

WEST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 21 September 2016 at 3.00 pm

in the Council Chamber, Williton

Present:

Councillor B Heywood Chairman
Councillor R Woods Vice-Chairman

Councillor M J Chilcott
Councillor S Y Goss
Councillor K M Mills
Councillor P H Murphy
Councillor R Thomas
Councillor A H Trollope-Bellew
Councillor D J Westcott

Councillor M Dewdney
Councillor A P Hadley
Councillor C Morgan
Councillor S J Pugsley
Councillor N Thwaites
Councillor K H Turner

Officers in Attendance:

Director of Operations (S Adam)
Assistant Chief Executive (B Lang)
Assistant Director – Energy Infrastructure (A Goodchild)
Meeting Administrator (M Prouse)

Also Present:

Mr Viv Brewer, Hon Alderman
Mrs Eileen Woods M.B.E., Hon Alderman

C42 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aldridge, Archer, Behan, Clifford, Davies, Dowding, Hall, Jones, Leaker, Lillis, Maitland-Walker, Parbrook and Venner.

C43 Declarations of Interest

No Councillor present declared an interest on any item on the agenda.

C44 Public Participation

Mr Adrian Dyer, formerly Chief Executive Officer of this Council, spoke warmly of the three honoured guests and of their character and integrity. Mr Dyer had fond memories of working with all three of them in times past, all had played a major part in his career at the Council.

C45 **Appointment of Honorary Aldermen**

The meeting was asked to consider conferring the title of Honorary Alderman on Messrs E May, T Knight, and T Taylor for the rendering of eminent services to the Council.

Councillor B Heywood proposed the nomination to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Mr Eddie May, which was duly seconded by Councillor A Trollope-Bellew. Councillor Heywood went on to provide details of Mr May's significant contribution to the Council between 1991 and 2015 as a Councillor for Williton, serving as Chairman between 2008 - 2011. Cllr Heywood stated that Mr May was very much the people's person, loved by all in the community.

Councillor B Heywood proposed the nomination to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Mr Tony Knight. Mr Knight had served as a councillor for the Watchet ward between 2003 and 2015, chairing the Planning Committee for seven of those years. Mr Knight was also Chairman of the Council between 2011 and 2012. Cllr Heywood stated that Mr Knight was the doyen of Planning, and that his skills in that committee were marked by his local knowledge, fairness and integrity as well as the desire to go above and beyond the call of duty. The proposal was duly seconded by Councillor A Trollope-Bellew.

Councillor B Heywood proposed the nomination to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Mr Tim Taylor, which was duly seconded by Councillor A Trollope-Bellew. Councillor Heywood went on to provide details of Mr Taylor's significant contribution to the Council between 2007 and 2015 as a Councillor for firstly Crowcombe and Stogumber and then Carhampton and Withycombe. During that period he was firstly Chair of the Performance/Scrutiny Committee and then Leader of the Council from 2010-2015. Councillor Heywood stated that Mr Taylor had thrown himself into serving this Council and the community, and had made a huge contribution to the Council and West Somerset.

Cllrs Mills, Goss, Westcott, Turner, Morgan, Trollope-Bellew, Chilcott, Pugsley and Murphy made brief remarks commending the three nominated gentlemen, and relating personal remembrances. Officer Bruce Lang also made a speech on behalf of the serving officer corps, having worked with all three gentlemen over the years, thanked all three and agreed that these were men deserving of the honour.

Following speeches and words of thanks from the nominated Aldermen, the Chairman called for a vote on all three proposals and the vote was carried, unanimously.

RESOLVED (1) that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred upon Mr Eddie May.

RESOLVED (2) that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred upon Mr Tony Knight.

RESOLVED (3) that the title of Honorary Alderman be conferred upon Mr Tim Taylor.

The meeting closed at 4.05 pm