

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council

Thursday, 20th May, 2021 at 5.30pm
in the Town Hall (access from St. James's Road), Dudley

You are hereby summoned to attend an extraordinary meeting of the Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the numbered agenda items listed below.

Agenda - Public Session **(Meeting open to the public and press)**

Prayers

1. Apologies for absence
2. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct
3. Appointment of Honorary Freemen/Women and Honorary Aldermen/Women



Kevin O'Keefe
Chief Executive
Dated: 12th May, 2021

Distribution:

All Members of the Council

Please note the following concerning meetings at Dudley Town Hall:

Covid-19 Secure Working

Hands

- Hand sanitiser and antibacterial wipes are available at various convenient locations. Please ensure you sanitise your hands when arriving and leaving the building. Hand washing facilities are also available on site.

Face

- All persons entering or working in the Town Hall must wear face masks when moving around the building. Please remember to bring and use your own face masks. Face masks may be safely removed when you are seated in the meeting.

Space

- Seating in the meeting rooms is arranged to allow for safe distancing. You must only use the designated seating. Remember to maintain safe distancing at all times during your visit.
- Seating in the public gallery is currently restricted and will be allocated on a 'first come' basis.
- All persons must observe the signage in place to ensure safety.

If you are unwell

- Do not attend if you feel unwell; if you have tested positive for Covid-19; if you are self-isolating or if you suspect that you are symptomatic.
- You are advised to undertake a lateral flow test 48 hours before attending. If the test is positive, do not attend the meeting.

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site and are subject to the Covid-19 secure measures that are in place. The toilets have hand washing facilities.

No smoking

- There is no smoking on the Town Hall premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

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In Case of Emergency

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below).

Private and Confidential Information

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available in the Town Hall.
- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website www.dudley.gov.uk

If you need advice or assistance

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk

Extraordinary Meeting of the Council – 20th May, 2021

Report of the Chief Executive

Appointment of Honorary Freeman/Women and Honorary Aldermen/Women

Purpose

1. To invite the Council to make any Honorary Freeman/Women and Honorary Aldermen/Women appointments pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Recommendations

2. That the Council determine whether to appoint any person(s) as Honorary Freeman/Women of the Borough.
3. That the Council determine whether to confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Woman on any persons.
4. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make all the necessary arrangements regarding any awards and presentation ceremony.

Background

Honorary Freeman/Women

5. Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon, appoint to be an Honorary Freeman/Woman of the Borough, persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough.
6. The criteria for appointment as an Honorary Freeman/Woman of the Borough were agreed by the Council on 25th February, 2013 as follows:

- (a) A branch of the armed forces with a particular connection with the Borough.
 - (b) Any person born in the Borough or with a particular connection with the Borough who has made an eminent contribution to charity or voluntary work locally, nationally or internationally.
 - (c) Any person born in the Borough or with a particular connection with the Borough who has made an eminent contribution to the life of the Borough or to the nation, in the fields of culture, medicine, science, social care, the economy, education, public service, politics, sport or entertainment.
7. The Council would also take account of whether an individual has received an honour from Her Majesty the Queen or any other prestigious award.

Honorary Aldermen/Women

8. Section 249 (1) of the Local Government Act, 1972 provides that the Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting on it at a meeting specially convened for the purpose, confer the title of Honorary Alderman/Woman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council but who are not then serving Councillors.
9. Should the Council resolve to appoint any Honorary Freemen/Women or Honorary Aldermen/Women of the Borough, it has been customary that a presentation ceremony be held to award the honour to the recipient(s).

Finance

10. The costs involved with decisions to make any Freedom of the Borough or Honorary Alderman/Woman appointments will need to be identified from within existing budgetary provisions.

Law

11. The legal powers are contained in Section 249 of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Risk Management

12. There are no implications for the Council's Risk Management Framework.

Equality Impact

13. There are no implications for the Council's commitment to equality and diversity.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

14. Any decisions made by the Council will be administered within existing resources.

Commercial/Procurement

15. There are no implications for the Council's objectives to maximise value from procurement, deliver social value and develop a commercial focus.

Council Priorities

16. There are no implications in relation to the Borough Vision, the Council Plan or the Future Council Programme.



Kevin O'Keefe
Chief Executive