

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, THE ARC, STOCKSBRIDGE
ON TUESDAY, 15TH MAY 2018**

PRESENT: Cllr. K Davis (Chair), Cllrs. A S Law, R J Crowther, B Grundill, C Ward,
J A Grocutt and J Staniforth

2 members of the public

1. Minutes of the Last Annual Assembly
Minutes of the last Annual Assembly held on Tuesday, 16th May 2017 were read.
Proposed by Cllr. A S Law, seconded by Cllr. J Staniforth and
RESOLVED:- That the minutes be agreed and signed by the Chairman.
2. Matters Arising
There were no Matters Arising.
3. Chairman's Report
Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr. J Clarkson.

The Chairman welcomed recipients of the Town Council's Annual Citizens Award and their families to the meeting and was pleased to present certificates and gift vouchers to Calvin Marsland and Daniel Hart. The awards being presented as recognition for their tremendous efforts in 2017 climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and raising an enormous amount for charity through a wide variety of community events they organised across the area allowing all ages to be involved.

Cllr. KD read his final speech as Mayor:-

As another financial year starts for our Town Council it is time for me to reflect on the past 12 months as Chair of the Town Council and Mayor of Stocksbridge.

Since my election in May last year I have met a whole host of interesting and unique people, people like 100 year old Jean Eustace, a wonderful lady now residing in Alpine Lodge and our own war veteran 100 year old Tommy Dickinson whose wife Betty was Mayor of Stocksbridge on many occasions.

I attended the Civic Service for the incoming Lord Mayor of Sheffield Cllr. Anne Murphy and was pleased to attend Yorkshire Day celebrations this year held in Sheffield where I met Mayors and dignitaries from all over Yorkshire

I have attended numerous functions locally, far too numerous to mention but I enjoyed each and every one of them and I thank them all for their invitations and their welcoming kindness.

I sincerely hope the incoming Mayor will enjoy their year as much as I have mine.

On the Council front, Stocksbridge along with just about every other area in Sheffield has suffered from localised crime and fly tipping. This current government and its stringent and continuing austerity cuts must shoulder the majority of the blame which has left our police force stretched to the limit.

We invited the Police and Crime Commissioner Dr Alan Billings to a Town Council meeting, the frustration in his face as he tried to answer our questions will leave a lasting mark in my memory,

We continued the Grants scheme and again we supported YOUR Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre as we will continue to do along with other local treasures like the Stocksbridge History Society, Stocksbridge Community Care Group, Stocksbridge Pentaqua and many others.

We welcome repeat and new grant applications which help our community.

The introduction of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) which replaced the old Section 106 monies will provide an alternative funding stream and we will need to know how best to distribute this new funding. To this end we are considering an option called “Participatory Budgeting” where an independent panel will review applications and suggest where the money should go.

The fund is small at the moment but will grow with new build projects.

With regard to building projects, this Council will always oppose building on Greenbelt and Green Open Space and to this end totally objects to the plans for Hollin Busk.

Finally, I must offer my sincere thanks to Teresa and Karen our Town Clerk and Assistant for their amazing help with my diary and support over the last twelve months and to my fellow Councillors who continue to support our local Community.

Thank you all.

4. Open Session

A representative from the Stocksbridge Community Forum wished to extend her thanks to Town Councillors for attending Community Day and the information provided on Council meeting dates. With regard to Adult Education there was an opportunity to provide training for future Town Councillors and participation in Citizenship training being introduced in schools. The Forum welcomed the attendance of Councillors at the forthcoming meeting on 23rd May.

Cllr. ASL thanked Cllr. KD for doing a brilliant job in his year as Mayor noting that thinking back to his first time as Mayor ten years ago there had not been many events to attend as there had been during his last term as Mayor. Cllr. KD had experienced a similar year which was important to Stocksbridge and he had been fortunate to have two 100th Birthday events to attend.

The meeting then closed.