

Deal Town Council,
Town Hall,
High Street,
Deal, Kent.CT14 6TR.

Tel: 01304 361999 E-mail: deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd April 2014 in
Deal Town Hall Chamber
starting at 7.15pm.

Present:

Cllr. M Burnham (Chairman)	Cllr Dr D Murray
Cllr Mrs K Blackburn	Cllr B Hawkins
Cllr B Gardner	Cllr I Kilberry
Cllr E Rowbotham	Cllr B Frost
Cllr M Cosin	Cllr D Cronk

Officers in attendance:

Town Clerk: Lorna Crow
Responsible Finance Officer/Deputy T/Clerk: Paul Bone
Event Co-ordinator/Mayor's Secretary: Joanne Harper
Town Sgt: Barry Finch
Premises Officers: Mike Osborne/Andrew Kononowicz

Others: 32 members of the public and representatives of local services, voluntary and community organisations.

1.	Chairman's opening remarks: Cllr M Burnham read out the emergency fire evacuation procedures and then opened the meeting at 7.15pm with a welcome to all present. Cllr Burnham reminded everyone that the meeting is for "Your Town, Your Say".
2.	Apologies for absence: Cllr J Cronk, Cllr W Elliott, Cllr C Stickler, Cllr B Bano
3.	The minutes of the previous Annual Town Meeting held on 25th April 2013. RESOLVED: to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 th of April 2013 as a true and accurate record. (P) DM (S) IK. Agreed. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.
4.	The Chairman of the Council's Report. Cllr M Burnham summarised her year in office explaining that it had been an exciting year which had seen the Town Hall return back to the ownership of Deal Town Council. She said that Deal Town Council strives to support the residents of Deal and local service, and voluntary and community organisations, be it with grants, putting on events and being available for enquiries on many subjects. On the Civic side of her role Cllr Burnham advised that she had had a very full year of events, mostly local and had been very busy fund raising for her chosen charities.
5.	Your town updates: (a) Ms Sue Beer from Deal Dementia Alliance delivered a presentation about a new project, to raise awareness of dementia. The Dementia Friendly Deal Project is part of a national project to get as many as possible people to become "Dementia Friends". Ms Beer advised that the Golf Road Centre is already Dementia Friendly and that there is a special 1 hour training session that can be given to local organisations and businesses that deal with the public. Cllr Burnham thanked Sue Beer for her presentation.

	<p>(b) White Cliffs Talking Newspaper. Auriol Allen delivered a presentation about the White Cliffs Talking Newspaper and thanked Deal Town Council for inviting her to speak about the talking newspaper charity in association with the RNIB. She advised that there are currently 17 talking newspapers in Kent, serving Dover, Deal, Sandwich and villages in the Dover District. There are currently 30 volunteers who produce the talking paper, with news from the East Kent Mercury and Dover Express. She explained in detail the process of how it all works and offered leaflets for anyone interested in the service.</p> <p>Cllr Burnham thanked Sue Beer and Auriol Allen for their time in attending and addressing the meeting.</p>
6.	<p>Feedback from the representatives of local groups and organisations: The following representatives of local organisations were then invited to present information about who they are, what they do and, if appropriate, how they had used any financial grant awarded by Deal Town Council.</p> <p>Deal Area Foodbank – Mr Alan Thompson The Twinning Society – Mrs Sheila Harris White Cliffs Walking Festival – Mr Graham Smith Deal Centre for the Retired – Mrs Una Stanley Fairtrade Working Group – Mrs Sue Delling Volunteer Centre/ Deal & District Strokes – Mr Joseph Dublin Breastfeeding Support Group North Deal Community Park Association Deal, Walmer, Kingsdown Regatta Association - Mr Roy Stone Deal Town Rangers – Mr Bob Chivington Golf Road Centre “Our Time Club” – Mrs Jill Walsh.</p> <p>All speakers were limited to 2 minutes each for their presentations which were well received by all those present.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for speaking and invited Paul Bone, Responsible Finance Officer to speak about grants. He duly reminded everyone that the closing date for this year’s grant applications was 30th April.</p>
7.	<p>Open session for questions or comments on any issues of interest: Council answered queries from members of the public on local issues including; Deal Town Council’s new procedure for grant applications, the Undercroft Wednesday and Friday markets, the resignation of the Town Clerk and the school merger of Walmer Science College and Castle Community College.</p>
8	<p>As there were no further indications of anyone wishing to speak, Cllr Burnham thanked the staff for their continued commitment and thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. Light refreshments were then served and the rest of the evening was an opportunity to chat informally with Councillors and to network with the representatives from the various organisations.</p>
	<p>Date of next Annual Town Meeting: Wednesday 22nd April 2015</p>
	<p>Joanne Harper, Mayor’s Secretary</p>

