tuesday 24 May 2011. She also informed new Councillors that she would be holding induction training for them.

On behalf of herself and her staff the Clerk congratulated both Councillors Wassell and Cooper for being elected Chairman and Vice Chairman and looked forward to working with them in the forthcoming year.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman invited everyone to join them for a drink in the Gallery Bar at the Sports Centre.

The Meeting ended 7.19pm
JS