



Minutes of the ANNUAL CEREMONIAL MEETING of the MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL held on WEDNESDAY 4 JUNE 2014 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillor White (Mayor)  
Councillors Alexander, Bald, Betteley, Bint, Brackenbury, Bramall, M Burke, S Burke, Cannon, Clancy, Clifton, Coventry, Crooks, Dransfield, Eastman, Exon, Ferrans, A Geary, P Geary, E Gifford, R Gifford, Gowans, Green, D Hopkins, V Hopkins, Hosking, Khan, Legg, Lewis, Long, Marland, D McCall, I McCall, McDonald, McKenzie, McLean, McPake, Middleton, Miles, Morla, Morris, Nash, Nolan, O'Neill, Pallett, Patey-Smith, Petchey, Priestley, Shafiq, Small, Tallack, Wallis, Webb, P Williams and Wilson

Alderspersons Bristow, I Henderson Howell, Lloyd and Powell-Shedden

**Apologies:** Councillors Brunning and C Williams and Alderspersons Beeley, Ellis, E Henderson, Irons and Saunders

**Also Present:** 90+ members of the public

**CL01 ELECTION OF MAYOR**

It was moved by Councillor D McCall and seconded by Councillor Bald that Councillor Subhan Shafiq be elected Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2014/15.

Other Members spoke in support of the nomination.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor Subhan Shafiq be elected Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2014/15.

The retiring Mayor (Councillor White) presented Councillor Shafiq with the Mayor's Chain of Office and Councillor Shafiq signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Mayor (Councillor Shafiq) thanked the Council for the honour of being elected Mayor of Milton Keynes, Councillor White as the retiring Mayor, previous Mayors and his family and friends for their support.

The Mayor, referring to the many community groups and societies he had visited during his term as Deputy Mayor, indicated that he would be working during his mayoral year to support the various groups and societies to find solutions to their various concerns and ensure that their work was well promoted.

The Mayor also referred to the 167 languages spoken in Milton Keynes by the many people who had chosen Milton Keynes as their home and stated that he intended to ensure that Milton Keynes was a place its residents enthused about when visiting their homelands, a place for all, which was known for its diversity, its businesses, its employment opportunities, its leisure opportunities and its exiting and developing communities.

The Mayor, recognising that a sense of community was the foundation and strength of Milton Keynes, stressed the need for residents to engage with their communities and to work together to encourage trust, honesty and unity.

The Mayor accordingly announced that the theme for his Mayoral would be Communities.

The Mayor also announced that:

- (a) Mrs Shafiq would be the Mayoress; and
- (b) his charities would be Willen Hospice and MacIntyre.

## **CL02**

### **VOTE OF THANKS**

Councillor Marland moved a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor (Councillor White), which was seconded by Councillor Bald, and approved unanimously.

The Mayor presented Councillor White with a Past Mayor's badge.

Mark Neil, Poet Laureate for Milton Keynes read a poem in tribute of Councillor White's year in office.

Councillor White thanked the many people who had supported him during his year in office, particularly his Mayoress, Mrs Lindholm-White; Councillor Morris and other former Mayors for their advice; the Mayors of Newport Pagnell and Olney; the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff; and his Deputy Mayor (Councillor Shafiq). Councillor White also thanked officers for their support.

Councillor White referred to the strength of the voluntary sector in Milton Keynes and the valuable work carried out by the many voluntary groups which supported the community. He also referred to the vibrancy of the Arts Sector and the need to support the forthcoming International Festival in July 2014.

Councillor White referred to one of his themes for the year, Milton Keynes as a city of international business, specifically how the business community was built on the many small businesses and how they were working for the good of Milton Keynes and their positive 'Can Do' attitude. Councillor White also expressed how

delighted he had been to promote the 50 SMART City projects, which put Milton Keynes on a similar footing with many of the leading cities in the world, and stressed how important developing the 'skills' agenda was for Milton Keynes.

With regard to the future Councillor White urged the political groups on the Council to work together to address the various challenges facing Milton Keynes and stressed the need to remove barriers, avoid a two speed city and celebrate the diversity of Milton Keynes. He also encouraged the Council to promote tolerance and respect amongst all communities

Councillor White urged the Council not to forget the founding principles of Milton Keynes which included providing decent homes, decent wages and promoting a strong and vibrant community.

Councillor White also related some experiences from his year, including World Skipping Day and Strictly MK.

Councillor White took the opportunity to refer to 2014 being the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first meeting of Milton Keynes Borough Council. Councillor White noted that both Aldermen Dewick and Powell-Sheddon had been Members of the Council 40 years ago and the Mayor presented Alderman Powell-Sheddon with a memento of the anniversary.

### **CL03**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

The Council noted that, in accordance with the selection procedure agreed by the Council, the nomination for Deputy Mayor fell to the Conservative Group.

It was moved by Councillor Bald and seconded by Councillor Marland, that Councillor McLean be appointed Deputy Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2014/15.

RESOLVED -

That Councillor McLean be appointed Deputy Mayor of Milton Keynes for the Council Year 2014/15.

The Mayor presented Councillor McLean with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office and Councillor McLean signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### **CL04**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised the Council that there would be a service at the MK Rose for Rifleman Albert French on 15 June 2014. Albert French was a resident of Wolverton, employed at Wolverton Railway Works who was killed in action aged 16 in Belgium on 15 June 1916 and that his life is remembered at The MK Rose. All Members were invited to attend.

THE MAYOR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.46 PM