

Minutes of the Fowey Town Council Mayor Making Ceremony held in the Town Hall on Wednesday 7th May 2014

14/01 Present	The Mayor	Cllr John Berryman Esq
	Deputy Mayor	Cllr Mrs Anne Boosey
	Councillors	Cllr Mrs K Alexander Cllr T Delves Cllr Mrs C Eardley Cllr Mrs R Finlay Cllr Mrs S Gudmunsen Cllr D Hughes Cllr D Willmore
	The Town Clerk	Mrs S Vincent
	Mayor's Chaplain	Revd P de Grey-Warter
	The Town Crier	Michael Penprase
	The Mace Bearers	Andy McCartney Lesley McCartney

Civic Guests and members of the public

- The Town Crier announced the arrival of the Mayor, the Mayoress, the Deputy Mayor, the Town Clerk and the Council of Fowey.
- The Mayor, Cllr Berryman, welcomed everybody present. He then invited his Chaplain, Revd de Grey-Warter, to lead the prayers.
- The Mayor took the Chair.
- The Mayor appointed the Clerk, Mrs Sally Vincent, to take the minutes.

The Town Clerk announced that the first item of business was the election of the Mayor for the next civic year and invited nominations.

14/02 Election of Mayor of Fowey for the Civic Year 2014/2015

Cllr Willmore proposed that Cllr Berryman should be Mayor of Fowey for 2014/2015 and gave the following citation.

The Town Clerk has told us that this is our opportunity to make this evening enjoyable – so we need to make what we say sound good! She also said that once a nomination speech was done in rhyme, but as the only poem that I know is 'The Boy Stood on the Burning Deck' I don't think that would work in my case.

But seriously, it gives me enormous pleasure to nominate Cllr. John Berryman to be Mayor of Fowey for the 2014/2015 session.

I have only been a member of Fowey Town Council for two years, but during that time I have got to know John well, and watching him steer the council, with his hand on the tiller, has given me great confidence.

John chairs the monthly Town Hall meetings with a fair hand. He has a vast amount of knowledge and understanding and, with the very able support of our Town Clerk,

guides us all. It has been said before, but there is no harm in reminding everyone that John endeavors to represent the people of Fowey and to achieve the best for the people of Fowey and he does it very well.

He puts his heart and soul in to being Mayor and fights the towns corner admirably, something which is not always easy, especially when we have to work with Cornwall Council - which often presents us with a situation of moving two steps forward only to move one step back again. It's a bit like wading through treacle, but John keeps working patiently and never gives up.

John spends a lot of time working on all the various committees that make up the Town Council, so has an input in to all that goes on in the town. This includes attending meetings about the toilets, the car parks, the allotments, the toilets, the lights at St Catherine's Castle, the Town Quay, oh and did I mention the toilets. As someone said, in an e-mail to the Town Clerk, "Bring a bucket to Cornwall but not to make sand castles..."

In John, we have had a very good and strong leader over the past years and it is important that we continue to do so. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Maureen Berryman most sincerely for all the work that she has also puts in as Lady Mayoress. Going back to the toilets, as we always do... at least Maureen has not had to stand outside the toilets counting the number of people using them recently!

In conclusion, I would like to formally propose that Cllr. John Berryman be duly elected to be Mayor of Fowey for the 2014/2015 year.

Cllr Boosey seconded the proposal.

It is with great pleasure that I second the nomination for Cllr. Berryman to be Mayor. I was amazed to find out that he and I had been playing Box and Cox for the past eight years, and it high time that one of us gracefully retired! As he is quite a bit younger than I am there was no contest.

There are many issues and concerns that Fowey Town Council is trying hard to resolve, not least the problem of the toilets. John has been heading up these negotiations for years, and has all the facts virtually at his fingertips, hopefully by next year they will be sorted out.

It is with this and various other negotiations in mind that I second the nomination, and I wish him the greatest fortune in trying to resolve them all.

There being no further nominations the Town Clerk called for a vote, which was unanimous and it was RESOLVED that Cllr John Berryman would be the Mayor of Fowey for the 2014/2015 civic year.

The Mayor recited and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and swore the Oath of Allegiance.

The Mayor returned thanks for his election.

Fellow Mayors, Chairs of Parish councils, councillors and special guests it gives me great pleasure to accept the office of Mayor for the forthcoming 12 months.

I will try and make this an acceptance speech rather than an annual report.

