

Didcot Town Council

Mayor-making

Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7.30pm

Main Hall, Didcot Civic Hall



Minutes

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a true and correct record by the next meeting of the Council.

PRESENT

Councillors:

J Broadbent	J Loder
S Cole	A Macdonald (Out-going Mayor)
N Hards	D Macdonald
L Hislop	O Glover
A Hudson	G Roberts
C Jennings	D Rouane
A Jones (Mayor elect)	T Worgan
M Khan	S Nohre

Officers:

Janet Wheeler - Town Clerk; Lucy Blake – Deputy Town Clerk and other staff members of Didcot Town Council.

Approximately thirty members of the public and invited guests.

1. Election of the Town Mayor for 2024/2025 and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

It was proposed by Cllr A Macdonald and seconded by Cllr C Jennings to elect Cllr A Jones as the Town Mayor for 2024/2025.

There were no further nominations.

It was RESOLVED to elect Cllr A Jones as Mayor of Didcot for 2024/2025. The vote was unanimous.

Cllr A Macdonald thanked staff for the continuing support and work on the Mayoral events throughout the 2023/2024 year.

Cllr A Jones accepted the Mayoral Chain, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and assumed the role of Mayor.

Cllr A Jones gave a short acceptance speech.

2. Election of the Deputy Town Mayor for 2024/2025 and signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

There was one nomination for the position of Deputy Town Mayor. It was proposed by Cllr C Jennings and seconded by Cllr D Rouane and RESOLVED to appoint Cllr J Loder.

It was RESOLVED to elect Cllr J Loder as Deputy Mayor for 2024/2025. The vote was unanimous.

Cllr J Loder accepted the Deputy Mayoral Chain; signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and assumed the role of Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor gave thanks to the out-going Army and Air Cadets – Corporal Alfie Hermitage and Sergeant Lorcan Bennett. The Mayor then welcomed the two new serving Cadets: Lance Corporal Ben Jelfs and Flight Sergeant Oliver Allison. They both received Town Cadet badges.

3. Election of the Leader of the Council for 2024/2025

Nominations were called for the Leader of the Town Council. It was proposed by Cllr D Rouane and seconded by Cllr T Worgan to nominate Cllr C Jennings.

A second nomination was proposed by Cllr D Macdonald and seconded by Cllr A Hudson to elect Cllr M Khan as Leader.

The vote was:

Cllr M Khan – IN FAVOUR = 7 votes

Cllr C Jennings – IN FAVOUR = 9 votes

It was RESOLVED that Cllr C Jennings be elected as Leader of the Council for 2024/2025.

4. Election of Deputy Leader of the Council for 2024/2025

Nominations were called for. It was proposed by Cllr C Jennings and seconded by Cllr T Worgan to nominate Cllr K Morrison.

A second nomination was proposed by Cllr M Khan and seconded by Cllr J Broadbent to elect Cllr D Macdonald as Deputy Leader.

The vote was:

Cllr D Macdonald – IN FAVOUR = 8 votes

Cllr K Morrison – IN FAVOUR – 8 votes

As the voting resulted in a tie, the Mayor used his casting vote to vote for Cllr K Morrison.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr K Morrison be elected as Deputy Leader of the Council for 2024/2025.

5. To receive apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs G Ryall, K Morrison, Z Mohammed and D Aragao. Cllr Hugh Macdonald was absent without apologies.

6. To receive declarations of interests

There were no declarations.

It was proposed by Cllr A Jones, seconded by Cllr D Rouane and RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow for:

- **Speech from the incoming Mayor and confirmation of charities**
The Mayor thanked staff and Councillors for their support and confirmed that he had already attended various events in his previous position as Deputy Mayor. He confirmed his chosen charities for the 2024-2025 year are Be Free Young Carers and TRAIN. He also pledged to encourage more involvement with the youth of Didcot throughout his mayoral year.
- **Review of the previous mayoral year 2023-2024**
Cllr A Macdonald thanked his Cadets and confirmed that the various events held throughout the year raised a lot of money for his two charities: The Felix Foundation and Didcot Food Bank.

It was proposed by Cllr A Jones, seconded by Cllr C Jennings, and RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

7. To review the Scheme of Delegation to Committees under Standing Orders 100-112 and to employees under Standing Orders Section 4 and 5

It was proposed by Cllr A Jones, seconded by Cllr C Jennings, and RESOLVED to approve the Scheme of Delegation to Committees.

8. To confirm the meeting dates for the Council and Committee meetings for 2024 – 2025 civic year

It was proposed by Cllr A Jones, seconded by Cllr A Hudson and RESOLVED to approve the meeting dates.

9. To defer nominations to existing Committees to the Annual Meeting on 14th May 2024 but (in accordance with Standing Order 105) to receive nominations of Chair and Vice Chair subject to their election at the first meeting of the Committee

The following temporary appointments were proposed by Cllr A Jones, seconded by Cllr D Rouane – for the first meeting of each Standing Committee only:

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Chair: Cllr T Worgan; Deputy Chair: Cllr G Roberts

Environment and Climate Committee

Chair: Cllr G Roberts; Deputy Chair: Cllr K Morrison

Planning and Development Committee

Chair: Cllr D Rouane ; Deputy Chair: Cllr H Macdonald

Personnel and Administration Committee

Chair: Cllr C Jennings; Deputy Chair: Cllr J Loder

Property & Facilities Committee

Chair: Cllr K Morrison; Deputy Chair: Cllr H Macdonald

It was RESOLVED to appoint these positions on a temporary basis for the first meeting of each standing Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signed:

(Mayor)

Date: