

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2009**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Flintshire County Council held in County Hall, Mold held on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009.

**PRESENT:** Councillor: Q.R.H. Dodd (Chairman)  
Councillor: C. Legg (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:** K. Armstrong-Braun, J.B. Attridge, S.R Baker, D. Barratt, G.H Bateman, R.C Bithell, C.S. Carver, Mrs J.C. Cattermoul, E.G. Cooke, D.L. Cox, Mrs A.J. Davies-Cooke, A.G. Diskin, C.J. Dolphin, B. Dunn, Mrs C.A. Ellis, E.F. Evans, J.E. Falshaw, Ms E.V. Gay, F. Gilmore, R.J.T. Guest, Miss A.M. Halford, R.G. Hampson, P.G. Heesom, R. Hughes, Mrs N. Humphreys, G. James, R. Johnson, Mrs C.M. Jones, R.B. Jones, Mrs S. Jones, R.P. Macfarlane, D.I. Mackie, Mrs D.L. Mackie, Mrs N.M. Matthews, Mrs H.J. McGuill, Mrs A. Minshull, W. Mullin, T. Newhouse, E.W. Owen, M.J. Peers, P.R. Pemberton, N. Phillips, H.G. Roberts, L.A. Sharps, A.P. Shotton, N.R. Steele-Mortimer, Mrs C.A. Thomas, W.O. Thomas, A. Woolley, M.G. Wright and Ms H. Yale.

**APOLOGIES:**

**Councillors:** L.A. Aldridge, P.J Curtis, Mrs G.D Diskin, G. Hardcastle, Mrs. C. Hinds, H.T. Howorth, H.T Isherwood, M.A. Reece, I.B. Roberts, and D.T. Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive, Director of Lifelong Learning, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and head of Committee, Member and Electoral Services.

**142. PRAYERS**

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman's Chaplain, the Reverend Anthapursha conducted prayers.

**143. CONFERMENT OF THE FREEDOM OF THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE UPON THE ROYAL WELSH**

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services read out the following motion that was to be put to the Council:-

"That in recognition of the glorious achievements of the Royal Welsh and its predecessor regiments, its continued association with the County of Flintshire and in special appreciation of remembrance of men and women from Flintshire who serve or who have served in the said regiments that:

The freedom of the County of Flintshire is conferred upon the Royal Welsh

and thereby the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the County of Flintshire on all ceremonial occasions with colours flying, bayonets fixed and drums beating”.

The Chairman of the County Council emphasised that this was a most important day in the life of Flintshire County Council and the Council was gathered together to honour a proud regiment with a very proud history. He referred to one of the predecessor Authority's, Delyn Borough Council, which on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1976 had honoured the Royal Welch Fusiliers with the Freedom of the Borough. He referred to the history of the constituent regiments which had come together to form the Royal Welsh and to the tradition in North Wales and particularly in Flintshire of regarding the Royal Welch Fusiliers as its own regiment and he felt sure that this feeling would continue to the Royal Welsh.

The Chairman had great pleasure in proposing the motion and offered his best wishes to the regiment in the difficult posting that it was to face later in the year.

The Vice-Chairman seconded the motion.

Councillor A. Woolley, as the Leader of the Council, said he was honoured to speak and to support the motion and to express his appreciation of the regiment and its history.

Councillor A.P. Shotton, on behalf of the Labour Group, supported this highest honour and referred to the County Council at its meeting in February 2008 which, in principle, had supported the granting of the Freedom of the County to the regiment. He expressed his appreciation of the work undertaken by Mike Thomas in the organisation of the Freedom Ceremony.

Councillor P.G. Heesom, on behalf of the Independent Group, supported the motion.

Councillor R. Baker, on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group, supported the comments made by the previous speakers and supported the motion.

Councillor N.R. Steele-Mortimer, on behalf of the Conservative Group, was also pleased to speak in support of the motion.

The Chairman then asked the County Council to vote on the motion and on being put to the vote it was AGREED unanimously.

The Chairman then presented Colonel G. Wheeler with a framed scroll which set out the motion agreed by the Council.

Colonel Wheeler thanked the Chairman for the presentation and thanked the Council for granting the Freedom of the County of Flintshire upon the Royal Welsh. He explained that the Royal Welsh had been established on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006 but had met significant challenges in its short life and its soldiers had responded with great leadership. As mentioned by the Chairman, there was a bond between the regiment and the County of Flintshire. The granting of the

Freedom was an honour and privilege and it was important to note that those soldiers serving abroad were very appreciative of the support that they were receiving. On behalf of the regiment he then presented a framed symbol of the regiment to the Chairman.

The Chairman thanked the Colonel for this gift and this would be displayed in the Council Chamber. The Chairman also reported that the County Council's action was supported by many of the Town and Community Councils throughout Flintshire and a number of their Chairmen and representatives were present at the Council meeting and he thanked them for their attendance. In addition, a number of Flintshire schools were represented and all these representatives would be in attendance at the ceremony to be held later at the Mold Alun School.

**144. DURATION OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and ended at 10.25 am.

**145. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE.**

There were three members of press and thirty-three members of the public in attendance.

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**Chairman**

**SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT**

<b>FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	<b>DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MIN. NO. REFERS</b>
NO DECLARATIONS WERE MADE		