

REPORT TO CABINET

Open		Would any decisions proposed :			
Any especially affected Wards	Discretionary	(a) Be entirely within cabinet's powers to decide NO			
		(b) Need to be recommendations to Council		YES	
		(c) It it a Key Decision		NO	
Lead Member: Cllr Terry Parish E-mail: cllr.terry.parish@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted:			
		Other Members consulted: Group Leaders			
Lead Officer: Samantha Winter E-mail: sam.winter@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616327		Other Officers consulted: Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer			
Financial Implications YES	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications (incl S.17) YES	EIA Implications NO	Risk Management Implications NO	Environmental Implications No

Date of meeting: 5 December 2023

ELECTION OF HONORARY ALDERMAN

Summary

Following the 2023 Borough Council Elections, the opportunity has been taken to review the appointments of new Honorary Aldermen. Consideration has now been given to nominations by Group Leaders and it has been agreed to bring forward five individuals at this stage to enable time to review the criteria for nominations.

Recommendations

1) That the Council places on record its deep appreciation of the eminent services to the Council rendered by former Councillors:

**Kathleen Collins (previously Mellish)
David Collis
Michael Peake
Geoffrey Hipperson
Andrew Tyler**

2) That a Special Meeting of the Council to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on those former Councillors be held after Mayormaking on Thursday, 16 May 2024 and the engrossment of recommendation above and an Aldermanic badge be presented to the Honorary Aldermen at that Council meeting.

3) That a further report be brought forward reviewing the criteria of nominating Honorary Aldermen before any further nominations are considered by the Council.

1 Background

Under the Local Government Act 1972 (section 249), “the Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon at a Special Meeting of the Council called specifically for that purpose, 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.”

The following criteria were also taken into account on this and previous occasions by each of the political groups in making the nominations:

- 1 Having held high office, Mayor/Cabinet position or Committee Chairmanship.
- 2 Having held some lesser office (Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chairmanship) but also having demonstrated eminent service, eg long service as a Borough Councillor.
- 3 Other eminent service in the capacity of a Councillor eg nominated Council representative on important outside bodies.
- 4 Recognition across the chamber that the former Member has provided eminent service, albeit non-specific, to the Council by virtue of his/her contributions over many years.
- 5 No known misdemeanours

2 Process

Following the 2023 Borough Council Elections, Council has undertaken a review of those former Councillors it wishes to nominate as new Honorary Aldermen. Group Leaders have now held discussions and agreed that a small number of nominees will be put forward at this stage. A report on the review of the criteria for nominating Aldermen will come forward to a future meeting of Cabinet and Council before other nominations are put forward.

It is recommended that the following former Councillors be recommended Council to consider awarding them the title of Honorary Alderman:

- Kathy Collins (previously Mellish) - Mayor and Cabinet Member
- David Collis - Vice Chair of Development and Estates and Chair of the CSC
- Geoffrey Hipperson – Twice Mayor and Cabinet Member
- Mick Peake – Vice Chair Planning and longstanding councillor
- Andrew Tyler – Deputy Mayor and long standing councillor – chair of KLACC

It is suggested that the Special Meeting of the Council required to approve and confer the titles be held after Mayormaking on Thursday 16 May 2024.

It is proposed that the engrossment of the recommendation above and an Aldermanic badges be presented to the Honorary Aldermen at that Special Council Meeting.

3 Financial Implications

The cost of purchasing the Honorary Aldermen badges and engrossments and a reception hosted by the Mayor after the ceremony will cost in the region of £5,000.

4 Statutory Considerations

The process complies with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, section 249.

5 Background Papers

None