



Council Extraordinary Meeting

Town Hall
Wallasey

14 June 2019

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held at **6.00 p.m. on Monday, 24 June 2019** in the Council Chamber, within the Town Hall, Wallasey, to take into consideration and determine upon the following subject : -

This meeting will be webcast at
<https://wirral.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Contact Officer: Patrick Sebastian
Tel: 0151 691 8424
e-mail: patricksebastian@wirral.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.wirral.gov.uk>

AGENDA

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Council are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest, in connection with any matter to be debated or determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

2. CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive the Civic Mayor's announcements and any apologies for absence.

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE TITLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN / ALDERWOMAN (Pages 1 - 6)

The Council is requested to consider the following recommendation from the Licensing and General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 22 May 2019 (Minute No. 6 refers):

- (1) That the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden in accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- (2) That the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor David Elderton for his eminent and exceptional service to the Council in accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.



Director: Governance and Assurance

Audio/Visual Recording of Meetings

Everyone is welcome to record meetings of the Council and its Committees using non-disruptive methods. For particular meetings we may identify a 'designated area' for you to record from. If you have any questions about this please contact Committee and Civic Services (members of the press please contact the Press Office). Please note that the Chair of the meeting has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons, including disruption caused by the filming or the nature of the business being conducted.

Persons making recordings are requested not to put undue restrictions on the material produced so that it can be reused and edited by all local people and organisations on a non-commercial basis.

MINUTE EXTRACT

LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

22 MAY 2019

6 CONFERMENT OF THE TITLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN OR ALDERWOMAN

The Director of Governance and Assurance submitted a report requesting the Committee give consideration to recommend to the Council that the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman be conferred on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden.

It was reported that Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the title of Honorary Alderman may be conferred by the Council on persons who have, in its opinion, rendered eminent service as past Members of the Council (or a predecessor Council) but who are no longer Councillors. This was amended by Section 29(4) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and Section 249(1) states that a principal council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose with notice to object, confer the title of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council as past Members of that Council, but who are not then Members of the Council.

Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen are invited to attend Council meetings in a non-participating capacity. They do not receive any allowances or payments under section 173 to 176 of the Local Government Act 1972. Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen are also invited to attend and take part in civic ceremonies such as Civic Sundays and Remembrance Sundays and other appropriate civic events. The names of Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen are inscribed on a Roll of Honour board on the first floor landing of Wallasey Town Hall.

Members were advised that previously the Council had determined that former Members who had served twenty years on the Council or a predecessor Council were eligible for nomination to this Award. Successful nominees had been awarded a suitable badge at a special ceremony. Currently former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden were the only persons eligible to be appointed as an Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman as they had all served more than twenty years on the Council.

It was moved by Councillor A Hodson and seconded by Councillor D Mitchell that –

“The Council also confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor David Elderton in recognition of his eminent and exceptional service whilst a Member of the Council”.

Mr D K Abraham, Legal Advisor to the Committee advised Members that this must be passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose with notice to object.

It was further moved by Councillor P Stuart and seconded by Councillor A Hodson that –

Resolved -

- (1) That the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden in accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.**

- (2) That the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor David Elderton for his eminent and exceptional service to the Council in accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.**

REPORT TITLE:	Conferment of the Title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman
REPORT OF:	Director of Governance and Assurance

REPORT SUMMARY

This report requests the Committee to give consideration to whether to recommend to the Council that the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman be conferred on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Council be recommended to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden, in accordance with Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 This report requests the Committee to give consideration to whether to recommend to the Council that the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman be conferred on former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden.
- 1.2 The former Councillors are eligible to have the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman conferred upon them under the criteria used. The recommendation provides the Committee with the opportunity to give consideration to this and to put forward a subsequent proposal to the Council.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The alternative option is not to consider Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden for the position of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the title of Honorary Alderman may be conferred by the Council on persons who have, in its opinion, rendered eminent service as past Members of the Council, (or a predecessor Council), but who are no longer Councillors. This was amended by Section 29(4) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and Section 249(1) now states that a principal council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose with notice to object, confer the title of Honorary Aldermen or Honorary Alderwoman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council as past Members of that Council, but who are not then Members of the Council.
- 3.2 Honorary Aldermen and Alderwoman are invited to attend Council meetings in a non-participating capacity. They do not receive any allowances or payments under section 173 to 176 of the Local Government Act 1972. Honorary Aldermen and Alderwoman are also invited to attend and take part in civic ceremonies such as Civic Sundays and Remembrance Sundays and other appropriate civic events. The names of Honorary Aldermen and Alderwoman are inscribed on a Roll of Honour board on the first floor landing of Wallasey Town Hall.
- 3.3 Previously, the Council determined that former Members who have served twenty one years on the Council or a predecessor Council are eligible for nomination to this Award. Successful nominees have been awarded a suitable badge at a special ceremony.
- 3.4 Currently former Councillors Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden are the only persons eligible to be appointed as an Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman.

RON ABBEY

Former Councillor Ron Abbey was a Member of the Council from 2 May 1996 to 6 May 2019 (23 years).

PHIL DAVIES

Former Councillor Phil Davies was a Member of the Council from 2 May 1991 to 6 May 2019 (28 years).

GERRY ELLIS

Former Councillor Gerry Ellis was a Member of the Council from 7 May 1998 to 6 May 2019 (21 years).

JOHN HALE

Former Councillor John Hale was a Member of the Council from 1 May 1975 to 12 March 2018 (43 years).

CHRIS MEADEN

Former Councillor Chris Meaden was a Member of the Council from 2 May 1991 to 6 May 2019 (28 years).

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It would be the intention to present Ron Abbey, Phil Davies, Gerry Ellis, John Hale and Chris Meaden with a badge of office, the total cost of which is approximately £3,000. There will also be the small cost of inscribing their names on the Roll of Honour board which can be met from existing budgets.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The formal decision to confer the status of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman must be ratified by an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council. It is proposed that the Extraordinary Meeting be held at 6.00pm on Monday, 24 June 2019.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 It is also customary for the Council to cover the cost of hospitality provided for the newly appointed Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen and a select number of guests. Arrangements for such an event, that could be held on the rise of an Extraordinary Council meeting on Monday, 24 June 2019, (convened to confer the status of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman), would be made in consultation with the Mayor. There is no specific budget head for this but the funding required can be allocated from the Civic Services catering budget.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Political Group Leaders have been consulted on these proposals and are in favour of them.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?
No because there is no relevance to equality.

REPORT AUTHOR: Shirley Hudspeth
Committee and Civic Services Manager
Telephone (0151) 691 8559
Email shirleyhudspeth@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES None.