

**Report for: EXTRAORDINARY
COUNCIL**

Date of Meeting: 29 September 2022

Subject: Honorary Alderman

Responsible Officer: Hugh Peart – Director of Legal and Governance Services

Exempt: No

Enclosures: Appendix 1 – Draft Resolution
Appendix 2 – Details of Service and Achievements

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out proposals to mark in an appropriate manner Camilla Bath's 32 years' service to the Authority.

Recommendations: That

- (1) The Council pursuant to Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 confer the title of Honorary Alderman of the London Borough of Harrow upon Camilla Bath;
- (2) Subject to (1) above, the granting of the status of Honorary Alderman be recorded in an Illuminated Scroll and presented to the recipient;
- (3) A ceremony be held for the presentation of the Illuminated Scroll, Badge and Robe.

Section 2 – Report

1. Statutory Background

Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides as follows:

“A principal Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon at a meeting specially convened for the purpose with notice of the object confer the title of honorary aldermen 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”.

2. Harrow Context

2.1 The Council has previously conferred the title of Honorary Aldermen in July 1986, on former Conservative Councillors Frank Rees and Nan Rees. Frank Rees had served a total of 26 years as a Councillor and 3 years as an Alderman (prior to that office being abolished); Nan Rees had served for 22 years consecutively as a Councillor. Each had served as both Deputy Mayor and Mayor. Both have since died.

2.2 In May 2006 the Council conferred the title of Honorary Alderman on former Labour Councillor Keith Toms in recognition of eminent and distinguished services rendered to the Borough over a continuous period of 32 years as a Councillor. Alderman Toms also served as Deputy Mayor and Mayor of the Borough.

2.3 In June 2014 the Council conferred the title of Honorary Alderman on former Conservative Councillor Richard Romain in recognition of the eminent and distinguished services rendered to the Borough over a continuous period of 32 years as a Councillor.

3. Process:

3.1 If the Authority wishes to proceed with the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman, a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the Members present at this specially convened meeting of the Council is required.

4. Status of an Honorary Alderman

4.1 Being Honorary Alderman brings the following privileges:

- to enjoy the courtesy title of Honorary Alderman and to be so addressed;
- to attend as a spectator at meetings of the Council and to have a seat reserved for this purpose;

- to receive a copy of the Council Summons;
- to receive invitations to all civic and social events to which Members of the Council are invited;
- to walk in civic processions in a position immediately senior to serving Members.

4.2 The honour is held for the life of the recipient.

4.3 Honorary Aldermen are provided with Illuminated Scrolls recording the Council's Resolution to confer the honour and with distinctive Robes and Badges for civic occasions.

5. Further Information

This matter has been the subject of consultation with Group Leaders and the individual concerned. If Council considers that it wishes to bestow the honour of Honorary Alderman, the presentation of the Illuminated Scroll, Badge and Robe could be made at a ceremony on a suitable date.

Financial Implications

Any costs will be met from within existing budgets.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Statutory Officer: Dawn Calvert

Signed by the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 12 August 2022

Statutory Officer: Hugh Peart

Signed by the Monitoring Officer

Date: 5 August 2022

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Alison Atherton, Senior Professional Democratic Services

Background Papers: None