

**Kirton in Lindsey Town Council**  
**Minutes of the Annual Town Assembly 2007 at the Town Hall, Kirton in Lindsey**  
**on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm**

**Present -** Cllrs Frankish, Ranyell, Hinks, Bray, Cossey, Poole, Startin  
C Neal (Clerk)  
Representatives of KLASSIC, KLEO, KLRP, DJTH, Huntcliff School, Exhibition  
Endowment Foundation, WI, Kirton in Lindsey Society, Kirton First, UMC

**1. Apologies**

Apologies received from Cllrs Bindon and Gilmour.

**2. Minutes of the Annual Town Assembly 2006**

Proposed as a true record Cllr Ranyell, sec. Cllr Hinks – unanimous.

**3. Town Accounts for 2006/7**

Proposed to accept Cllr Cossey, sec Cllr Bray – unanimous.

**4. Parochial Registered Charities**

**4.1 The Green and Market Place**

The Clerk reported that there had been very little activity as regards The Green and Market Place. The Green continued to benefit by maintenance paid for by KLTC and was well used by residents of all ages. Daffodils had been planted by pupils of Huntcliff School in the autumn and further floral displays were to be looked into to further enhance the area.

**4.2 War Memorial and Garden of Edward Elmhurst Duckering**

The War Memorial was as ever well maintained and the Remembrance Day service had once again been successful. The Clerk was looking into the adding of the names of those who had died in recent conflicts and would report back accordingly.

**4.3 Poor's Close Charity**

The charity continued to receive a small but steady income from agricultural rent on land owned by the charity on Ings Road. The Clerk and two councillors had recently attended a course on new charity law and further to this would be looking into updating the objects of the charity so that the income could be used to benefit the people of the town.

**4.5 Torksey Charity**

Patrick Ranyell reported that a meeting had been held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2007 to elect officers of the Charity. Patrick Ranyell was re-elected as Chair and Dr Pat Frankish as Secretary. Income was still being received from agricultural rent and from interest in COIF Charity Funds administered by CCLA investment management. The Annual Return had been submitted and accepted in January and balances of the accounts were as follows – Current account - £10.93, Deposit Account - £9275.29. Patrick Ranyell also reported that he had accessed the Charity Investment Fund, and that 300.34 units were held at a value of 1146.58 pence per unit, giving a total value of the units at the end of 2006 as £4452.63, a gain of £292.34 on the previous year.

**5. Reports were made by the following:**

- 5.1 Kirton in Lindsey Society**
- 5.2 Exhibition Endowment Foundation**
- 5.3 Relief in Need**
- 5.4 Women's Institute**
- 5.5 KLASSIC**
- 5.6 KLRP**
- 5.7 Huntcliff School**
- 5.8 Kirton In Lindsey Primary School**
- 5.9 Churches Together**
- 5.10 DJTH**
- 5.11 Kirton First**

**6. Seasonal Lights**

**7. Kirton in Bloom**

**8. Ward Councillor's Report**

## **9. The Mayor's Report**

First of all I wish to thank the Council for the Honour of serving as Mayor for the past twelve months. I have done my best to be an ambassador for the Town and have accepted nearly all the invitations we have received from our neighbouring Towns and Principal Authorities. It has become clear to me that Kirton is very much on the edge of things. This is unavoidable from a geographical point of view, but we seem to have become almost invisible in Civic and administration terms. I hope that we will continue in the coming year to build more bridges and to become part of the mainstream of Civic activities and pride. My daughter, Amanda Jacques has served as my Consort and I thank her for this. We have become more visible in the local newspaper and are now often asked to give an opinion on things that happen in Kirton. Thanks are due to Patrick Ranyell for reliably sending a report on what is happening. As part of the move towards Quality Status for the Council we have regularly reported via the Kirton First.

It has been a pleasure to hear from the various organisations in the Town. The Council supports all community activity, either financially or with moral support. This year has seen advances with the Town Hall plan and the beginnings of progress towards developing a sports facility. Both of these are welcomed and the Council has supported them as well as it is able. The Town Council has few powers to assist but has done so when it can. I personally would like to thank my fellow councillors for their considered debate on all issues.

I am sure everyone has noticed that the Town is in need of a face-lift. The Council is taking a lead in trying to increase Civic pride and to make Kirton more beautiful. Progress is slow. Over the past three years we have added litter bins, dog bins and more flower-beds. This year we have entered the Britain in Bloom competition and we look forward to receiving support from the organisation to achieve the aim of a town full of flowers and empty of litter. This will require efforts from everyone if we are to see clean streets, weed-free property frontages and an array of colour. Thanks to Geoffrey Cossey for taking a lead with this issue.

Last December saw another successful Light Switch-On. Congratulations to the organisers for making it all come together. You will know from the Kirton First that the legal constraints on the lights are growing all the time, making the cost significant. We need to decide, very soon, if we are going to try to continue to develop the lights, or have a more limited display, perhaps of lit trees, which would bring the cost down and create less heat. I hope you will contribute to the debate and assist the Council in coming to the best decision. Thanks to Jim Bray and Cate Neal for all the hard work and dedication to the cause.

Of course, the Town Council is a formal body and very dependant on the Clerk to ensure that it operates legally and that all the tasks are completed. Cate has now been with us for a year and I would like to thank her publicly for the support she has given. She had no previous experience of Town Council work and she has taken on the role with enthusiasm and competence. Thank you, Cate. You may have noticed that she was Cate Cowell and is now Cate Neal so congratulations also on your recent marriage.

The Council has successfully established committees to conduct business in more detail. These are Planning, Quality Status, Leisure and Recreation and personnel and disciplinary. These committees have met monthly or as required and far more business has been addressed. Issues of Governance and Probity are given more attention and this is to be welcomed. Thank you to all the Councillors who have served on the committees.

Membership of the Town Council has fluctuated over the past four years. There were only seven of us in May 2003 and we have only briefly had 14 at some points on this last year. Only three of the original seven remain. It is to be hoped that the next four years will see more stability of membership and a co-operative effort to move the Town forward. I welcome the new members who will form the new Council in May.

The Town Council represents the people of Kirton and as such is charged with pursuing the aims of the Townspeople. It is sometimes difficult to secure the views of the Town and I urge you all to take part in any consultation that you can.

Thank you again for coming to this meeting and bringing your reports.