

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WALTHAM ABBEY ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th MAY 2024 AT 7.30PM

*Cllr S Yerrell – Chairman
*Cllr M Markham – Deputy Chairman
Cllr H Kane
Cllr A Crowley
*Cllr S J Heather
*Cllr J Lucas
*Cllr J Parsons
*Cllr E.A. Webster
*Cllr B Tomlinson
*Cllr J Lea
*Cllr A Watts

* Denotes Members present.

In attendance: The Town Clerk and RFO Officer.

1/24 **Election of Mayor for the Municipal Year 2023/24:** It was moved by Cllr Lucas seconded by Cllr A Watts and members agreed.

RESOLVED – THAT Cllr S Yerrell be elected as the Mayor for the Municipal Year 2024-2025.

2/24 **Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** Cllr Yerrell made and signed the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Mayor of Waltham Abbey for the Municipal Year 2024-2025, which was then countersigned by the Town Clerk.

3/24 **Mayor's Comments:** Cllr S Yerrell expressed his gratitude to fellow Councillors and Officers for the privilege of being Waltham Abbeys Mayor.

4/24 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr H Kane, Cllr A Crowley.

5/24 **Disclosures of Interest:** There were no disclosures of interest.

6/24 **Election of Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2024/25:**
It was moved by Cllr A Watts and seconded by Cllr J Lucas and Members agreed.

RESOLVED – THAT Cllr M Markham be elected as the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2024-2025.

7/24 **Appointment of Leader and Deputy Leader of Council for the Municipal Year 2023/24:** It was moved by Cllr J Lucas and seconded by Cllr S Heather and Members agreed and it was:

RESOLVED – THAT Cllr H Kane be appointed as Leader of the Council.

It was moved by Cllr A Watts and seconded by Cllr S Heather and Members agreed and it was:

RESOLVED – THAT Cllr J Lucas be appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council.

**Prior to consideration of next business
Cllr Yerrell left the Chamber; Cllr M Markham took the chair.**

8/24 **Mayors Allowance:** Members considered payment of an allowance to the Mayor to assist in defraying the expenses of office. Following discussion, it Was moved by the Deputy Mayor and seconded by Cllr J Lucas, and Members agreed and it was:

RESOLVED – THAT the Mayor’s allowance for the 2024-2025 be £3000.00, and the Hospitality Allowance be set at £2500.00.

Cllr Yerrell resumed the Chair.

9/24 **Appointment of Committees, Subcommittees, Management Committees and Chairman/Deputy Chairman thereof:** It was moved by the Leader to accept this item as detailed en block. All Members agreed and it was:

RESOLVED – THAT the appointment of the Committees, Subcommittees, Management Committees and Chairman/Deputy Chairman thereof and any future amendments be as set out in Enc. 1 to these Minutes.

10/24 **Appointment of Representatives to Other Organizations:** It was moved by the Leader to accept this item as detailed on block. All Members agreed and it was:

RESOLVED – that the representatives to Other Organizations be as set out as per below table.

Organization	Members
Abbey Gardens Trust	Cllr A Watts
Epping Forest Country Care Liaison	Cllr A Watts
EALC Epping Forest Branch	Cllr H Kane & Town Clerk
Local Councils Liaison Committee	Cllr H Kane & Town Clerk
Waltham Abbey Community Centre	Cllr B Tomlinson & Cllr J Lea
Waltham Abbey Town Partnership	Town Clerk, Events Manager & Cllr J Lea
Francis Greene Alms House Trust	Town Clerk, RFO plus Rev Peter Smith, Alison Mary Caw, Linda Anderson & Cllr S Yerrell
Waltham Abbey Royal Gunpowder Mills OCC	Cllr L Webster
Waltham Abbey Youth 2000	Cllr M Markham
Waltham Abbey Tourism Group	Town Clerk, TIC Manager, Cllr H Kane

11/24 **Mayor’s Announcements, Communications and Engagements:**
The Mayor made announcements and presentations.

12/24 **Questions:** There were no questions in pursuance of Standing Order No. 10.

13/24 **Minutes and Reports:** It was moved by the Chairman en mass and

RESOLVED –THAT the Minutes, Resolutions, Recommendations and Observations therein below, be approved and adopted.

14/24 **Report of the Town Clerk:** The report was duly noted.

15/24 **Items to be added to the next agenda for discussion:** No Items added.

Supplementary agenda item:

Exclusion of Press and Public: It was moved by the chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT due to the confidential nature of the following items to be discussed, the press and public will be temporarily excluded from the meeting.

Cllr A Watts proposed that due to the urgent nature of this item to suspend standing orders in order to transact this piece of business and seconded by Cllr J Lucas and Members were in agreement.

Due to the confirmed contract amount of £4800 for the sinking fund per year over 5 years. Contract finder was not used. Also due to the specialist area and special circumstances of the operator with the LTA grant for the Tennis Court refurbishment, the LTA Tendered this to operators in the specialist field. This was also advertised on the Waltham Abbey Town Council Website and noticeboards and Social Media.

RESOLVED; that the tennis operator for Larsons Tennis courts would be WimX.

CLLR S YERRELL – THE MAYOR Closed the meeting at 1959 HOURS.