

## EDITED TRANSCRIPT OF THE CHARTER OF INCORPORATION

**Victoria, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these presents shall come greeting:**

Whereas, it was enacted, that if the inhabitant householders of any town or borough in England or Wales should petition Us to grant them a Charter of Incorporation, it should be lawful for Us, if We should think fit, by the advice of Our Privy Council, to grant the same, to extend to the inhabitants of any such town or borough within the district, to be set forth in such Charter, all the powers and provisions of an Act for the Regulation of Municipal Authorities passed in the session of Parliament held in the fifth and sixth years of His late Majesty King William the Fourth.

... And whereas after the passing of the said Act, the inhabitant householders of the town of Wrexham (comprising the respective townships of Wrexham Abbot and Wrexham Regis, and such part of the townships of Esclusham below as is surrounded by those townships or one of them), in the county of Denbigh, did petition Us to grant to the inhabitants of the said town a Charter of Incorporation;

... And whereas afterwards Our Privy Council did proceed to consider the said petition, and having fully considered it, have advised Us to grant a Charter of Incorporation to the inhabitants of the said town of Wrexham, within the limits of the Parliamentary Borough of Wrexham, in the said county of Denbigh,

We do hereby grant and declare that the inhabitants of the said town within the said district, and their successors, shall be for ever hereafter a body politic and corporate, in deed, fact and name, and that the said body corporate shall be called "The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Wrexham", ... And We do grant to the said body corporate ... all the Acts, powers, authorities, immunities and privileges, which are now held and enjoyed, done and suffered, by the several boroughs named in the Schedules to the said Act for regulating municipal corporations in England and Wales,

...And We further will, grant and declare that the said mayor, aldermen and burgesses of the borough of Wrexham, and their successors, shall and may for ever hereafter have a common seal to serve them in transacting their business; and also shall and may use and assume armorial bearings and devices, which shall be duly entered and enrolled in the Heralds' College: And We further will, grant and declare that the said mayor, aldermen and burgesses shall be able and capable in law to purchase, take and acquire lands, tenement and hereditaments and all other possessions whatsoever to any value situate, lying and being within the said district: And also to purchase, take and acquire lands, tenements and hereditaments, and all other possessions elsewhere out of the said district, not exceeding the sum of five thousand pounds by the year

...And We further will, grant and declare that the Council of the said borough of Wrexham shall consist of a mayor, four aldermen and twelve councillors.

...And we further will, grant and declare that Our trusty and well-beloved John Lewis, of the said borough of Wrexham, gentleman, do on the third day of October, in this present year, make out an alphabetical list, to be called "The Burgess List", of all persons who shall possess the title and qualification required by the said Act of burgesses of the said borough of Wrexham as aforesaid, and shall cause a copy of such burgess list to be fixed on or near the door of the building called "The Wrexham Town Hall".,

...And we do hereby direct the said John Lewis, or the said John James (whichever of them may be acting in the premises), to make out a burgess roll, in alphabetical order, of the burgesses of the said borough, and to cause such burgess roll to be completed on or before the thirty-first day of October in the present year: And that such burgess roll shall be the burgess roll of the burgesses of the said borough, entitled to vote in the choice of councillors, assessors and auditors of the said borough.

...And We further will, grant and declare that the first election of the mayor, aldermen, councillors, auditors and assessors for the said borough, shall be respectively holden as follows (that is to say): The first election of councillors for the said borough shall be holden on the fifth day of November, in the present year.

...And that the first election of auditors and assessors for the said borough shall take place on the first day of March in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight: And we do hereby appoint our trusty and well-beloved James Buckton of the borough of Wrexham aforesaid, gentleman, and in case of his death, inability, incapacity, refusal or default, then our trusty and well-beloved, Thomas Edgworth of the borough of Wrexham aforesaid, gentleman, to act as returning office at such first election of mayor, aldermen and councillors, auditors and assessors of the said borough.

...In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent Witness Ourself at Our Palace at Westminster, this twenty-third day of September, in the twenty-first year of Our Reign.

**By Her Majesty's command, EDMUNDS**

You can read the full text of the charter in its original English at the A.N.Palmer Centre.