

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF ELECTORS OF ROYAL
LEAMINGTON SPA HELD ON 8TH April, 2019 at 7.00 PM**

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor H. Calver), Councillors Janet Alty, Sarah Boad, Judith Clarke, John Knight, Ann Morrison, Mota Singh and Andrew Thompson (all Royal Leamington Spa Town Council).

Councillors Jane Knight and Barbara Weed (Warwick District Council)

There were fourteen members of the public also present.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The following apologies for absence were received:-

Name	Representing
Councillor D. Greenwood	Royal Leamington Spa Town Council
Councillor H. Grainger	Royal Leamington Spa Town Council
Councillor D. Howe	Royal Leamington Spa Town Council
Councillor A. Stevens	Warwick District Council
Jenny Armstrong	Saturday Friendship Group
Matt Western	Member of Parliament
Andy Gotts	Warwick District Mobility Ltd
Heather Haslett	Milverton Neighbourhood Watch
Ann White	Leamington Spa Regency Rotary Club

2. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Town Assembly held on 23rd April, 2018 are confirmed as a correct record.

3. **COMMUNITY REPORTS**

The following presentations will be made at the Meeting by representatives of community and voluntary bodies on the projects and work programmes undertaken during the year:-

Art in the Park - Carol Sleight
Leamington History Group - B. Franklin
Own Books - Viv Pearce-Jones
New Hope Counselling - Lyn Smailes
Nick Shacklock -Warwickshire Hearts
Age UK - Barry Collier
Young People First- David Skopek
LITS - Sue Staddon, Michael Cox
One World Link - Richard Hall

Following conclusion of the presentations there was a short remission for light refreshment.

4. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor outlined the main achievements of her year in office.

She advised that to date she had attended many events across the Town and District and was impressed with the variety of organisations in the community and the contribution made to public life. Her nominated Charities would also benefit from the generosity shown by many at the various fund raising events held in support of the Mayor's Charity Fund. Particular highlights during her year of office included the Leamington Competition Festival, welcoming participants in the World Peace Run, the launch of Leamington in Bloom, the opening of Art in the Park and the unveiling of the commemoration to holders of the Victoria Cross.

She paid thanks to her Deputy Mayor, Councillor Barker who had ably deputised for her on those occasions when she was unable to fulfil an engagement.

RESOLVED that the Report is noted.

5. **TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**

The Town Clerk provided a report on the activities and achievements of the Town Council during the course of the year.

The Town Clerk advised that the Council had continued to maintain a prudent budget ensuring that the support it provided to the community was balanced with the revenue it was able to generate through the Council Tax precept. The Council had continued to maintain a robust Community Grant Fund which had supported over 30 organisations and awarded £39,800 in grants. The Town had once again been successful in the Heart of England in Bloom competition winning a Gold award. This was a good example of the Town Council working collaboratively with other agencies and volunteers for the betterment of the Town.

During 2019 the Council had progressed further with its Neighbourhood Plan having completed the first draft in January which was followed by a series of drop-in sessions throughout the Town. These responses would be used to inform preparation of the Plan which would be prepared for widespread consultation later in the year. Any Member of the public wishing to learn more about the Plan could obtain details from the Neighbourhood Plan website at <https://leamingtonneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/>

RESOLVED that the Report is received.

6. **OPEN FORUM**

There were no matters raised in the public forum.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.45 pm.