

**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held in the Guildroom, Guildhall, Lichfield
at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 24 May 2023**

259 PRESENT

The Mayor of Lichfield (Cllr A Hughes, in the Chair), and attendees and electors as entered on the attendance sheets.

260 OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME BY THE MAYOR

The Mayor warmly welcomed everyone to the Annual Town Meeting and introduced the Town Clerk who outlined for the benefit of those unfamiliar with the proceedings, the order of business and conduct of the meeting.

261 MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 25 May 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.*

262 CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

A copy of the Annual Report of City Council activities during 2022/23 was circulated for information and a brief overview provided by the leader of the council, Councillor D Robertson. Councillor J Eagland commended the Town Clerk and Officers for an excellent Annual Report and all their hard work.

263 REQUESTS AND REPRESENTATIONS OF ELECTORS

Councillor P Ray suggested that the Council look at ways of modernising the Act of Remembrance in order to engage a younger demographic. Councillor D Robertson commented that the Scouts, Air and Army cadets already attend this event but agreed that the Council should continue to reach out to the wider community. J Marks added that the Act of Remembrance is always well supported and that the Cathedral, Gardens of Remembrance and surrounding streets are always full.

J Marks requested that the Council continue to use names listed on the Cenotaph from the World War II for street names. The Town Clerk confirmed that this was already the case.

Councillor C Ball noted that compared to four years ago the majority of attendees at the Annual Town Meeting were Councillors and asked why that was the case. The Town Clerk responded to confirm that the meeting had been publicised and that attendance reduced considerably following the COVID-led decision to make payments for grants via BACS rather than by cheque at the Annual Town Meeting. Cllr D Robertson commented that while this change was not good for the meeting itself, it was a positive step for those in receipt of grant monies, allowing them to receive such monies earlier in the financial year and with less inconvenience.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.48 PM**