As Mayor, along with RFYC and Gallants I would hope to welcome back the Sailtica race from Pornichet to Fowey in 2015, the first in 2013 was a great success although hard work for the organisers here in Fowey. There has been a change in the

governing party in Pornichet but we would hope the bi-annual race continues. The race to Spain this year has taken place.

The Fowey Festival this year is based within the town (no village) and starts on Saturday, please give it your support

*Going back over my other acceptance speeches I noted that as a Council we have been trying to regain ownership of several lost assets—This TH/TQ came back into the town's ownership in 2012. The allotments and the Iacre Meadow, first mentioned in 2011, came back into the town's ownership in April of this year. The Environment committee along with existing and new allotment holders have cleared, marked out, dug over and are planting a further 24 new allotments - my thanks to all concerned. Squires Field and the Public conveniences are still under negotiation, these talks have to be brought to a head very soon as we are already receiving complaints from the public on the closed toilets at Caffa Mill car park, the businesses at Caffa are continually asked for use of their facilities, this cannot go on, if nothing else we must try and get the disabled facility open. **The quiriness of the English language - Fowey Town Council is trying hard, Cornwall Council is just trying.***

No mention of Localism and the devolution of responsibilities, remains as just a dream.

I make no apology for the annual report which should been given at the Annual Parish Meeting but no one turns up so I am afraid with a captive audience tonight you have had it.

One last report, our soon to be adopted ship HMS Montrose has been involved in the removal of material used in the manufacture of chemical weapons from Syria along with ships from Denmark and Norway .She arrived back in Plymouth on the 12th March. The frigate will now have a short maintenance period before taking up her role as the Royal Navy's high readiness on-call warship. It would be most fitting if she could be in Fowey for her adoption over the Remembrance week-end.

Before I sit down I must take this opportunity of publically thanking our town clerk on my and the councils behalf for all the hard work Sally has put in over the past year or should that be years.

Just remains for me to remind the people of Fowey that our monthly meetings are open to all and there is a spot when anyone can have their say.

I can assure you that your Mayor and Council will work to the best of their ability in the forthcoming 12 months.

By the way the Annual Parish meeting will be on the 21st. at 7pm in the Town Hall, followed by the May monthly council meeting you are all invited, no refreshments that night.

*The Mayor appointed his wife Mrs Maureen Berryman to be his Mayoress
My first duty is to invite Maureen to become the Mayoress and for this office the council has commissioned a new silver Mayoress chain. The chain has been designed and crafted by Mr.Halls, the same silversmith who designed and crafted the Fowey Town Council Mayor's chain.*

The Mayor appointed Philip de Grey Warter to be his Chaplain

My second duty is to invite The Vicar: Philip de Grey-Warter to be my chaplain.

14/03 Apologies

The Town Clerk reported apologies from 20 invited guests.

14/04 Election of Deputy Mayor for the Civic Year 2014/2015

The Town Clerk invited nominations for Deputy Mayor

Cllr Eardley proposed Cllr Mrs Finlay as Deputy Mayor.

I am very pleased to nominate Cllr. Ruth Finlay to be Deputy Mayor of Fowey 2014/2015.

Like David I am a new Councillor only having been Co-opted in 2013 and have got to know Ruth mainly through working with her on the Environment Committee, of which she is Chair. From a comment she once made I understand that the Environment Committee business did not live up to expectations, as I think she was hoping to get involved in helping the inhabitants of Fowey live a more environmentally friendly and greener life. Instead, she oversees the very unglamorous grass cutting and weed killing schedules, but on the plus side we have the new allotments and the refurbishment of the Old Grammar School Garden.

Despite possession being taken last November, and due to the horrendous winter weather, it took until early April to transform the "one acre field" into 20 new plots, all of which were marked out by Ruth so I think I am correct in saying that she knows every inch of that field very well!

To allocate the 20 new plots Ruth had to compile a final list of prospective allotment holders out of the one held by the Mayor, plus the one kept by Cornwall Council which had been inherited from Restormel. After much checking, comparing and cross-checking the list was finally achieved and plots were assigned. Oh, there was also a list of existing allotment holders to contact besides, to enquire if they were continuing!

The above was carried out with a sense of fairness, tenacity, determination and humour which are all characteristics that sum up Ruth well. She also has a teacher's steeliness and attitude to the project in hand be it planning decisions, budgets or how many old bushes our gardener had to dig up out of the Old Grammar School Garden! To close I would like to formally propose Cllr. Ruth Finlay be duly elected as Deputy Mayor of Fowey for the year 2014/2015.

