

**ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY 4 JUNE 2018**

**Key Decisions**

<b>No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>1</b>	Apologies	<b><i>Councillors Callan, Douglas, Duddy, Fielding, Holmes, Hunter, Knight McQuillan, McCorkell, and McKillop</i></b>
<b>2</b>	Outgoing Mayor's Address	<b><i>Note</i></b>
<b>3</b>	Declarations of Interest	<b><i>None</i></b>
<b>4</b>	Nominations to Positions of Responsibility Year 3	
<b>4.1</b>	Election of Mayor	<b><i>Councillor Chivers</i></b>
<b>4.2</b>	Election of Deputy Mayor	<b><i>Councillor Clarke</i></b>
<b>4.3</b>	Nominations by Parties for Positions of Responsibility - Year 2018/19	<b><i>Members Confirmed</i></b>
<b>5</b>	Incoming Mayor's Address	<b><i>Note</i></b>
<b>6</b>	Committee Allocations	<b><i>Democratic Services to be informed of any changes</i></b>
<b>7</b>	Appointments to Partnerships and External Bodies	<b><i>For information</i></b>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HEADQUARTERS  
MONDAY 4 JUNE 2018 AT 7 PM**

- In the Chair** : Councillor Baird  
Councillor Chivers
- Present** : Aldermen Campbell, Cole, Finlay, King, Hillis,  
McKeown, McKillop S and Robinson  
Councillors Beattie, Blair, Clarke, Deighan, Loftus,  
McCandless, McGlinchey, McLaughlin, McLean,  
McShane C, McShane P, Mulholland A, Mulholland K,  
Nicholl, Quigley, Watton and Wilson
- Officers Present** : D Jackson, Chief Executive  
M Quinn, Director of Performance  
E McCaul, Committee and Member Services Officer
- In attendance** : Press x 1

**WELCOME**

The Mayor welcomed Elected Members, Officers and those seated in the viewing gallery to the Annual Meeting of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recorded for Councillors Callan, Douglas, Duddy, Holmes, Hunter, Knight-McQuillan, McCorkell and McKillop.

**2. OUTGOING MAYOR'S ADDRESS**

Before seeking nomination for the position of Mayor for 2018/19, the outgoing Mayor took the opportunity to reflect on her time in office as follows:

*It is hard to believe that we are sitting here tonight at the end of my term as Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council. And what a year it has been, it feels more like 2 months.*

*There has been many highlights throughout the past 12 months and I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on just some of them.*

*An early stand-out occasion was the official opening of the A26 dual carriageway. This enhanced section of road has made a huge difference to our Borough – for those who commute every day and for those who travel northwards to visit our beautiful area. I was delighted to be there for the official opening as I know the difference this development has made to so many.*

*I was also fortunate to be involved in the official opening of the Atlantic Link Enterprise Campus at the Ulster University and subsequent networking event in the Guildhall in London. This was aimed at reinforcing strong economic links between the city and our area while encouraging further investment. As one of Europe's most switched-on and connected knowledge economies, the Causeway Coast and Glens has huge potential. As a council we have worked tirelessly for the last three years to see the Campus come to fruition and I was delighted to play a part in this event.*

*In July, Portstewart hosted the Irish Open which once again showcased our ability to stage a sporting event on a global scale. On the final day I found myself speaking on Sky television to a global audience of billions – no pressure said the Chief Executive as he watched me take centre stage! What a terrific honour this was for myself as Mayor and indeed our entire Borough. Of course we are all now counting down to The Open which comes to Portrush next year, offering a new set of exciting opportunities for the area.*

*On the sporting stage the Borough continues to excel, with a number of local people having the great honour of participating in the Commonwealth Games on Australia's Gold Coast. A special mention must go to Gareth McAuley who clinched a bronze medal in his chosen field at the games. I also met bowls champions, top pool players and the World Banger Car Champion who lives in Ballymoney. With so much talent in a variety of sports our Borough is certainly leading the way. And of course I must mention Coleraine FC who enjoyed a heroic welcome home after their recent Irish Cup win. We enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebrations here following their success.*

*I represented this Borough on foreign shores on a number of occasions, including Messines, a place where so many of our countrymen perished where I laid a wreath during the war memorial service. I also travelled to Vigneux-Sur-Seine as part of a twinning visit which was a fabulous*

*experience along with some very talented Irish dancers from the Allen School of Irish Dance.*

