

PART 1 - PUBLIC

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

Date: **7 April 2010**

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

Title: **NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT AS HONORARY
ALDERMEN**

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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Legal, Democratic and Customer Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 To agree nominees for appointment as Honorary Aldermen for consideration at the special meeting of the Council to be held on 19th May 2010.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **That the individuals listed in Appendix 2 to this report (former Councillor Mrs Ingrid Buckley, Councillor Mrs Jenny Hillier, Councillor Mrs Carole Hubbard, Councillor Gordon Jenkins, former Councillor Maurice Kenward and former Councillor Arthur Wilkinson) be nominated to the Council for appointment as 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 budget available. However, given the modest number of appointments likely and the linking of the Appointment Ceremony to the Annual Council meeting, costs are not likely to exceed £1,000 which can be contained within existing budgets.
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: N/A
 4. Total current budget for this head: £N/A
 5. Source of funding: Existing 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 20 hours would be spent on dealing with current nominations.
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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 to this report (Appendix 1). The first appointments as Honorary Aldermen in Bromley had been made and celebrated at a Special Council Meeting held on 23rd June 2008.
- 3.2 It had subsequently been agreed that, in the lead up to the 2010 Local Elections, consideration would be given as to whether or not further appointments should be made as Honorary Aldermen.
- 3.3 At the last meeting of this Committee (Minute 111 – 16.2.10) it was agreed that, inter alia,
- “(i) further nominations be invited from the three Party Groups for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen, the nominations to be submitted to the Chairman (or the Director of Legal, Democratic and Customer Services);
 - (ii) the five-Member Working Group (based on proportionality) comprising Councillors Canvin, Getgood, Owen, Toms and Wells be reappointed to consider nominations for the conferment of the title of “Honorary Alderman” and to make recommendations thereon to this Committee’s meeting on 7th April 2010;
 - (iii) the Party Group Leaders may agree (acting jointly) further nominations to be submitted to the Director of Legal, Democratic and Customer Services following the Council Elections, if necessary;
 - (iv) the Appointment Ceremony of Honorary Aldermen for the Municipal Year 2010/11 be held at a special meeting of the Council convened immediately before the Annual Council Meeting on 19th May 2010”.
- 3.4 The Member Working Group met on 9th March 2010 and identified the nominations set out in Appendix 2 to this report as being individuals who merit nomination for appointment as Honorary Aldermen. The Working Group had also included Councillor Bloomfield amongst the list of nominees but, since the meeting, it has become apparent that Councillor Bloomfield will be standing in the forthcoming Local Elections and, therefore, in accordance with paragraph 3.2 of the Scheme, is ineligible, for the time being, to be considered for the position of “Honorary Alderman”. Councillor Jenkins was also included amongst the list of possible nominees subject to it being ascertained that he will not be contesting any local elections in 2010, and confirmation of this position has subsequently been received.
- 3.5 All nominees have indicated that they would accept appointment as Honorary Aldermen and all have rendered eminent service to the Borough whilst serving as Councillors.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Set out in the summary sheet.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Set out in the summary sheet.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Set out in the summary sheet and the Council's adopted scheme.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	

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.

**NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT
AS HONORARY ALDERMEN**

NAME	LENGTH OF SERVICE AS A COUNCILLOR	POSITIONS HELD
Mrs Ingrid A Buckley	May 1994 – May 2006 Represented Bickley Ward	Mayor; Deputy Mayor
Mrs Jenny Hillier	July 1974 – May 2010 Represented Farnborough/Farnborough and Crofton Ward	Mayor; Deputy Mayor; Deputy/Acting Leader of the Council
Mrs Carole Hubbard	March 1992 – May 2010 Represented West Wickham North/West Wickham Ward	Mayor
Gordon Jenkins	April 1996 – May 2010 Represented Bickley Ward	Chairman of Development Control Committee
Maurice B Kenward	May 1967 – March 1985 Represented Bickley Ward	Mayor; Chairman of General Purposes/Recreation/Social Services Committees
Arthur J Wilkinson	May 1974 – May 1990 Represented Plaistow and Sundridge Ward	Deputy Mayor; Chairman of Finance and Staff (Scrutiny)/ Social Services Committees