

**Minutes of the Annual Town Assembly for the Town of Ringwood
held on Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 6.30pm
at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood**

Present: Cllr Tony Ring – Chairman and Town Mayor
(and entitled to vote) Cllr Andy Briers
Cllr Philip Day
Cllr Hilary Edge
Cllr Christine Ford
Cllr Rae Frederick
Cllr John Haywood
Cllr Jeremy Heron
Cllr Peter Kelleher
Cllr Darren Loose
Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine
District and County Councillor Michael Thierry
Nicola Vodden – Meetings Administrator
plus 6 members of the public

In Attendance: Chris Wilkins – Town Clerk
Jo Hurd – Deputy Town Clerk
Tom Weetman – Student Advisor
plus 1 other member of the public

No apologies were received.

The Town Mayor welcomed those present to the Annual Town Assembly.

1. To Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Town Assembly held on 30th May 2018 were approved.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were none.

3. To Receive the Annual Report of the Town Mayor

Prior to Cllr Ring presenting his annual report, he noted the sad passing of Cllr Murphy, a colleague and friend, at the end of February. He said that her contribution for the previous 4 years had been valued, along with her role in the community, in general, for many years before that.

He thanked the four Councillors who did not stand for re-election for all of their efforts and welcomed the newly elected Councillors.

Cllr Ring presented his annual report. The full report is attached as *Annex A*.

4. To Receive the Reports of Committee Chairmen

The Committee Chairmen presented their reports:-

Cllr Treleaven, Chairman of the Planning, Town & Environment Committee presented his annual report. The full report is attached as *Annex B*.

Cllr Briers, Chairman of the Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces Committee presented his report. The full report is attached as *Annex C*.

Cllr Heron, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee presented his report. The full report is attached as *Annex D*.

5. To Receive the Accounts from the Parochial Charity

Cllr Heron, as a trustee of Ringwood United Charities, explained that traditionally accounts had been presented at this meeting, however in the last few years this had proved difficult. As the accounts were required to be audited, there was a delay in their availability and this was the case again this year, as the audit had not been completed. The accounts would be submitted to the Council, once they are produced (*Annex E – to follow*).

He indicated that the charity's finances are in good health and subject to sound financial management. Income continues to exceed outgoings and the Almshouses have run at full occupancy. The one vacant residence which currently exists is undergoing major refurbishment.

The Trustees feel that additional maintenance and enhancement is required, in general, and discussions have taken place with NFDC Conservation Officer, with regard to the proposals for the Grade 2 Listed Building and a planning application has been submitted. He confirmed that the proposals were affordable. The current account is running at a credit of £30,000 and an investment account is held with the CCLA for major repairs.

6. To Consider Any Other Item of Business by Permission of the Town Mayor

There was no other business.

The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.00pm.