*I also welcomed a number of international visitors to the area, including football representatives from Beijing here for the Super Cup and a motor-racing delegation from Macau during the North West 200. At the Giant's Causeway I met a delegation of tour operators who were enjoying a 'fam trip' of the area and it was fantastic to see their delight at visiting one of our premiere visitor attractions.*

*As Mayor, I was fortunate to see at first hand the great work carried out by our voluntary sector and within our local schools. So often this work is unseen and unappreciated but we should all remind ourselves of the efforts of so many other organisations to improve the lives of those within our Borough.*

*Nurturing our young people and fulfilling their potential is so important to the future of our region, and from our top young apprentices to our sportspeople selected for study and development in America, our future is in safe hands.*

*Our schools also provide inspiration when it comes to developing cross community relationships. One example which comes to mind is Portstewart Primary School and St Colum's Primary School who worked together to win the prestigious Rolls Royce Eden science award. Their success shows what can be achieved when we work together for a common goal. And we should let that be a lesson to us all to follow in their footsteps.*

*Our young people have also demonstrated an unwavering commitment to our environment which we should all be grateful for. In my term I visited our first PlasticSmart schools – Hezlett Primary School and St Patrick's in Glenariff. Just last week I travelled to Rathlin Island where the school pupils there are involved with our LitterSmart project.*

*In all areas the pupils' enthusiasm was infectious and I am delighted that our Environmental Resource Officers are working hard to develop these partnerships for the benefit of our beautiful Borough. I look forward to seeing these initiatives extended throughout the area and I would encourage our new Mayor to offer her support to those involved throughout the term ahead.*

*I would like to commend those groups within our area who offer support and training to young people and adults with learning disabilities. The*

*education and vocational services they provide play an important role in our society and as Mayor I was delighted to see for myself the excellent work they carry out and the positive difference they make to the lives of so many.*

*I also celebrated the musical traditions throughout the Borough, and my thanks go to the Glens of Antrim Comhaltas members who contributed so much to the Dalriada Sounds concert I hosted in Holy Trinity Church in Ballycastle back in December. This was a terrific cross-community evening which helped to raise vital funds for COAST, the Borough's charity for older people. On another occasion in Cloonavin, we were entertained by the award-winning sounds of Dunloy and Craignee Accordion Bands and my thanks go to everyone involved.*

*Before I formally end my term as Mayor I would like to thank all of you for putting your faith in me as Mayor and to my own party colleagues who selected me for the position.*

*Since the Council's inception, we are continuing to build community relations within the chamber and after three years I am pleased to see that we are getting on with the work for the benefit of the Borough and all our ratepayers.*

*I would like to thank my Deputy Mayor Councillor Cathal McLaughlin for his support throughout the year in which we worked well together, along with the Council's Chief Executive David Jackson, staff members within Democratic Services especially Eithne, Ivy and Sinead, Council's PR department and McAuley Multimedia.*

*To the new Mayor, I offer my very best wishes for the year ahead and I hope it is another positive term for our Borough.*

Collectively the representatives from each party within the chamber congratulated Councillor Baird for duties carried out throughout the year.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### 4. POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY YEAR 4

##### 4.1 Election of Mayor

Councillor Mulholland nominated Councillor Chivers to the position of Mayor.

**Councillor Chivers was declared Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council for the year 2018/19.**

Councillor Baird relinquished position of Mayor and Councillor Chivers took up her position as Chair.

##### 4.2 Election of Deputy Mayor

Alderman Finlay nominated Councillor Clarke as Deputy Mayor.

**Councillor Clarke was declared Deputy Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council for the year 2018/19.**

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were both congratulated by members on their nominations.

##### 4.3 Nomination by Parties for the Remaining Positions for Year 2018/19

Appointment/Committee	Elected Member	Party
Chair of Environmental Services	Alderman Finlay	DUP
Vice Chair of Environmental Services	To be confirmed	UU
Chair of Leisure & Development	Councillor Holmes	UU
Vice Chair of Leisure & Development	Councillor McShane	SF
Chair of Corporate Policy & Resources	Councillor Quigley	SDLP
Vice Chair of Corporate Policy & Resources	To be confirmed	UU
Chair of Planning	Alderman McKillop	TUV
Vice Chair of Planning	Councillor Nicholl	SF
Chair of Audit	Councillor McShane	IND
Vice Chair of Audit	To be confirmed	DUP
Partnership Panel	To be confirmed	UU
Northern Ireland Housing Council	Alderman Finlay	DUP
Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association	Alderman McKillop	TUV

