



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ANTRIM CIVIC CENTRE ON TUESDAY 29 MAY 2018 AT 6.30 PM

- In the Chair** : The Mayor (Councillor P Hamill)
- Members Present** : Aldermen – F Agnew, W Ball, P Barr, T Burns, T Campbell, M Cosgrove, W DeCourcy, M Girvan, J Smyth and R Swann
- Councillors – D Arthurs, A Ball, J Bingham, J Blair, P Brett, L Clarke, H Cushinan, B Duffin, R Foster, T Girvan, M Goodman, J Greer, T Hogg, D Hollis, N Kells, A Logue, R Lynch, S McCarthy, N McClelland, V McWilliam, M Magill, M Maguire, P Michael, J Montgomery, M Rea, D Ritchie, S Ross, B Webb
- In attendance** : HM Lord Lieutenant – Mrs J Christie CVO OBE
Rouge Croix Pursuivant - Mr J Petrie
Mayor's Chaplain – Rev Dr I Neish
Photographer – J Taggart
Master of Ceremonies – J Adair
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - J Dixon
Director of Community Planning & Regeneration – M McAlister
Director of Operations – G Girvan
Director of Organisation Development – A McCooke
Head of Governance – L Johnston
Head of Communication & Customer Services – T White
Borough Lawyer– P Casey
Media and Marketing Manager – N McCullough
Media and Marketing Officer – J Heasley
ICT Officer – J Higginson
Member Services Officer – D Hynes
PA to the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor – K Hood
Governance Support Officer – D Conlan
Member Services Manager – V Lisk

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Special Council Meeting, particularly Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant Mrs Joan Christie CVO OBE and Mr John Petrie, Rouge Croix Pursuivant, and reminded all present of the audio-recording protocol.

1 APOLOGIES

Councillor Kelly.

2 PRESENTATION OF THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS

The Mayor outlined the College of Arms' responsibility for researching and compiling the Armorial Bearings design and issuing the Letters Patent. Following the formation of the new Council, along with the Elected Members Working Group, the College was commissioned to produce the new Coat of Arms for the Borough.

The Mayor recognised the integral role that Mr Petrie, along with the former Windsor Herald, Mr William Hunt, played in researching and designing Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council's new crest. The Mayor highlighted the uniqueness of the crest, representing the historic nature of the Borough and providing an official mark for all Civic, Ceremonial and Legal occasions. The Mayor noted the presentation of the Letters Patent granting the Armorial Bearings as an historical milestone for the Borough.

The Mayor introduced Mr John Petrie, Rouge Croix Pursuivant from the College of Arms and invited him to elaborate on the research involved in the design of the new Arms.

Mr Petrie thanked the Mayor for inviting him and explained the main features of the design.

The Coat of Arms

The Armorial Bearings of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council were designed by William Hunt, Windsor Herald.

Mr Petrie then explained the rationale of the design:

The Arms

The Arms include the Barbican Gate of Antrim Castle that featured in the former Arms of Antrim, with blue and white waves in the base alluding to Lough Neagh and Six-Mile-Water. The water-wheel represents the textile industry and the bezants (gold discs) imply wealth and prosperity; the inset cog-wheels represent further industrial connections and were in the former Newtownabbey design.

The Crest

On top of the helm, the red eagle is taken from the Arms of the Pakenham and DeCourcy families; it is rising from a mural crown as the phoenix did in the former crest of Newtownabbey. In its beak is the red hand from the Arms of the O'Neills, and with one foot it is holding a windsock, alluding to the strong aviation history in the local area and to the airport.

The Supporters

Supporting the shield is a stag from the old Arms of Antrim and the black griffin of Grimshaw from the Arms of Newtownabbey. They are standing in a field of barley, representing the rural areas, and clutching respectively a representation of the Antrim Round Tower and the Mossley Mill Chimney.

The Motto

The Council's Motto is a rendition in Latin of 'Achieving Prosperity Together'.

Mr Petrie hoped that the Council liked the Coat of Arms and that the people of the Borough enjoyed being associated with it.

Mr Petrie presented the Mayor with the Letters Patent.

The Mayor thanked Mr Petrie and presented him with a gift for himself and also for Mr Hunt. The Mayor asked Mr Petrie to pass on his thanks to Mr Hunt and also thanked the Elected Members from the working group for their involvement. The Mayor commented that he was very proud of the new Coat of Arms.

The Mayor then invited Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Joan Christie CVO OBE, to say a few words.

Mrs Christie congratulated the Council on the very interesting and very appropriate Coat of Arms that had been chosen. She commended Antrim and Newtownabbey as an example of what is best in Local Government and congratulated the Council for coming together so well under the leadership of its politicians and its Chief Executive. Mrs Christie thanked everyone for the friendship and warm welcome she consistently received when she visited the Council.

There being no further business on the agenda the meeting concluded at 6.48 pm.

MAYOR

Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and legal advice.