

Time 1.30 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Oversight
Venue Committee Room 4 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton. WV11SH

Membership

Chair Cllr Phil Page (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Val Evans
Cllr Zee Russell
Cllr Martin Waite

Conservative

Cllr Wendy Thompson

Quorum for this meeting is two Councillors.

Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

Contact Jaswinder Kaur
Tel/Email 01902 550320 or jaswinder.kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk
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Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting** (Pages 3 - 4)
 [To agree the minutes of the previous meeting, held on the 22 March 2018]
- 4 **Matters arising**
 [To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting]

DECISION ITEMS

- 5 **Conferring the Title of Honorary Alderman** (Pages 5 - 10)
 [To consider whether to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillors Ian Claymore, Barry Findlay, Malcolm Gwinnett, Andrew Johnson, Christine Mills, Patricia Patten, Judith Rowley, Tersaim Singh and Andrew Wynne]

Attendance

Members of the Standards Committee

Cllr Martin Waite (Chair)
Cllr Jasbir Jaspal
Cllr Anwen Muston
Ray Tomkinson – Independent Member

Employees

Kevin O'Keefe	Director of Governance
Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services Manager
Roger Orchard	Investigating Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Rowley and Andrew Wynne.
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
There were no declarations of interest made.
- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting**
Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 14 March 2018 be agreed as a correct record.
- 4 **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.
- 5 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**
Resolved:

That in accordance with section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within paragraph 1 of schedule 12A to the act relating to any individual.]
- 6 **Technical issue on the alleged breach of the Councillors Code of Conduct**
Kevin O'Keefe, Monitoring Officer advised that the Standards Committee needed to consider a technical issue relating to the alleged breach of the Councillors Code of Conduct.

Roger Orchard, Investigating Officer presented his report to the Standards Committee and explained his findings. The relevant Councillors were offered the opportunity to question the Investigating Officer.

The relevant Councillors made a verbal submission and tabled evidence in response to the Investigating Officer's findings.

The Standards Committee then retired to consider the evidence and to deliberate on the technical issue. Ray Tomkinson, Independent Member made observations.

The Standards Committee reconvened to announce their findings.

The Standards Committee then announced its final decision as set out below:

Resolved:

That on this occasion the relevant Councillors were not acting in the capacity of a Councillor and therefore not subject to the Councillors Code of Conduct.

Standards Committee

14 June 2018

Report title	Conferring the Title of Honorary Alderman	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Roger Lawrence Leader of the Council	
Key decision	No	
In forward plan	No	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Kevin O'Keefe, Director of Governance	
Originating service	Democratic Services	
Accountable employee(s)	Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services Manager
	Tel	01902 550320
	Email	jaswinder.kaur@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be considered by	Council	18 July 2018

Recommendation for decision:

The Standards Committee is recommended to recommend that Council:

Convene an extraordinary meeting of the Council 18 July 2018 to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillors Ian Claymore, Barry Findlay, Malcolm Gwinnett, Andrew Johnson, Christine Mills, Patricia Patten, Judith Rowley, Tersaim Singh and Andrew Wynne.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider whether to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillors Ian Claymore, Barry Findlay, Malcolm Gwinnett, Andrew Johnson, Christine Mills, Patricia Patten, Judith Rowley, Tersaim Singh and Andrew Wynne. They all ceased to be Members of the Council in May 2018.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In July 1998 the Council agreed to establish a policy for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen, for which there is provision in the Local Government Act 1972 (Section 249). Subsequently, in September 1998, the then Policy and Resources Committee endorsed a procedure for reporting to Council on this matter and determined the eligibility criteria. The service criterion was reduced from 24 years to 20 years by resolution of full Council on 14 July 2010.
- 2.2 Mr Ian Claymore has a total of 20 years' distinguished service. During this time, he has not only served the residents of both St Peter's Ward and Oxley Ward, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of our whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular he was Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton in 1979-1980, Chair of the Equalities Advisory Group and Vice Chair of Licensing Committee. He has also taken an active part on the other regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies he served on.
- 2.3 Mr Barry Findlay has a total of 26 years' distinguished service. Along with this considerable tenure, he has not only served the residents of Tettenhall Regis and Fallings Park Wards, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of the whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular he was the Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton in 2016-2017, Cabinet Member for Environment, Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel and Vice Chair of a number of committees including Adults and Community Safety, Scrutiny Board, Social Care Housing and Health Scrutiny Panel, Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel. He has also taken an active part on the other regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies he served on.
- 2.4 Mr Malcolm Gwinnett has a total of 28 years' distinguished service. Along with this considerable tenure, he has not only served the residents of Spring Vale Ward, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of our whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular he was the Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton in 2010-2011; Chair of the Planning Committee and Special Advisory Group and Vice Chair of a number of committees including Highways and Transportation and Leisure Services. He has also taken an active part on other regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies he served on.
- 2.5 Mr Andrew Johnson has a total of 34 years' distinguished service. During this time, he has not only served the residents of Ettingshall ward, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of our whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but he was as the Council's representative on the Local Government Information Unit (LGiU) Executive Board, the Cabinet Member for

Resources, Environmental Services, Governance and Support Services, and also chaired a number of committees including Cabinet (Resources) Panel, Special Advisory Group, Social Services, Finance and General Purposes, Corporate Parenting Panel, Municipal Enterprise and Vice Chair of Direct Services. He has also taken an active part on the other committees and panels he served on.