## 5. INCOMING MAYOR'S ADDRESS

The incoming Mayor read the following address:

*I want to start my contribution by thanking the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Baird on behalf of us all for the excellent job she did representing the Council and its people over the past year, and to pay tribute to her hard working and selfless attitude.*

*I also want to pay tribute to Councillor Mc Laughlin who ably assisted Councillor Baird in his role as Deputy Mayor.*

*I also want to congratulate Councillor Clarke on becoming the Deputy Mayor and I look forward to working with him over the coming 12 months.*

*Being the Mayor of this Council is a great honour and I want to thank my party for allowing me this privilege. I was elected to the Council by the people of Limavady and Drumsurn - this is their honour too. I want to thank my family who have always supported me in all that I do and whose continued support I will need throughout this year.*

*I understand my new responsibilities as this Council's first citizen and this is a challenge which I relish. With the Assembly not running, with the uncertainties surrounding Brexit, with economic austerity from Westminster, with the rising tide of demands for social change across the island of Ireland people are expecting more leadership from their local Councils. As first citizen I intend to work alongside the excellent team of officers and all Council staff and all councillors to provide this leadership.*

*Causeway Coast and Glens Council, its geographic landscape, its people has so much to offer. In my year as Mayor I hope to bring a sharp focus on all that is positive about this area. But to do so with purpose. A purpose that brings benefits to our ratepayers.*

*I want to promote this region as a place where businesses cannot just survive but thrive. We need to work hard to attract jobs to our major towns of Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Coleraine and Limavady but also promote the potential of SMEs in those 4 towns and beyond in what is largely a rural Council. With the potential disasters of Brexit looming large over everything I want to work with the business community here to make sure their voices are heard and their opinions are listened to. As a Council we need to identify aspects over which we have control to help drive this Council forward economically. Promotion is key, good planning*

*is crucial and the required infrastructure whether that means transport or technology is critical.*

*Obviously tourism and the promotion of tourism here will be a major focus of mine this year. From Glenarriffe to Greysteel we have Ireland's most beautiful coastline on our doorstep and all the major attractions that come with it. Tourism spend is a major economic benefit to this Council and I want to help this industry to continue to grow. We have more visitors therefore we need to continue to improve and develop our product in a smart and innovative manner that meets this demand.*

*I am very conscious that 2018/19 are years which bring centenary commemorations and celebrations. Others may try and make politics out of our shared but divided history but I intend to mark these events, events such as the ending of WW1 and the sitting of the first Dail and many more in an inclusive, respectful and dignified manner.*

*I am aware that I am the fourth female Mayor out of only 4 Mayors that this new Council has had. To some that may signify success in the battle for equality. I am conscious however that on this the Centenary year of women getting the vote and centenary of Countess Markievicz becoming the first woman elected that the pursuit of equality has some way to go.*

*I intend to be a Mayor for all citizens in this Council area, regardless of your sex, religion, colour of your skin, sexual orientation, the language you speak, or the sport that you play. I want to make people from all communities feel ownership of this Council and to help make sure that all communities feel valued by this Council.*

*A particular privilege that the mayor has is to help promote and nominate Charities and this year I will be making Tiny Life my key charity. From my own family's personal experience I know and understand the great work carried out by this charity.*

*In conclusion I just want to add that I am particularly looking forward to traveling right across this Council area to help highlight, promote, and celebrate the good work that our communities and organisations within our communities are doing. I make this appeal from the outset. If you are involved in a group and that group is involved in community, youth, charity, environmental, cultural, or sporting work please feel free to invite me along.*

## 6. COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS – APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

Members received a report which outlined that Council had agreed at its meeting on 26 February 2015 to establish five committees made up of 16 members using the quota greatest remainder. Details of appointments to the 5 committees had been agreed for the 4 year term of Council circulated previously.

It was **AGREED**: that if there were any changes to the membership of the Committees Democratic Services would be informed.

## 7. APPOINTMENTS TO PARTNERSHIPS AND EXTERNAL BODIES

A schedule outlining nominations to partnerships and external bodies was circulated to members for information.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the outgoing Mayor extended an invitation to elected members and staff to join her for a small reception in the Mayor's Parlour.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at **7:38 pm**.

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Mayor