

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **General Purposes and Licensing Committee**

Date: 14th March 2012

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS AN HONORARY ALDERMEN**

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Resources

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 To agree a nomination for appointment as an Honorary Aldermen for consideration by a special meeting of the Council.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **That the former Councillor Peter Bloomfield be nominated to the Council for appointment as an Honorary Aldermen.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy. The Council has adopted a Scheme for the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen which allows the appointment to be made for former Members who have, in the view of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council as past Members of the Council.
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council .
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated cost. There is presently no specific budget available, but any costs will be modest and can be contained within existing budgets.
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Representation
 4. Total current budget for this head: £1,180,570
 5. Source of funding: Existing 2011/12 revenue budgets.
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: It is estimated that less than 2 hours would be spent on dealing with the current nomination.
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: No statutory requirement or Government guidance. Discretionary - Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.
 2. Call-in: Call-in is not applicable. The report does not involve an Executive decision.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Members and former Members of Bromley Council who may meet, or at a future point meet, the eligibility criteria.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The Council on 17th March 2008 approved the Scheme of Enrolment of Honorary Alderman. A copy of the Scheme is attached as **Appendix 1**. The first appointments as Honorary Aldermen in Bromley were made and celebrated at a special Council Meeting held on 23rd June 2008, and subsequently further appointments were made by the Council at a special meeting on 19th May 2010, before the annual meeting.
- 3.2 In 2010, the list of nominees had originally included former Councillor Peter Bloomfield, but he had been ineligible because of his intention to stand in the May 2010 local elections. As a former councillor, Mr Bloomfield is now eligible to be appointed as an Honorary Alderman, having given distinguished service to the Council as member for Darwin Ward for twenty-eight years (1982-2010) and served as Vice Chairman of the Development Control Committee and as a Chairman of Plans Sub-Committees for many years.
- 3.3 A letter has been sent to Mr Bloomfield formally inviting him to accept appointment as an Honorary Aldermen.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy/Financial/Legal/Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	None

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

**HONORARY ALDERMAN
SCHEME OF ENROLMENT**

1. Qualifications Required for Enrolment

A person shall be deemed to be eligible for consideration to be nominated to the position of Honorary Alderman if he or she:

- i) has rendered a minimum of 12 years service as a member of the London Borough of Bromley; and
- ii) has rendered eminent, or notable, service generally or by service as Mayor, or a Chairman of a major Council Committee or holding one or more senior positions on the council in any political group.

2. Method of Enrolment

- 2.1 Applications for nomination as an Honorary Alderman shall be made by a Member of the Council and submitted, in writing, to the Director of Legal & Democratic Services for consideration by the General Purposes Committee.
- 2.2 Prior to the submission of any application for nomination, the person nominated shall be asked by the Member nominating him or her if he or she is willing to accept nomination for enrolment as an Honorary Alderman.
- 2.3 Election to the position of Honorary Alderman shall be by a resolution of the Council, passed on the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee, by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose by the Mayor with notice of the object.
- 2.4 Following the election of a person to the position of Honorary Alderman, the Director of Legal & Democratic Services will arrange for the name of the person to be admitted to the Roll of Honorary Aldermen, which shall be established for such purpose.

3. Rights and Privileges

- 3.1 An Honorary Alderman shall be entitled to the following rights and privileges:
 - i) to enjoy the courtesy title of "Honorary Alderman" and to be addressed as such;
 - ii) to attend as an observer at meetings of the Council or any other meetings to which the press and public are admitted and to have a seat reserved for this purpose;
 - iii) on request, to receive a copy of the Council Summons and Agenda and a copy of the Council's Year Book.
 - iv) to review invitations to all Civic events to which members of the Council are invited;
 - v) to walk in Civic Processions in a position immediately senior to serving Members;
 - vi) to wear the Badge of Office of Honorary Alderman on Civic occasions.

- vii) on death, to have the Borough flag flown at the Civic Centre at half mast.
 - viii) to enjoy such other privileges as the Council may confer upon them from time to time.
- 3.2 In the event of an Honorary Alderman resuming membership of the council, he or she shall cease to be entitled to be addressed as “Honorary Alderman” or to attend or take part in any Civic ceremonies of the Council as an Honorary Alderman.
- 3.3 It shall be competent for the Council in any particular case to withdraw the title of “Honorary Alderman” and the attached rights and privileges on the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee. Such withdrawal of the title shall be by resolution of the Council, passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose by the Mayor. On the passing of such resolution, the Chief Executive shall delete the name of the person concerned from the Roll of Honorary Aldermen and advise that person accordingly.