

ARTICLE 5

THE MAYOR AND CHAIR OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

5.1 Role and function of the Mayor/Chair of the Council Business

The Mayor is the first citizen of the Borough. In his/her absence, the Deputy Mayor takes on that role. The business of Council shall be chaired by the Chair of Council Business.

5.1.1 Role and Function of the Mayor

The Mayor, and in his/her absence, the Deputy Mayor, will preside over the first and opening part of each Council meeting.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be appointed by the Council in May annually. The Mayor will be appointed in accordance with the Nomination of Mayor Protocol. The Mayor (and Deputy Mayor in his or her absence) will have the following responsibilities:-

1. To uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary;
2. To promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
3. To be the conscience of the Council;
4. As the first citizen of High Peak to deal with his/her ambassadorial role both inside and outside the Borough;
5. To market the High Peak in a positive manner; and
6. To attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council or s/he determines appropriate.

The Mayor has precedence within the Borough but not so as to affect His Majesty's royal prerogative. Where a Borough matter is the purpose of a royal visit to the county, the Mayor will take precedence. On other official royal visits, the order of precedence places the Chair of the County Council before the Mayor.

The Mayor is a symbol of the Council, especially its continuity, through the insignia of the robes and chain of office.

The Mayor is a symbol of an open society as the choice of mayor is no longer restricted to those with wealth and connections.

The Mayor is an expression of social cohesion through the many engagements undertaken in the communities of the Borough.

5.1.2 Role and Function of the Chair of Council Business

The Mayor (or other person presiding over the first and opening part of each Council meeting). The Chair of Council Business to preside over the business aspects of the agenda.

The Chair of Council Business will have the following responsibilities:

1. to preside over meetings of the Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of Councillors and the interests of the community;
2. to ensure that the Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters or concern to the local community and the place at which Members who are not on the Executive are able to hold the Executive to account;

The Chair of Council Business is elected by the Council in May each year.