



## To the Members of the Borough Council

Dear Sir/Madam

You are hereby summoned on the instructions of Her Worship the Mayor in accordance with Procedure Rule 3.1(b) to attend an Extraordinary Meeting of the Ashford Borough Council, to be held in the Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL on Thursday, 18th July, 2019 at the rising of the Council Meeting when the following business is proposed to be transacted.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T W Mortimer'.

T W Mortimer  
Corporate Director (Law and Governance)

### Agenda

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| 1. | <b>Apologies</b>   |       |
| 2. | <b>Declarations of Interest</b>  | 1 - 2 |
| 1. | To declare any interests which fall under the following categories, as explained on the attached document: |       |
| a) | Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)  |       |
| b) | Other Significant Interests (OSI)  |       |
| c) | Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests   |       |

See agenda item 2 for further details

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|----|---|--------|
| 3. | <b>Conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman</b> | 3 - 10 |
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NOTE: - If debate on any item included within this Agenda gives rise to the need to exclude the press and public due to the likelihood of Exempt or Confidential information being disclosed the following resolution may be proposed and seconded and if carried, the press and public will be requested to leave the meeting for the duration of the debate.

That pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item as it is likely that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure of exempt information hereinafter specified by reference to the appropriate paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Act, where in the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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DS  
10 July 2019

Queries concerning this agenda? Please contact Danny Sheppard Telephone (01233) 330349 Email [danny.sheppard@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:danny.sheppard@ashford.gov.uk)  
Agendas, Reports and Minutes are available on: <https://moderngov.co.uk/>



# Agenda Item 2

## Declarations of Interest (see also “Advice to Members” below)

- (a) **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)** under the Localism Act 2011, relating to items on this agenda. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares a DPI in relation to any item will need to leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted).

- (b) **Other Significant Interests (OSI)** under the Kent Code of Conduct relating to items on this agenda. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to leave the meeting before the debate and vote on that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted).

However, prior to leaving, the Member may address the Committee in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

- (c) **Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests** not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b), i.e. announcements made for transparency alone, such as:

- Membership of amenity societies, Town/Community/Parish Councils, residents’ groups or other outside bodies that have expressed views or made representations, but the Member was not involved in compiling or making those views/representations, or
- Where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person, or
- Where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position.

[Note: Where an item would be likely to affect the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc.; OR where an item is an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc., there is likely to be an OSI or in some cases a DPI. ALSO, holding a committee position/office within an amenity society or other outside body, or having any involvement in compiling/making views/representations by such a body, may give rise to a perception of bias and require the Member to take no part in any motion or vote.]

### **Advice to Members on Declarations of Interest:**

- (a) Government Guidance on DPI is available in DCLG’s Guide for Councillors, at [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/5962/2193362.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/5962/2193362.pdf)
- (b) The Kent Code of Conduct was adopted by the Full Council on 19 July 2012, and a copy can be found in the Constitution alongside the Council’s Good Practice Protocol for Councillors dealing with Planning Matters. See <https://www.ashford.gov.uk/media/2098/z-word5-democratic-services-constitution-2019-constitution-of-abc-may-2019-part-5.pdf>
- (c) Where a Member declares a committee position or office within, or membership of, an outside body that has expressed views or made representations, this will be taken as a statement that the Member was not involved in compiling or making them and has retained an open mind on the item(s) in question. If this is not the case, the situation must be explained.

**If any Member has any doubt about any interest which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer, or from other Solicitors in Legal and Democracy as early as possible, and in advance of the Meeting.**

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# Agenda Item 3



ASHFORD  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Agenda Item No: 3**

**Report To:** Extraordinary Council

**Date of Meeting:** 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Report Title:** Conferment of the title of Honorary Aldermen

**Report Author & Job Title:** Keith Fearon  
Member Services Liaison Manager  
**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr. G D Clarkson  
**Portfolio Holder for:** The Leader

**Summary:** Following approval of the Honorary Alderman Scheme by Council in February 2019, work has progressed to take forward the initiative. This report now seeks approval from Council of the recommended nominations for the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman.

