**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 23 MAY 2022 AT THE TOWN HALL, YORK STREET, SELBY.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: K Arthur, G Jordanowski, T Beharrell, J Shaw-Wright, I Lawton,

F Matthews, H Davis, M Davis, G Lockley, K Franks, J Proud, R Harrison,

W Nichols, S Andrew, M Dyson.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs S Shaw-Wright and M Lawton

**2. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 24 May 2021 were considered.

 **RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Town meeting held on 24 May 2021 were approved as a correct record.**

**3. MAYORS REPORT**

Council received the report of Councillor M Dyson.

 “Thankfully this year has seen a return to a more normalisation of the role of the Mayor. Careful management of Pandemic limitations and restrictions has enabled the Town Council to provide many more of its usual public events.

 Importantly the year also saw a return of face to face Council meetings.

 It was gratifying to see a full congregation in the Abbey for the 2021 Service of Remembrance. After wreath laying, a good turn out by the Parade led colourfully by the Yorkshire Regimental Ban was appreciated by the watching crowd. The Armistice Day commemorations at the War Graves in the Cemetery were also well attended.

 The Council run Funday and the annual bonfire both resumed this year and despite some restrictions both events were very successful and well attended.

 Unfortunately, the weather was not so kind for the Christmas market and light display. Very high winds meant that the market had to be cancelled and a partial power cut in the Town slightly marred the turn on of the lights but at least the Market Place Christmas tree lights came on when I pressed the Switch!

 The Selby in Bloom and the Best Christmas shop window competitions also resumed, and I attended Civic events in neighbouring authorities including Goole and Hull.

 I have enjoyed attending all the events throughout the year, and these will be an enduring memory for myself. The presentation of one of the new colours to the Prince of Wales Regimental Association in the Market Place proved to be both challenging in terms of getting the handover of the old and new standards correctly and as the lead in to a very fine service again held in the Abbey.

 More recently, it was an honour to sign the Twinning Document at a special on-line meeting with Councillors and dignitaries of the community of Selby in Canada.

 I am sure that this special event will lead to many more happy and fruitful

 cultural exchanges in the years to come.

 I am very grateful to all Councillors for their support and encouragement, and I am particularly indebted to the Town Council staff, ably lead by Gill Bell, who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to organise meetings and events, often under difficult circumstances, and they have always supported me throughout.

 I thank Councillor Nichols for deputising for the Mayor when required and I am grateful for her patiently waiting to take Office, which allowed me to serve an additional year. I wish her every success in the coming year.

 It has been an honour and a pleasure to be The Mayor of Selby for the last two years. Thank you.”

 Cllr J Shaw-Wright read out a statement from Cllr S Shaw-Wright in his absence.

 “On behalf of the Town Council we would like to place on record our thanks to Michael for the exemplary way he has dealt with probably the most challenging of times the Council has faced since the war.

 He has led the Council, both staff and members, through this difficult period with skill, firmness and courtesy.

 He managed the remote working system with humour and patience, coping with “you’re on mute Mary” to “Are you there? We can’t see you?”.

 He enabled the Council to do as much as possible under the restrictions placed upon us and we welcome him back into the body of the meeting where I am sure he will continue to make a valuable contribution”.

 Council showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

**4. TOWN RESIDENT’S QUESTIONS**

There were no members of the public in attendance.