Cllr Delves seconded the proposal

I am pleased to second Cllr Carol Eardley's proposal of Cllr Ruth Finlay for the role of Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Anne Boosey is an extremely hard act to follow but I believe that Cllr Finlay possesses the right skills & qualities to do an excellent job. This Council and Fowey will be well served by her.

There being no further nominations the Town Clerk called for a vote, which was unanimous and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs Ruth Finlay would be Deputy Mayor of Fowey for the Civic Year 2014/2015.

Cllr Finlay returned thanks for her election and thanked her fellow Councillors for their support and pledged to serve the parish of Fowey as Deputy Mayor.

It is with great pleasure that I accept the nomination for Deputy Mayor of Fowey Town Council.

I hesitated in taking the role of Deputy Mayor as I am following in the footsteps of Councillor Anne Boosey – who has served as a councillor for both Fowey and Restormel Borough Council since 1999.

Councillor Boosey has a fund of knowledge and experience - if she does not know something, you can bet she will know someone who does.

I became a town councillor five years ago, to continue working with and for, the community which I have worked in for many years. I have taught at Fowey Community College for 25 years, all 3 of my children have been taught at the primary and secondary school, and they have also worked part time in the different businesses in the town, before going off to university or in my son's case taking an apprenticeship with Fowey Harbour Commissioners. My husband, also a teacher, is looking forward to his imminent retirement and enjoying our allotment at Readymoney and sailing our little boat.

As a town councillor, I am impressed by the dedication of my fellow councillors, as an unpaid, voluntary group with a lot of responsibility they give up hours of their time to attend meetings, to encourage others to get involved in local issues and to lobby support at County Hall for issues such as the public toilets, parking and licensing of local traders, all guided with the exceptional support of our Town Clerk and leadership of our Mayor.

I have enjoyed the development of the new allotments which the council took over in December of last year, the town now has 34 allotment plots, on what must be one of the most beautiful allotment sites in the UK, our new plot holders range from professional gardeners and landscapers to some who have never grown a vegetable in their lives, and if last weekend is anything to go by – they are very determined and friendly bunch.

The redesign of the Old Grammar school gardens is another delightful project to be involved in, together with local garden designer Ali Siddall, this little gem of a garden will be sensitively developed into a tranquil space for both locals and visitors to enjoy.

As Deputy Mayor, I hope to support and represent the views of the people of Fowey, in particular affordable homes to buy and to rent for local people, to support the business community in keeping Fowey a thriving and viable economy and to protect our beautiful environment in as sustainable a manner as possible.

The Mayor recorded grateful thanks to the retiring Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mrs Anne Boosey

Before we move on I must take this opportunity of publically thanking Cllr Anne Boosey for the help she has been to me, firstly as her deputy for 3 years and then as my deputy for the past 4 years. Her knowledge of the old Restormel council and then of Cornwall council has been of great value to me and this council, for this and her devotion to FTC and Fowey **THANK YOU**

Please accept this small gift given with gratitude and love

14/05 To appoint Members to serve on the under-mentioned Committees

Cllr Hughes proposed, Cllr Gudmunsen seconded and it was RESOLVED that the following members would serve on the FTC Committees for 2014/2015

Planning - Cllrs Alexander, Boosey, Delves, Finlay and Willmore.

Environment - Cllrs Alexander, Berryman, Eardley and Finlay.

Finance - Cllrs Berryman, Boosey, Delves, Willmore.

Town Hall – Cllrs Eardley, Gudmunsen and Willmore

14/06 Announcements

The Town Clerk announced that:

- The Civic Service would be held at St Fimbarrus Church on Sunday May 11th at 11 am.
- The Statutory Meetings of the Council would be held on 16th July 2014, 15th October 2014 and 21st January 2015
- The Annual Parish Meeting would be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday 21st May 2014; members of the public were urged to attend
- Meetings were also held on most of the third Wednesdays of other months and were always advertised on the Notice Board outside the Town Hall and on the website www.foweytowncouncil.gov.uk. Members of the public were very welcome to attend any of these meetings and there was always an opportunity for public questions at the beginning of the session.

On behalf of the Mayor the Town Clerk thanked everybody for attending and invited all present to join him and the Mayoress for canapés and a glass of wine after the closure of the ceremony.

14/07 Closure of the Ceremony

The Town Clerk called upon the Town Crier, Mr Michael Penprase, to close the ceremony.

The Town Crier closed the ceremony.