- 2.6 Mrs Christine Mills has a total of 31 years' distinguished service. During this time, she not only served the residents of Merry Hill and Bilston North Wards, but she also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of our whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular she was the Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton for two terms in 2008-2009 and 2012-2013, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel and Special Advisory Group and Vice Chair of a number of committees including Audit Committee/ Audit and Risk Committee, Planning and Development, Planning and Environment, Lifelong Learning MPDP, Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel. She has also taken an active part on the other committees and scrutiny panels she served on.
- 2.7 Mrs Patricia Patten has a total of 20 years' distinguished service. Along with this considerable tenure, she has not only served the residents of Penn and Oxley Wards, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of the whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular she has been both Chair and Vice-Chair of Health Scrutiny and the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panels and Vice Chair of a number of committees including Adults and Safer Communities Scrutiny Panel and Scrutiny Board. She has also taken an active part on a number of regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies she served on.
- 2.8 Mrs Judith Rowley has total of 23 years' distinguished service. During this she has not only served the residents of Blakenhall Ward, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of the whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular she was Mayoress of the City of Wolverhampton in 2003-2004, the Council's representative on the West Midlands Transport Delivery Committee (formally the Integrated Transport Authority Passenger Authority) and Chair of Planning Committee and Vice Chair of Planning & Environment. She has also taken an active part on the other regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies he served on.
- 2.9 Mr Andrew Wynne has a total of 22 years' distinguished service. Along with this considerable tenure, he has not only served the residents of Tettenhall Wightwick Ward, but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of the whole City. They are too numerous to mention, but in particular he has been both Chair and Vice Chair of Performance Governance and Support Services Scrutiny Panel, Safer Communities Scrutiny Panel and Vice Chair of a number of committees including Confident, Capable, Working with Communities and Community Safety MPDP, Vibrant Safe and Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel, Vibrant Safe and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel and Working with Communities Scrutiny Panel. He has also taken an active part on the other regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies he served on.

- 2.10 Mr Tersaim Singh has a total of 28 years' distinguished service. Along with this considerable tenure, he has not only served the residents of St Peters Ward but also held many important positions within the Council impacting on the lives of the citizens of our whole City. These are too numerous to mention, but in particular he was the Mayor of the City of Wolverhampton in 2000-2001, one of the Council's representative on the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and Wolverhampton Homes Board, Chair of Pensions Committee, both Chair and Vice Chair of Environmental Health and Consumer Services, Superannuation Committee and Safer Communities Scrutiny Panel, Vice Chair of a number of committees including Direct Services, Audit Committee, and Race Relations and Equal Opportunities Committee. He has also taken an active part on the other regulatory committees, scrutiny panels and reviews and advisory bodies he served on.
- 2.11 Mr Ian Claymore, Mr Barry Findlay, Mr Malcolm Gwinnett, Mr Andrew Johnson, Mrs Christine Mills, Mrs Patricia Patten, Mrs Judith Rowley, Mr Tersaim Singh and Mr Andrew Wynne's service all meets the criterion for eligibility for conferment agreed by the Council. Following consultation with the political groups on the Council it is proposed that the title of Honorary Alderman is bestowed on them.
- 2.12 Under the provisions of the Council's Constitution, the function of advising full Council on the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman rests with the Standards Committee, and therefore, the Committee is asked to consider this proposal.
- 2.13 Honorary Aldermen are invited to attend full Council meetings in a non-participating capacity and are also invited to various functions such as Civic and Remembrance Sunday and other appropriate civic events. Honorary Aldermen are also afforded access to Councillors' rooms and Councillors' car park. The names of Honorary Aldermen are inscribed on a roll of honour board on the ground floor of the Civic Centre.
- 2.14 The Local Government Act 1972 Act provides that an extraordinary Council meeting be convened for the purpose of conferring the title and the necessary resolution must be passed by not less than two thirds of the Members voting. It is proposed that the extraordinary meeting be convened prior to the ordinary Council meeting on 18 July 2018.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 As was the case with previous Honorary Aldermen, it would be the intention to present the former Councillors with a badge of office. These will be drawn from an existing stock of badges purchased prior to this financial year. The small costs of inscribing the names of the Honorary Aldermen on the badges and also on the roll of honour board will be met from existing budgets.

[MH/06062018/X]

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables a local authority to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on “persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past Members of the Council but who are not then Councillors of the Council”.

[RB/04062018/T]

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

6.0 Environmental implications

- 6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

7.0 Human resources implications

- 7.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

8.0 Corporate Landlord implications

- 8.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

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