



# ABINGDON-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL

## Mayor Making Civic Ceremony Monday 18 May 2026

Please refer to the Annual meeting main minutes for details of attendees

### 1. Prayers

Opening prayers were led by The Revd Dr Jennifer Brown.

### 2. Outgoing Mayor's announcements including Mayor's Awards

The outgoing Mayor, Cllr Rawda Jehanli, announcements:

#### (i) **The Mayor's Awards for services to the community**

Each year since 1996 the Mayor has presented awards to those who have given outstanding service to the community of Abingdon-on-Thames. This year the Mayor will present awards as follows:

- Hilton Garden Inn
- Crown & Thistle Hotel
- Philip Bingham                      Manager, Abingdon Food Bank
- Martin Richards                      Scouts
- Holly Freeland                      The Abingdon Bridge

#### (ii) **Certificates for Mayor's cadets**

Certificates were awarded to the outgoing Mayor's Cadets.

- (i) Army:
- (ii) Air Force:
- (iii) Girl guides:
- (iv) Scouts:

(iii) **The Mayor's charities**

The Mayor raised a total of £6302.26 for her nominated charity, Occtopus – Oxford Colon Cancer Trust (figure as of 13 May 2026).

(iv) **Mayor's Chaplain**

The Mayor thanked the Mayor's Chaplain.

- Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson

3. **Election of Mayor**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Lonergan and **seconded** by Cllr Munarajah that Cllr Andrew Skinner be elected as Mayor for the civic year 2026-27. There were no other nominations, and the election of Cllr Skinner was **AGREED** unanimously.

The Mayor then received the Mayoral robes and chain of office and made and signed the statutory declaration of office.

The Mayor announced his escort for the year, who received the Mayor's Escort badge.

The Mayor's Escort for 2026-27: Janfarie Skinner

4. **Election of Deputy Mayor**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Halliday and **seconded** by Cllr Giddins that Cllr Victoria Walker be elected as Deputy-Mayor for the civic year 2026-27. There were no other nominations, and the election of Cllr Walker was **AGREED** unanimously.

The Deputy Mayor then received her badge of office and made and signed the statutory declaration of office.

The Deputy Mayor announced her escort for the year, who received the Deputy Mayor's Escort badge.

The Mayor's Escort for 2026-27: Robert Bough

5. **Vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor**

A vote of thanks was made to the retiring Mayor, Cllr Rawda Jehanli.

The past Mayor then received a Past Mayor's badge.

6. **Announcements by the Mayor**

The Mayor, Cllr Rawda Jehanli announced:

(a) the Mayor's Chaplain(s) for 2026-27;

- Revd Dr Jennifer Brown

(b) the Mayor's Army, Air Force, Girl Guides, Scouts and TVP cadets for 2026-27 and presented them with a badge of office;

- (i) Army Cadet:
- (ii) Air Cadet:
- (iii) Girl guides:
- (iv) Scouts:
- (v) TVP Cadet:

(c) the Mayor's Charity for 2026-27.

- Abingdon Music Centre

## 7. **Closing Prayers**

Closing prayers were said by the Mayor's Chaplain, Revd Dr Jennifer Brown.

## 8. **The National Anthem**

The attendees rose and sang the National Anthem, accompanied by Abingdon Town Band.