

Decision Maker: GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date: 16 February 2023

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

Title: APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

Ward: All

1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 To agree nominees for appointment as Honorary Aldermen for consideration at a special meeting of the Council before the annual meeting on Wednesday 10th May 2023.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That the Committee considers recommendations to Council for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen.
- (2) That a special Council meeting be held on 10th May 2023, before the annual meeting, to appoint Honorary Aldermen.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
-

Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority (delete as appropriate):
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
-

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: There is a small cost for providing badges.
 2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Mayoral Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £172k
 5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget
-

Personnel

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

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Non-executive decisions are not subject to call-in
-

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
-

Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable
-

Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable
-

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (current and projected): Not Applicable
-

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 The Council on 17th March 2008 approved a Scheme of Enrolment of Honorary Aldermen and the first appointments of Honorary Aldermen were made and celebrated at a special Council meeting on 23rd June 2008. Since then, further appointments have been made in 2010, 2011, 2014, 2016 and 2018. The Scheme was updated recently by this Committee on 5th April 2022. A copy is attached as Appendix A. A total of 36 former Councillors have been appointed as Honorary Aldermen – see Appendix B. A special meeting of the Council is required to appoint Honorary Aldermen and the resolution needs to be supported by at least two thirds of those voting at that meeting.
- 3.2 There are two criteria for appointment as an Honorary Alderman –
- (i) serving a minimum of three terms (12 years) as a member of the Council.
 - (ii) rendering 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
- 3.3 In addition, the title would need to be withdrawn should the Honorary Alderman be re-elected to the Council, so the honour is usually only given where the person concerned is not expected to seek re-election or to play a prominent public role.
- 3.4 An informal cross-party meeting has been held to discuss potential candidates for appointment as Honorary Aldermen – seven potential candidates have been identified, and their identities are set out in Appendix C (in part 2). All have indicated that they would be honoured to accept this recognition of their service if supported by this Committee.

4. TRANSFORMATION/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council's policy on appointing Honorary Aldermen is set out in the attached Appendix containing the Honorary Aldermen Scheme of Enrolment. The Council can also appoint Honorary Freemen - persons of distinction (not necessarily former Councillors) who have rendered eminent service to the borough.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposal involves some modest costs for the production of badges and certificates. The special Council meeting can be held on the same night as the Council's annual meeting and so meeting costs will be minimal.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The power to appoint honorary aldermen is contained in section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Non-Applicable Headings:	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children, Personnel, Property, Procurement, Customer Impact, Carbon Reduction, Ward Councillor Views
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Report to GP&L Committee (6 th February 2018)

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 receive 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.

(Reviewed April 2022)

Honorary Aldermen

Reg Adams
Douglas Auld (Deceased)
E Dennis Barkway C.B.E. (Deceased)
Peter Bloomfield (Deceased)
Paul Bonter
Dr Eric Bosshard
Joan Bryant
Ingrid Buckley
Roger Charsley
Frank Cooke (Deceased)
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 (Deceased)
Arthur Wilkinson
Peter C Woods (Deceased)
Joan Wykes O.B.E. (Deceased)