

Decision Maker: GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday 5th April 2022

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

Title: HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

Ward: (All Wards)

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 At its meeting on 30th November 2021 the Committee received a report on the award of Honorary freedom of the Borough to Emma Raducanu, a resident of the borough, following her remarkable achievement in winning the US Open Tennis Championship. Members agreed that it would be useful to have some criteria for making future awards, in the same manner as for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen.
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2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. That the Scheme of Enrolment for Honorary Aldermen be approved as amended (Appendix A.)**
- 2. That the proposed Scheme of Enrolment for Honorary Freeman (Appendix B) be approved.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: New Policy:
 2. MBEB Priority: Managing our resources well
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Representation
 4. Total current budget for this head: £1,095k
 5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not Applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Non-executive decisions are not subject to call-in.
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Not Applicable
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 On 18th October 2021 a special meeting of the Council was called to consider a motion to award the Freedom of the Borough to Emma Raducanu, a resident of the borough, to mark her achievements at the Wimbledon and, in particular, the US Open tennis championships. The motion was passed, but officers have been unable to make any progress on making the award with Ms Raducanu's team. The matter was referred to this Committee, which considered the matter on 30th November 2021. The Committee noted the situation with Ms Raducanu, and proposed that a scheme of appointment for awarding the Freedom of the Borough should be drawn up.
- 3.2 The statutory basis for Honorary Freedom derives from a similar provision in the Local Government Act 1972 as for appointing Honorary Aldermen. The Council does have a scheme for Honorary Aldermen, and a scheme for Honorary Freedom will sit well alongside this. The Honorary Alderman Scheme is attached as Appendix A (some minor amendments have been made to the scheme to bring it up to date in terms of Committee and Director titles) and a proposed Honorary Freeman Scheme is attached as Appendix B. This new scheme provides guidance on how an Honorary Freeman can be appointed, and sets out brief criteria and qualifications (in section 1 of the document.) A list of Honorary Aldermen and Honorary Freemen is attached as Appendix C.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Provision for local authorities to appoint honorary aldermen and honorary freemen is contained in section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Finance/Personnel/Procurement
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 Corporate Services and Governance for consideration by the General Purposes and Licensing 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 and Licensing 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 Corporate Services and Governance 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.
 - 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 and Licensing 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.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

**HONORARY FREEMAN
SCHEME OF ENROLMENT**

1. Qualifications Required for Enrolment

1.1 A person shall be deemed to be eligible for consideration to be nominated to the position of Honorary Freeman where –

(a) they have a substantial link to or association with the borough; and

(b) they are persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough that are of substantial and lasting benefit to the Borough and its residents; or

(c) they have achieved distinction in their achievements on the national or international stage.

Normally such service will have been wholly or largely unpaid.

1.2 The award of Freedom of the borough shall not be made to serving or former Members or Officers of the Council except in very exceptional circumstances where their service has been substantially in excess of what would normally be expected.

1.3 The honour of appointment as an Honorary Freeman shall be used sparingly in order not to devalue it.

2. Method of Enrolment

2.1 Applications for nomination as an Honorary Freeman shall be made by a Member of the Council, in writing, to the Director of Corporate Services and Governance for consideration by the General Purposes and Licensing 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 Freeman.

2.3 Election to the position of Honorary Freeman shall be by a resolution of the Council, passed on the recommendation of the General Purposes and Licensing 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 Freeman, the Director of Corporate Services and Governance will arrange for the name of the person to be admitted to the Roll of Honorary Freeman, which shall be established for such purpose.

3. Rights and Privileges

3.1 An Honorary Freeman shall be entitled to the following rights and privileges:

- i) to enjoy the courtesy title of “Honorary Freeman” 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;
- 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 Freeman 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 Freeman being elected to membership of the council, he or she shall cease to be entitled to be addressed as “Honorary Freeman” or to attend or take part in any Civic ceremonies of the Council as an Honorary Freeman.

3.3 It shall be competent for the Council in any particular case to withdraw the title of “Honorary Freeman” and the attached rights and privileges on the recommendation of the General Purposes and Licensing 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 Freemen and advise that person accordingly.

Reg Adams
Douglas Auld (Deceased)
E Dennis Barkway C.B.E.
Peter Bloomfield
Paul Bonter
Dr Eric Bosshard
Joan Bryant
Ingrid Buckley
Roger Charsley
Frank Cooke
David Crowe
Richard Foister (Deceased)
Peter Fookes
Chris Gaster (Posthumous)
John Getgood
David J Harding
David Haslam
Jenny Hillier
John R Holbrook (Deceased)
Carole Hubbard (Deceased)
Brian Humphrys
Gordon Jenkins
Lt Col Philip G Jones OStJ TD DL (Deceased)
Maurice Kenward
Dorothy Laird JP
John A M Lewis (Deceased)
Mrs Anne Manning
Maurice J Mason (Deceased)
David McBride
Ernest Noad
Mike Norris
Sue Polydorou JP M.B.E.
Simon Randall C.B.E.
Brian R Reading
Catherine Rideout
Charles Rideout
George Taylor
Selwyn Ward
Anthony M Wilkinson
Arthur Wilkinson
Peter C Woods (Deceased)
Joan Wykes O.B.E. (Deceased)

Honorary Freemen

James H. Atkins, J.P. (Died 8.6.83) 1965

S. Critchley Auty O.B.E. (Died 26.11.87) 1965
 S.G.W. Baylis (Died 22.7.73) 1965
 T. Boyd Boyd (Died 2.5.70) 1965
 C. Guy Brook (Died 14.2.76) 1965
 Lieutenant-Colonel G.A. Fulcher, O.B.E. (Died 12.1.71) 1965
 W.D. Gibbs (Died 25.9.67) 1965
 Richard S. Jackson (Died 28.2.75) 1965
 Lionel Kaye (Died 24.2.98) 1965
 Samuel Lane, F.C.A. (Died 27.2.79) 1965
 Lord Stockton (Formerly The Rt. Hon.
 Harold Macmillan, M.P., O.M., F.R.S., LL.D.) (Died 29.12.86) 1965
 H.T. Parkin, J.P. (Died 14.2.74) 1965
 Cecil L. Smith, J.P. (Died 30.10.73) 1965
 Sir Robin Knox-Johnston 1969
 T.W. Fagg, D.F.C. (Died 14.3.04) 1971
 F.G.V. Lovell, J.P. (Died 6.9.74) 1974
 R.A. Sanderson, M.B.E., J.P. (Died 8.1.82) 1977
 Royal Air Force, Biggin Hill (Closed 1992) 1980
 K.V. Crask (Died 28.7.97) 1986
 J.F. David (Died 7.11.90) 1986
 Dr. K.J. Randall (Died 2011) 1986
 L.C. Winterton, J.P. (Died 12.6.86) 1986
 Dame Cicely Saunders O.M. (Died 14.7.05) 1987
 Mrs. S. Stead M.B.E. (Died 3.3.94) 1987
 Col. B.R. Wood, O.B.E., S.B. St.J., T.D, D.L. (Died 30.12.07) 1989
 Nigel T. Palk 1995
 E.D. Barkway, C.B.E. 1997
 Richard Lane, O.B.E., F.C.A. 2004
 Stephen L. Carr 2018