



19TH OCTOBER 2017

COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM (13)

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMAN

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| Accountable Members | Council |
| Accountable Officer | Nigel Adams Head of Democratic Services 01285 623202 nigel.adams@cotswold.gov.uk |

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| Purpose of Report | To consider the appointment of an Honorary Alderman. |
| Recommendations | (a) That former Councillor Jim Parsons be proposed for the title of Honorary Alderman; (b) that a Special Meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 12 th December 2017 (at the conclusion of the ordinary Council Meeting scheduled on that date) to bestow the title on former Councillor Jim Parsons. |
| Reason for Recommendation | Former Councillor Jim Parsons meets the Council's requirements for automatic consideration for the title of Honorary Alderman. The resolution to confer the title of Honorary Alderman has to be passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a specially-convened Council Meeting. Such a title can be awarded posthumously. |

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| Ward(s) Affected | N/A |
| Key Decision | No |
| Recommendation to Council | N/A |

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| Financial Implications | A Special Meeting of the Council has to be convened to bestow the title of Honorary Alderman. Honorary Aldermen are also presented with medallions. The associated costs can be met from within existing budgets. |
| Legal and Human Rights Implications | None |
| Environmental and Sustainability Implications | None |
| Human Resource Implications | None |

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| Key Risks | None |
| Equalities Analysis | Not required |

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| Related Decisions | Minute 19 - Special Council Meeting - 5 th June 2003 |
| Background Documents | None |
| Appendices | None |

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| Performance Management Follow Up | Implement Council decision |
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Background Information

1. The Council may, under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Councillors who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to it as former Members. The resolution to confer the title of Honorary Alderman has to be passed by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting at a specially-convened Council Meeting.

2. In the past, the Council has adopted a points system to determine eligibility. The current scheme is as follows:-

- each year as an Elected Member of the Cotswold District Council or its predecessors - 1 point;
- each year as Chairman of one of the main Committees - 2 points;
- each year as Chairman of the Council (pre September 2001) - 3 points;
- each year as Chairman of the Council (post September 2001) - 2 points;
- each year as Vice-Chairman of the Council (post June 2003) - 2 points;
- each year as Leader of the Council - 3 points;
- each year as Deputy Leader of the Council - 2 points;
- each year as a Portfolio Holder/Cabinet Member - 2 points.

3. The Council has previously accepted that a former Councillor accruing 15 points or more would be automatically considered for the title.

4. Former Councillor Jim Parsons sadly passed away on 17th September 2017. At the time of his death, former Councillor Parsons had accrued 24 points under the current points system - 18 points for 18 years' service as a Member (having been first elected in May 1999); and 6 for a combined total of three years' service as Chairman of the Audit and Scrutiny and Overview and Scrutiny Committees - and would therefore have been eligible for appointment as an Honorary Alderman.

5. The legislation does not preclude the award of such an award posthumously; and it is suggested that such an award would be fitting given the service rendered to the Council and the community by former Councillor Parsons over many years. The Council has bestowed such honour in similar circumstances in respect of former Councillors Ben Jeffrey and Barry Dare.

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