

The Guildhall
Market Place
Salisbury
Wilts
SP1 1JH



Contact: J Whitty
Direct Line: 01722 342860
Email: corporate@salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk
Web: www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

Minutes

Meeting of : Annual Meeting of Salisbury City Council
Date : 13 May 2023
Meeting held in : Church of St Thomas and St Edmund
Commencing at : 12.00pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr A Hoque

Vice Chair: Cllr S Hocking

Cllrs: A Bayliss, J Bolwell, J Broom, B Dalton, S Charleston, V Charleston, C Corbin, T Corbin, J King, C Hibbert, M Mewse, J Nettle, A Riddle, R Rogers, C Stanway, I Tomes and E Wills.

Officers: Annie Child and Janine Whitty

The Retiring Chairman, Tom Corbin, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1071. The Election of the Mayor 2023 - 2024:

The Retiring Mayor called for nominations for Mayor for 2023 – 2024.

Cllr Ricky Rogers proposed that Cllr Atiquel Hoque be elected Mayor of the City of Salisbury for the ensuing municipal year 2023/24. This was seconded by Cllr Chris Stanway.

As there were no other nominations it was unanimously

Resolved that:

1060.1. Cllr Atiquel Hoque be elected Mayor of the City of Salisbury for 2023/24.

The new Mayor Cllr Atiquel Hoque signed his Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.

1072. Apologies:

1061.1. Apologies were received from Cllrs L Blackwood, C McGrath, E Rimmer, P Sample and J Wells

1073. Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions or statements submitted by the public.

1074. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions or statements submitted by Councillors.

1075. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

1064.1. The minutes of the last meeting Annual Meeting of Full Council held on 14 May 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

1076. Declaration of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

1077. Dispensations:

No dispensations were requested.

1078. Retiring Chairman's Announcements:

The retiring Chairman thanked all those present for attending Mayor Making. Cllr T Corbin gave a full and eloquent account of his year as Mayor and thanked those who supported him during his active and engaging year of events and activities. He presented Cllr C Corbin with her Mayoress' brooch, and his Mayoral Guide and Scout, Lydia and Elliot McCay with their Mayor's Badges. The retiring chairman was presented with his Past Mayor's badge by the Chairman.

1079. Chairman's Announcements:

The Chairman gave his acceptance speech expressing his delight and appreciation at being elected Mayor and presented his Mayoress with her ceremonial chain for the forthcoming year. His speech is shown in full at the end of these minutes. The Mayoral Scout and Guide for the year will be Arthur Graham and Jess Johnson.

1080. The Election of the Deputy Mayor 2023 - 24:

The Mayor called for nominations for Deputy Mayor for 2023 -24.

Cllr Ian Tomes proposed that Cllr Sven Hocking be elected Deputy Mayor of the City of Salisbury for the ensuing municipal year 2023/24. This was seconded by Cllr Eleanor Wills.

There were no other nominations, and it was unanimously

Resolved that:

1058.1. Cllr Sven Hocking be elected as Deputy Mayor of the City of Salisbury for 2022/24.

The new Deputy Mayor Cllr Sven Hocking signed his Acceptance of Office and took the Vice Chairman's seat.

1081. Matters, if any, which by reason of special circumstances the Chairman, decides should be considered as a matter of urgency:

No matters were raised.

The meeting closed at 1.03pm.

Councillor Atiqul Hoque
The Right Worshipful the Mayor of the City of Salisbury
His speech on the occasion of his election to Mayor 13 May 2023

Bismillah

In the name of Allah (God) most beneficent most merciful.

Rabbi - shawahrli sadri - Wa yassarli - amri whalul - ookdatam- mileesani - yaff ka wahi - kawli-

You might say what was that! :)

I can assure you... I haven't called anyone by anyone's name.

However, at the end I will explain the meaning.

Deputy Lord Lieutenant, excellency, Lords, honourable MP, neighbouring Mayors, distinguished guest, our twinning friends, fellow Councillors, friends and family,

Let me greet you with an Islamic greeting

Assalamualikum. Wa rahmatulahi wa barakatuhu:

May the peace and blessings of Allah (God all mighty be upon you all.

