

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber at the  
Town Hall Chapel Road Worthing on**

**20 February 2018**

The Mayor, Councillor Alex Harman  
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Paul Baker

Councillor Noel Atkins	Councillor Louise Murphy
*Councillor Antony Baker	Councillor Mark Nolan
Councillor Roy Barraclough	*Councillor Luke Proudfoot
Councillor Keith Bickers	*Councillor Clive Roberts
Councillor Callum Buxton	Councillor Jane Sim
Councillor Rebecca Cooper	Councillor Bob Smytherman
Councillor Edward Crouch	Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes
*Councillor James Doyle	Councillor Hazel Thorpe
Councillor Diane Guest	Councillor Bryan Turner
Councillor Lionel Harman	Councillor Val Turner
Councillor Joshua High	*Councillor Vicky Vaughan
Councillor Paul High	Councillor Steve Waight
Councillor Daniel Humphreys	Councillor Paul Westover
Councillor Susan Jelliss	Councillor Steve Wills
Councillor Kevin Jenkins	Councillor Mark Withers
Councillor Heather Mercer	*Councillor Tom Wye
Councillor Sean McDonald	Councillor Paul Yallop
Councillor Nigel Morgan	

\*=absent

**C/059/17-18 Declarations of Interest**

Members were invited to make any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests on the item before Council, none were made

**C/060/17-18 Questions from the public**

The Mayor invited any questions on the item before the Special Meeting of the Council, none were submitted.

**C/061/17-18 Freedom of the Borough of Richbourg**

Council was reminded that at its December meeting it had agreed to convene a Special Meeting to confer the title of Freedom of the Borough to the Office of the Mayor of Richbourg; full details of the Motion was set out in the agenda.

The Mayor, as sponsor of the Freedom request, proposed the Motion before the Council. Representatives from Richbourg were unable to be present with Council being informed that the formal presentation of the Freedom would be made in a forthcoming meeting, due

to take place on the weekend of 12 May. Further details when arrangements had been finalised would be shared with Councillors by the Civic Office.

In seconding the Motion; Councillor McDonald expressed his delight in the honour proposed; explaining his personal experiences when he had visited Richbourg, the welcome he had received together with the appreciation of the Town in the past links after WW1 through the rebuilding and support by Mayor Ellen Chapman. Councillor McDonald reminded those in the Chamber of the history of WW1 particularly the Battle of Boars Head on 30 June 1916 around the Town of Richbourg - a diversionary action to the Battle of the Somme commencing the following day. This forgotten battle had been commemorated in June 2016 with dual services in Worthing and Richbourg, a number of Worthing residents being killed in action, the youngest fatality being 16 years old.

Members in the Chamber spoke to support the granting of the Freedom.

On a vote For 31 Against 0 Abstain 0

### **Resolved**

That the Freedom of the Borough of Worthing be granted to the Office of the Mayor of Richebourg-L'Avoue in recognition of the Town's continued acts of remembrance for not only the Worthing men and boys of the Royal Sussex Regiment who lost their lives at the Battle of the Boars Head on 30 June 1916; but also for the ongoing close bonds of friendship and mutual respect between the two towns continuing the efforts by Mayor Ellen Chapman almost 100 years ago in raising funds towards the rebuilding of the town of Richebourg destroyed in the Battle.

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9:50 pm, it having commenced at 10:05 pm.

Mayor