**Key Decision:** NO

**Significantly Affected Wards:** Not applicable

**Recommendations:** **The Council is recommended to:-**

**Agree that the nominees as listed in the exempt Appendix to the report be conferred with the title of Honorary Alderman of Ashford Borough Council in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.**

**Policy Overview:** Not applicable  
**Financial Implications:** The Portfolio Holder has made it clear that whilst this is an important recognition for long service of previously elected Members, the costs must be reasonable in all the circumstances.

The costs set out below should therefore be seen in the context of largely being a one off initial set up cost.

The estimated costs associated with the purchase of the appropriate Honorary Aldermen Badges, robes regalia and commissioning of the Honorary Alderman Board is estimated to be between £6,000 and £7,000 and can be met from the General Fund Reserve. In addition to this there would be the hosting immediately following the award which is considered could be contained within the Mayoral entertainment budget for Civic events.

<b>Legal Implications</b>	The establishment of an Honorary Alderman Scheme is in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.
<b>Equalities Impact Assessment</b>	Not Required because the criteria for bestowing the awards are equally applicable to all elected Members.
<b>Exempt from Publication:</b>	The appendix is not for publication by virtue of Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in discussing the information.
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
<b>Contact:</b>	keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk

**Agenda Item No. 3**

# **Report Title: Conferment of the title of Honorary Aldermen**

## **Introduction and Background**

1. Members will recall that the establishment of an Honorary Alderman Scheme was approved at the Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019. As I reported in February, the Local Government Act of 1972 allows for a Council to confer the title Honorary Alderman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council. This Scheme has been adopted by Ashford Borough to recognise and award Past Members that have demonstrated long term and dedicated service to this Council.
2. The Council agreed that eligible Past Members would need to have achieved certain criteria during their service as Councillor. In summary, a nominee will need to have served at least twelve years or three terms as Councillor of Ashford Borough. In addition, all eligible Past Members should have a good attendance record at Council and at their various committee meetings. Furthermore, all responsibilities undertaken by nominees as representatives of their Ward and their wider participation in outside organisations will be considered.
3. The adopted scheme provides for Honorary Alderman to be invited by the Council to attend various civic events from time to time. The names of individuals awarded the title will also be included on a dedicated Honours Board which will be placed in the Council Chamber.

## **Nominations**

4. The Civic Honours and Awards Board met on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 to consider and recommend the nominees for the title of Honorary Alderman to Full Council. The Board comprises of the following members;
  - Jo James OBE, Chief Executive of the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce.
  - John McParland, Principal of John Wallis Academy in Ashford.
  - Christine Drury, South East Regional Chair and Vice Chair of Campaign to Protect Rural England.
  - Cllr Gerry Clarkson CBE, Leader of the Council
5. All eligible Past Members were put forward as potential nominees to the Civic Honours & Awards Board. The outcome of this meeting is presented in the exempt Appendix to this report and this also includes the names of the recommended nominees to receive the Honorary Alderman title. Subject to the Council agreeing to the suggested list of former Members, their names will reproduced in the minutes of the meeting.

6. The exempt Appendix also contains a short summary of each nominee's service to the Borough. Prior to this Extraordinary Meeting, all nominees have been contacted to ascertain that they wish to accept the title of Honorary Alderman.
7. Members should be reminded that the recommendations for the title of Honorary Alderman should be passed as a Council Resolution and receive support of not less than two thirds of the Members at this specially convened meeting. Therefore, all Members are asked to consider the nominees compiled in the exempt report.
8. Subject to approval of the suggested nominations arrangements will be made to hold a special Ceremony that confers the title of Honorary Alderman to the awarded nominees. The ceremony has been planned to take place following the conclusion of the Full Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019. We will also present each Honorary Alderman with a heraldic badge to symbolise their achievement.

### **Portfolio Holder's Views**

9. The Portfolio Holder is the Leader of the Council and he fully supports the recommendations of the Civic Honours and Awards Board.

**Recommendations: The Council is recommended to:-**

**Agree that the nominees as listed in the exempt Appendix to the report be conferred with the title of Honorary Alderman of Ashford Borough in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.**

### **Contact and Email**

Telephone: Keith Fearon – (01233) 330564  
Email: keith.fearon@ashford.gov.uk

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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