



ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS TOWN FORUM - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 25 October 2012

Attended: Sally Balcon, David Barnett (sub), Cllr Ronen Basu, Lorna Blackmore, Stephen Bowser (sub), June Bridgeman, John Cunningham, Betsey Dix, Michael Doyle, Jane Fenwick, John Forster, Maggie Fraser, Dorothea Holman, Michael Holman, Sue Kaner, George Lawson, Katharina Mahler-Bech, Cllr Mrs Mayhew, David Morris, Marguerita Morton, Altan Omer, Peter Perry, Cllr Len Price, Kate Sergeant, Anne Stobo, David Wakefield (Chairman), Mary Wardrop, Margaret Watts, David Webster and Philip Whitbourn (sub)

TWBC officers present: Jane Clarke (Local Democracy Officer) and Mike McGeary (Democratic Services Officer)

67. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were reported from: Helen Featherstone, Léonie Harrington, Jim Kedge, Angela Phillips, Chris Wigley and Councillors Backhouse, Bulman, Derrick, Poile, Scott and Williams.

68. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS ENTITLED TO VOTE

The Democratic Services Officer had tabled a schedule, indicating which organisations had achieved the required level of attendance at meetings to be able to vote at the AGM, as determined by the Town Forum's Constitution.

69. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN ON THE TOWN FORUM'S ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST YEAR

The Chairman of the Town Forum for 2011/12, David Wakefield, summarised his report on the work of the Forum over the past year, which was a requirement of its Constitution.

The report highlighted what had been achieved during 2011/12, with a focus on how the Town Forum had agreed to a new method of working from this AGM onwards. He drew attention to the fact that one of the Deputy Chairmen, Jane Fenwick, was standing down from that position. He asked that a vote of thanks be recorded for the excellent work that Jane had undertaken over the past 12 months in support of the Forum as a whole and her very effective work as part of its Management Committee.

Michael Holman proposed, and Dorothea seconded – That the report be accepted.

RESOLVED – That the Chairman's report on the work of the Town Forum for 2011/12 be accepted.

70. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2012/13

RESOLVED – That David Wakefield be elected as Chairman of the Town Forum and that Michael Doyle be elected as one of the Deputy Chairmen for 2012/13. In thanking the Town Forum for his re-election, David Wakefield advised that the provisions of the Forum's Constitution meant that he could not serve a further term as Chairman beyond 2012/13; he added that it was important for the Forum to identify a replacement Chairman ahead of the AGM in 2013.

The Chairman also advised that, as no nomination had been made for the second Deputy Chairman at this stage, the Management Committee would need to co-opt a Forum member, as provided for in the Constitution.

71. ADOPTION OF CONSEQUENTIAL CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

In order to give formal effect to the changes already agreed at the September meeting, relating principally to the much greater focus on working groups, a revised version of the Constitution had been circulated with the agenda papers. Highlighted in the revised document was a proposed change to the voting entitlement of member organisations (section 3), to reflect the fact that there would be a maximum of six meetings of the Forum per annum in future.

RESOLVED – That all the recommended changes to the Constitution be agreed.

The meeting concluded at 6.45pm.