

FOR PUBLICATION

HONORARY ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN

MEETING: 1. CABINET
2. CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE

DATE: 1. 30 JUNE 2015
2. 22 JUNE 2015

REPORT BY: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER

WARD: ALL

COMMUNITY ASSEMBLIES ALL

FOR PUBLICATION

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR PUBLIC REPORTS: None

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To enable the Cabinet to consider proposals to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman on former Members of the Borough Council.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That an extraordinary meeting of the Council be held to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Jim McManus on Monday 6 July 2015, at 6.00pm.

2.2 That a further extraordinary meeting of the Council be held in September, 2015 to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on any further former Councillors that are nominated by the Leader of the Council.

2.3 That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements including approval to the resourcing of the two events at an estimated cost of £4,500.00.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 permits the Borough Council to confer the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman on former Members of the Council who have, in its opinion, rendered eminent services to it. After the Honorary Freedom of the Borough it is the highest honour the Council can bestow.

3.2 Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 was amended in 2009 to include the title of 'Honorary Alderwoman'.

3.3 The conferment of the title requires the convening of a Special Council Meeting and a two-thirds majority of the Members voting at the meeting.

3.4 Since Local Government Reorganisation in 1974, the Borough Council has conferred the title of Honorary Alderman/ Alderwoman on the following former Members of the Council:

- Walter Everett in 1980
- Harry Haywood in 1987
- M G Caulfield in 2004
- R Jepson in 2004
- D A Wain in 2004
- T E Whyatt in 2004
- AS Qazi in 2011
- June Beckingham in 2011
- T Kendellen in 2011
- M Leverton in 2011

4.0 MAJORITY GROUP'S PROPOSAL

- 4.1 It is understood that the Majority Group wishes to recognise the eminent services rendered to the Council by former Councillors by conferring upon each of them the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman.
- 4.2 Former Councillor McManus and his family have been contacted and he is happy to accept the title of Honorary Alderman.
- 4.3 The Leader of the Majority Group is currently consulting on proposals to offer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on other former councillors.
- 4.4 It is suggested that an extraordinary meeting of the Council be held to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Jim McManus on Monday 6 July and that a further extraordinary meeting of the Council be arranged for September, 2015 for any further proposed recipients of the title Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman. Each of the meetings will be followed by a civic reception at the Town Hall.

5.0 RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

- 5.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A supplementary budget provision in the region of £4,500.00 will be required to be approved in respect of resourcing the two events.

7.0 EQUALITIES CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That an extraordinary meeting of the Council be held to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Jim McManus on Monday 6 July 2015, at 6.00pm.

- 8.2 That a further extraordinary meeting of the Council be held in September, 2015 to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on any further former Councillors that are nominated by the Leader of the Council.
- 8.3 That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements including approval to the resourcing of the two events at an estimated cost of £4,500.00.

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 To recognise the eminent services rendered to the Council by former Councillor Jim McManus.
- 9.2 To recognise the eminent services rendered to the Council by other long serving and distinguished former councillors.

SANDRA ESSEX
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER

Further information on this matter can be obtained from Martin Elliott
(01246 345236)

Officer recommendation supported

S.L. Blank.

Signed

Cabinet Member

Date 22.6.2015

Assistant Cabinet Member comments (if applicable)/declaration of interests