My name is Atiqul Hoque: born in Bangladesh back in 1976! Yes! That's makes me a very young mayor with lots of grey hair.

I Came to UK at a very young ages and grew up in east London, where I went to school and college.

"History is made"

Today people of Salisbury has chosen their First British Bangladeshi Muslim Mayor! I'm delighted to be part of this tradition which stretches from 14 Centuries, when the first Mayor was made back in 1387 call John hethe..... "I almost said John Glen"

When history is made; everyone becomes part of this memorable day. People of Salisbury, everyone present today, fellow councillors who best owed me this honour.. our hard working officers. special thanks goes to my Ward residents who made this possible by electing me - and the Conservative party where I belong party that leads by example and makes the difference.

Ladies and gentlemen: for many years I've been searching for some answers maybe today is the day I get my answers.

I am not sure if you believe in fate; I do and I believe everything happens for a reason; today I'd like share and take you in a journey..... few things I felt but never understood as why.

This year marks the 30th year when I first visited Salisbury, with my older brother who is with us today. I clearly remember it was a Tuesday- market day in March

when they were clearing as we parked on market square. As I came out of the car i instantly I felt a chill something really hit my heart honestly I still feel it till this day -

second it was back in 2002 when we opened a restaurant In Shaftesbury, we arrange a charity night where we invited the Mayor, after the event I Naively asks the mayor if it's possible to wear his chain just to see how it looked. The mayor said ideally no but I will let you. So I wore it. Believe it or not it was a surreal few seconds.. it felt like as this chain hugged me in way at the time it was very hard to describe. Both experience it's all meant to be....

Do you know there's another significant attachment with Salisbury it all started back in 1972... 4 years before I was born.. the then prime minister Sir Edward Heath was the first to welcome Sheikh Mujibur Rahman the Prime Minister, of Bangladesh... who acknowledged and declared Bangladesh as free independent country, rest of the world follow suit, and today I'm the mayor of this city which accepted Bangladesh at the first place.

In summary I think Salisbury is my home it's where my heart and soul belongs.

Salisbury is a wonderful city we have been through a lot, from the Novichok incident to the pandemic, but time has come to leave all these behind us and look forward to the future and I think it's possible because we now have a new Monarch King Charles, who I admire simply because he devoted his life for his mother and anyone who loves their mother get my absolute respect, because for me my mother is the world. Also we have a great Prime Minister another history and the good thing is he understands maths.

My Mayoral year I will focus on bringing the community together, promoting Salisbury for the benefit of everyone.

I'd liked to promote Salisbury in the best of form we have lots to shout about. Our beautiful cathedral, History and culture, strengthened our relationship with our twinned cities, Xanten , saints North Carolina, Maryland and many more.

My chosen Charities for the year are our wonderful local Rotary Clubs who do so much for the community and local causes, The Salisbury Hospice trust who give the very best end of life care and Wilton RDA who provide an enriched life for disabled people.

I know take the opportunity to thank our Mayor Tom Corbin, - but before I do I'd like to thank his employer South west train because of their train being delayed 😊 which meant I get to attend more of his events so thank you for giving me the advance training as your deputy mayor.

Joke aside, Tom has been an excellent Mayor - mayor who everyone likes - I think it's also partly because of his consort Mrs Corbin. I very enjoyed working with him and I hope we will continue to do so serving this wonderful city for many years to come.

I'd like thank all my fellow Councillors past and present for their support, guidance and help. Also, our officers without their support and help a mayor can't function.

Finally, I'd like to thank my wife without her support I really couldn't do all this, my children who has been amazing. On top of everything it's my mum and dad's blessing which got me this far.

Now the meaning of the 2 paragraphs.

Prophet Moses used stumble on public speaking, so he asked god for help... and it was revealed to him and when he reads this verse it becomes easy for him to speak and today, I put that to test.