

## **Article 5 – The Mayor and Chairing the Council**

### **Role and function of the Mayor**

- 5.1 The Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be elected annually from among the Councillors. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor will hold office until the following annual meeting of the council unless s/he resigns or becomes disqualified.
- 5.2 The election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor shall be the first business transacted at the annual meeting of the council.
- 5.3 The Mayor (and in his/her absence, the Deputy Mayor) will have the following responsibilities:
- To uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution and to interpret the Constitution when necessary with advice from the Monitoring Officer if required;
  - 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; the Deputy Mayor will preside in the absence of the Mayor;
  - To ensure that the Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community;
  - To promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
  - To attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council and he/she determine appropriate in carrying out his/her duties as first citizen of the borough;
  - The Mayor as First Citizen can send, where appropriate, messages of condolence and congratulation.