

Court of Common Council

Great Hall, Guildhall

Thursday 13th October 2022

The Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Vincent Keaveny

Agenda Item 6: Vote of thanks

Thank you very much indeed to Deputy Holmes and to all my colleagues on the Court for your very kind vote of thanks.

And indeed, thank you all for your support and friendship through my mayoral year.

After the restrictions of recent times, it has been great to be able to get the Mayoral show back on the road this year – from the Lord Mayor’s show itself, to the overseas visits, to our traditional civic events.

I am proud of what we have been able to achieve for the *People and Purpose* agenda, and look forward to continuing this after I leave office.

In this mayoralty, I really feel I have been walking through history, and I am very proud of the part played by the City of London in these moments of history.

My heartfelt thanks to Amanda – and indeed, India – for their love and support over the last year.

My congratulations to Alderman Nicholas Lyons on his election as my successor – I know he will be a great Lord Mayor.

And finally, may I congratulate the two new Sheriffs, and welcome them and their consorts here for their first Court of Common Council in office.

Thank you.

Item 8: Mayoral update

Honourable Members, on the day of September's Court of Common Council meeting, we learned the sad news of the death of Her Late Majesty the Queen.

So much of historical significance has happened in this last month.

The Sheriffs and I had the honour of attending the Accession Council for King Charles III, and then taking part in the City Proclamation for our new King on the steps of the Royal Exchange.

I also had the honour of attending Her Late Majesty's funeral at Westminster Abbey.

I would like to put on record my thanks to all the City of London officers, Members and volunteers who worked so hard over that period and who showed the City of London at its best.

Last week, the Lord Mayor Elect and I visited the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

We were pleased to attend the Climate Resilience Insurance Summit in Dubai and to meet the UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment, discussing how the UK's sustainable finance sector can work with the UAE on its green transition.

We met the Governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority and other Saudi finance leaders to discuss how UK financial and professional services can work with Saudi Arabia on its Vision 2030 reform programme.

And in Kuwait, we met the Minister of Finance and visited Kuwait's Investment Authority and stock exchange, underlining the strong relationship between Kuwait and the UK.

Before that, I was delighted to visit India and to speak at the Global Fintech Festival in Mumbai, highlighting the many opportunities for collaboration between the flourishing fintech ecosystems of India and the UK.

India is well on the way to being Asia's top fintech hub, and there are many opportunities for UK companies - many of whom already have strong links to India.

I also had an insightful discussion with the chair of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, focused on India's approach to sustainable finance and capital markets.

I visited a number of innovative firms in Bangalore, which is building a reputation as "the Silicon Valley of India", and chaired a roundtable on supporting the participation of women in fintech.

Back in the Square Mile, the Sheriffs and I enjoyed taking part in the annual City Giving Day – my thanks to everyone who helped raise money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal and its Charities.

That same night, Mansion House became the House of the Dragon, as I hosted the annual Dragon Awards alongside Tim Campbell, recognising those businesses who are supporting their communities and boosting opportunity across London.

Once again, my thanks to all Members and officers who have made these successes possible, over the last month and over the past year.

I look forward to seeing the Policy Chairman and other Members at the Golden Key on Saturday.

Thank you.