

19th March 2025

At the Court of Wardmote held at the The Parish Hall, the Bishopsgate London EC2M 3TL before Alderwoman Martha Grekos, Alderwoman of the Ward of Castle Baynard.

The Lord Mayor's Precept was read by the Honorary Ward Clerk.

The Alderwoman welcomed electors and Common Councilmen to this election Wardmote.

Minutes of the previous Wardmote of 20th March 2024 having previously been circulated, were unanimously approved by this Wardmote.

A vote of thanks was duly recorded for the two retiring Common Councillors, Wendy Hyde and Andrew Mayer and the two Beadles, Joseph Akoto Mensah for the Ward Within and James Shrubbs for the Ward Without.

The six nominations for the office of Common Councillor were read in accordance with the Statement of Nominations.

The six candidates were given two minutes each to address the Ward and each candidate outlined their own activities and involvement in the Ward and the City and emphasised the cooperation and support between Councillors of this Ward. The two new candidates, being Simon Burrows and Karina Dostalova spoke respectively about his professional work in the Ward and her previous involvement with the Ward of Farringdon Within. Thereafter all candidates were invited by the Alderwoman to answer questions from the electors present

A question was raised by Michel-Pierre Flipo in relation to problems with mobile phone reception within the Ward and answers provided including reference to the small cell network being trialled at 22 Bishopsgate.

A further question was raised by Adrian Hood in relation to City Open Spaces and in particular the progress with the official opening of Jubilee Gardens. The anticipated official date being scheduled for July this year. Since the Wardmote Deputy Ben Murphy has followed this up with Mr Hood and confirmed that in fact they should be available for use in April. Concern was also expressed by two electors about progress regarding the regeneration of Liverpool Street Station and its potential effects on light and other amenities affected in the area. However it was noted that detailed plans had yet to be tabled, so that it was too early for

constructive comments to be made. Simon Duckworth also made the point that in order to have a modern station coping with the heavy traffic involved then compromises would become necessary but electors views would be taken into account.

There being six candidates validly nominated for six places the Alderwoman declared that the following six candidates were duly elected:-

Simon Jonathan Mark BURROWS
Karina DOSTALOVA
Simon DUCKWORTH
Shravan Jashvantraï JOSHI
Benjamin Daniel MURPHY
Tom SLEIGH

The persons elected then made their Declarations and Undertakings before the Presiding Alderwoman.

The Presiding Alderwoman firstly proposed a vote of thanks for the retiring Deputies, Simon Duckworth and Shravan Joshi which was unanimously carried and on instructions from Alderman Kawsar Zaman of this Ward, appointed Deputies for the ensuing year, being Tom Sleigh for the Ward Within and Benjamin Murphy for the Ward Without.

As a result of these appointments it was also necessary to adjust the remaining Common Councillors between the two Wards as follows:-

<u>Ward Within</u>	<u>Ward Without</u>
Tom Sleigh Deputy	Benjamin Murphy Deputy
Simon Duckworth	Shravan Joshi
Karina Dostalova	Simon Burrows

The Presiding Alderwoman on instructions from Alderman Kawsar Zaman of this Ward, then appointed Mr T R Morris as Honorary Ward Clerk for the ensuing year.

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The Presiding Alderwoman on instructions from Alderman Kawsar Zaman of this Ward, then nominated two persons to be Ward Beadles being Christopher Watson for the Ward Within and Aniru Shyllon for the Ward Without and they were unanimously elected by the voters in attendance at this Wardmote.

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The Return to Precept was duly completed by the Presiding Alderwoman and Honorary Ward Clerk in order that it might be delivered to the Town Clerk's office together with the six completed Declarations and Undertakings after conclusion of this Wardmote.

Turning to the General Business of the Ward, Deputy Ben Murphy proposed a draft resolution to be put to the Ward. The Presiding Alderwoman having previously ruled that insufficient notice of this proposal had been given, nevertheless permitted him to read his resolution and canvass the views of those electors in attendance.

The resolution was read as follows:-

“This Wardmote resolves to request the City of London Corporation to re-introduce Ward Newsletters to help engage with the wide range of businesses, residents and students in Bishopsgate on the topics which matter to them most” Three of the electors present spoke in favour of this proposal and as none opposed it, the resolution was carried.

It was proposed by Deputy Benjamin Murphy and seconded by Adrian Hood that these proceedings be advertised by public notice of the candidates elected.

There being no further questions Deputy Benjamin Murphy then proposed a vote of thanks to the Alderwoman for her courtesy and ability in presiding at these proceedings and this was seconded by Chris Porter and unanimously approved.

The Alderwoman replied with her thanks and requested that the Honorary Ward Clerk pass on our thanks to the Rector for the use of the Parish Hall.

There being no further business The Presiding Alderwoman duly closed the Wardmote at 1.20pm
