

# ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA TOWN COUNCIL

Electors of the Town of Royal Leamington Spa are invited to

## THE ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2013

**at The Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa  
commencing at 7.00pm**

All electors in the Town are invited to take part in the meeting.  
The business will be as set out below.

### AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

To appoint a Chairman of the Meeting.

3. MINUTES

To receive and confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Town Assembly Meeting held on 12<sup>TH</sup> April, 2012. (Report No.3)

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

To receive the Report of the Mayor of Royal Leamington Spa on the Mayoral year of office and the work of the Town Council, during the year 2012/2013. (Report No. 4)

5. REPORTS

To receive presentations on the work and achievements of charitable and community organisations during the year.

6. DISCUSSION TOPICS

The following items have been tabled for discussion:-

Leamington Society

"The increasing trend of street clutter in Leamington Spa Town Centre"

Councillor John Knight (Royal Leamington Spa Town Council)

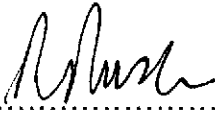
"The impact of over concentration of student accommodation in parts of the Town"

7. ACCOUNTS

To consider and receive the un-audited expenditure and income account of the Town Council for the financial year 2012/13

8. QUESTIONS

To receive and answer questions. (To be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk prior to the start of the Meeting).

Signed   
.....  
(Town Clerk)

Date...26<sup>th</sup> March 2013.....

**Robert Nash**  
**Town Clerk**  
**Royal Leamington Spa Town Council**  
**Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa**  
**CV32 4AT**  
**Telephone: 01926 450906**  
**Email:**  
**clerk@leamingtonspatowncouncil.gov.uk**



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY OF ELECTORS OF  
ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA HELD ON 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2012**

Present (all Parishioners): Councillor Alan Wilkinson (Chairman), Richard Ashworth, Sarah Boad, Roger Copping, Robert Cunliffe, Janice Dean, Jim Dean, Michael Dorr, Bill Gifford, David Greenwood, John Knight, Angele Liszewski, Simon Lytton and David Swain.

Non Residents:- John Daly, Hilary Holland and Martin Webb.

**1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Town Assembly held on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2011 having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Town Assembly are confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**2. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor, Councillor Wilkinson, referred to the key events during the Civic year during which he had been Mayor of Royal Leamington Spa and outlined the principal achievements of the Town Council. A copy of the Report is attached to the Minutes.

Reference was made to the success of the Town in achieving a "Gold" award in the Heart of England in Bloom Competition which demonstrated the hard work and commitment of many including the Leamington in Bloom Committee, Warwick District Council and Royal Leamington Spa Town Council.

**RESOLVED** that the Mayor's Report is received.

**3. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY BODIES**

The following representatives of community and voluntary bodies provided the meeting with a report on activity in the period since the last meeting and planned activities for the future:-

Hilary Holland and John Daly – Warwick District Citizens Advice Bureau  
David Swain and Michael Dorr – Royal Leamington Spa Rotary Club  
Richard Ashworth – Leamington Society

Following various questions, it was

**RESOLVED** that the Reports are received and the representatives thanked for their attendance.

#### 4. **ACCOUNTS**

A copy of the unaudited accounts of the Town Council of Royal Leamington Spa for the financial year 2011/12 had been circulated and a copy is attached to the signed Minutes.

**RESOLVED** that the accounts are noted.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone present for their attendance.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and ended at 7.45 pm.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT 2012/13**

It is customary for the Mayor to Report at the Annual Meeting on her year of office and I am delighted to be able to follow that precedent.

It has been a very challenging and interesting time which has fully lived up to my expectations. The variety and diversity of life within our Town continues to surprise and delight me and I have been impressed with the hospitality and kindness shown to me and my Consort wherever we have gone.

In the year since my election last May I have accepted invitations to 170 engagements so you will appreciate how busy I have been in what has been a difficult year for me personally. I have also been ably assisted in meeting this significant commitment by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Judith Clarke, who has represented me on a further 21 occasions.

I have to say I have loved being in the role of Mayor and it has been a huge honour to represent Leamington. As previous Mayors have commented you do get to see an enormous range of people and organisations. Among the many places I have visited the Ahmadiyya Muslim Temple and the Sikh Gurdwara made a particular impression on me. I was also privileged to be the guest of honour at the 104<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations of one of Leamington's oldest citizens.

Many of the Civic occasions I have attended such as the Annual Service of Remembrance have been most moving and given me an appreciation of the unique position that the Mayor occupies at these times.

An important part of the Mayoral year is the support generated for the chosen charities. This year I have been pleased to support the Alzheimers Society, Making Space and the African Caribbean Project. In their own individual way, each of these Charities makes an incredibly important contribution to the lives of many people and I am pleased to have been able to lend support to their hard work, by raising their profiles locally as well as fundraising.

With some fundraising still to take place, I am on course to raise over £6,000. My thanks are due to all those who supported me during the year at the various events held to promote and support these worthy causes. Local civic leaders, fellow councillors, colleagues, friends and neighbours and all sorts of local people have attended or contributed to the many events.

One of the most important areas of the Council's activity is supporting voluntary and community organisations through the Community Grant Scheme. This year was no exception with £42,000 once again awarded to many deserving Groups in the Town. In addition we have supported other significant events such as the Diwali Festival and Mela which continue to attract big audiences. The Christmas Lighting scheme, which receives significant funding from the Council, continues to draw many people to our Town over the festive season and helps to sustain the Town Centre economy during these difficult times.

The Council has also become the principal funding partner for the Shopmobility Scheme. This is a vital service for those with mobility difficulties who benefit immensely from the freedom it provides. The Council will be working closely with the Trustees of the Scheme to ensure continuity of the Scheme in the years ahead.

The Council has developed a strong working relationship with local Allotment Associations which help to deliver sustainable food and leisure opportunities; it grants assistance to these bodies on a regular basis and has seen site security improved and new facilities added.

The objective of the Town Council in supporting schemes which assist the vulnerable and the less advantaged is demonstrated through its continued commitment to Warwick District Citizens Advice Bureau, an organisation which is facing ever increasing challenges in the present economic climate.

The Town Council has continued to fulfil an important representational role on behalf of residents and this has been much in evidence in terms of responses made to planning applications and the submissions made to other agencies. The Council is presently working with Warwick District Council to develop options for a Town Plan that will contribute meaningfully to the quality of life for all.

Our support for Leisure and Recreation, especially in partnership with the District Council, is to be seen in the Summer Season of Music in the Park and the Town's participation in Britain in Bloom, as well as various Art events such as the Annual Leamington Music Festival weekend. The tree planting programme whereby the Town Council provides direct subsidy for the replacement of trees in the urban environment has seen over 150 trees planted in the last 6 years. The Christchurch Gardens project is now nearing completion and has helped transform an area that is seen as a gateway to the Town centre.

My thanks also go to my fellow Town Councillors who have supported me throughout my year as Mayor and my term as a Town Councillor.

**Yvonne Moore**  
**MAYOR, ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA**  
**2012/13**