

CHARTER TRUSTEES FOR THE CITY OF DURHAM

At the **Annual Meeting** of the **Charter Trustees for the City of Durham** held in the Main Hall, Town Hall, Durham, on Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 12.00 pm

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Durham, Councillor L Mavin (in the Chair) and Councillors J Blakey, L Brown, C Fletcher, D Freeman, A Hopgood, G Hutchinson, B Kellett, E Mavin, D Nicholls, R Ormerod, E Scott, M Wilkes and M Wilson

The Mayor formally reported the death of Mr Peter Bates Honorary Member of the Mayor's Bodyguard. Trustees and guests stood for a moments silence as a mark of respect.

1 Prayers

Prayers were said by the Very Reverend Philip Plyming, The Dean of Durham.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Chaplow, D Hall, L Hovvels and M Simmons.

3 Recording of Proceedings

Charter Trustees consented to the taking of photographs during the meeting.

4 Presentation of Mayoral Service Medals

The Mayor presented long service awards to members of the Mayor's Bodyguard, Mr D Baker (30 years) and Mr T Dixon (10 years) in recognition of the loyal and voluntary service they had given to the Mayors of Durham.

5 Election of Mayor

The Mayor asked for nominations for the election of Mayor.

Councillor E Scott moved and Councillor A Hopgood seconded that Councillor L Brown, be appointed Mayor of Durham for the ensuring municipal year.

Resolved:

That Councillor L Brown be duly appointed as Mayor of Durham for the ensuring municipal year 2024/25.

6 Appointment of Deputy Mayor

The Mayor asked for nominations for the appointment of the Deputy Mayor.

Councillor J Blakey moved and Councillor E Mavin seconded that Councillor G Hutchinson, be appointed Deputy Mayor of Durham for the ensuing municipal year.

Resolved:

That Councillor G Hutchinson be duly appointed as Deputy Mayor of Durham for the ensuing municipal year 2024/25.

The meeting adjourned for 5 minutes in order for the newly elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor to receive chains of office and be robed

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Durham,
Councillor L Brown in the Chair

7 The newly elected Mayor to receive the Seal and make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor

The newly elected Mayor, Councillor L Brown received the Seal and read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Mayor of Durham which she then signed.

8 Mayor's Acceptance Speech

The Mayor was honoured to be elected the 421st Mayor of Durham and she would do her best to live up to her predecessors standards. She thanked Councillors E Scott and A Hopgood for her nomination and Councillor C Fletcher who seconded her initial nomination in April 2024.

The Mayor announced that her chosen charities for the forthcoming year were Feeding Families and Stray Aid, both with whom she had very strong connections with. She indicated that the Mayor's Rosette for 2024/25 would be blue and silver which represented the County Durham flag.

She expressed her appreciation to friends and family and thanked Officers, Town Hall staff, the Mayor's Bodyguard, the Mayor's Secretary and gave special thanks to her Consort, Jonathan for his support and looked forward to her term in office.

9 Mayor to call on Retiring Mayor/Consort to receive the Past Mayor/Consort Jewels

The Mayor presented Councillor L Mavin and Mrs T Sutcliffe with the past Mayor and Mayoress Jewels as souvenirs to commemorate their year of office.

10 Address by the Retiring Mayor

Councillor L Mavin and Mrs T Sutcliffe read poems highlighting memorable moments during their term in office.

11 Vote of thanks to Retiring Mayor/Mayoress

Councillor J Blakey offered the vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor/Mayoress Councillor L Mavin and Mrs T Sutcliffe who carried out their roles with great distinction. She highlighted many events that provided special memories for the retiring Mayor/Mayoress including the inaugurations of the new Chancellor and the new Dean of Durham, engagements with the Lord Lieutenant, Royal visits, Armed Forces events, school visits, welcoming international visitors, Freemans Guild and Rotary Club events, Cathedral services and Durham University events, all of which they would treasure for a lifetime.

She congratulated the retiring Mayor/Mayoress for the money raised for St Cuthberts Hospice and on behalf of Charter Trustees, she thanked them for their service which had enhanced the Civic Office.

12 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

13 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

14 Mayor's Announcements

There were no Mayor's announcements.

15 Appointment of the following Officers:

Consideration was given to the appointment of Officers as listed on the agenda for the meeting.

Resolved: That the following Officers be appointed:

- Pant Master (Mr James Lee)
- Billet Master (Superintendent Andrea Arthur, Durham Constabulary)
- Macebearer (Mr David Baker)
- Swordbearer (Mr Stan Lincoln)
- Honorary Judicial Recorder (His Honour Judge James Adkin)
- Recorder (Mr Mac Williams JP)
- Mayor's Chaplain (The Dean of Durham)

16 Meetings of the Charter Trustees for the City of Durham

The Clerk advised Trustees of dates for future meetings of the Charter Trustees for the City of Durham for the municipal year 2024/25 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted

17 Any Other Business

Resignation

The Mayor announced the resignation of Mr R Clarkson from the Mayor's Bodyguard after 18 years of service. She thanked him for his loyal and valued service and best wishes for the future.