

## COUNCIL

6 December 2023

### CONFERRING THE TITLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN

#### Report of the Chief Executive

|                                |   |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Strategic Aim:                 | All   |  |
| Exempt Information             | No  |  |
| Cabinet Member(s) Responsible: | Cllr G Waller, Leader of the Council  |  |
| Contact Officer(s):            | Mark Andrews, Chief Executive   | 01572 758339<br>mandrews@rutland.gov.uk  |
|                                | Angela Wakefield, Strategic Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) | 01572 758220<br>awakefield@rutland.gov.uk  |
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| Ward Councillors               | NA  |  |

#### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

1. Confers upon Mr Kenneth Bool the title of Honorary Alderman of the County of Rutland.
2. Confers upon Mr Jeff Dale the title of Honorary Alderman of the County of Rutland.
3. Instructs the Chief Executive to arrange for Mr Bool and Mr Dale's names to be placed on a Roll of Honorary Alderman.

#### 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To request Council to confer the title of Honorary Alderman of the County of Rutland on former Councillors Kenneth Bool and Jeff Dale.

#### 2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows the Council to 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 that Council but who are not then Members of the Council.

- 2.2 The Council has an adopted policy on the appointment of Honorary Alderman and Freeman agreed by Council on 10 September 2018. Under this policy the title has previously been conferred on former Councillor Edward Baines (Report No. 127/2023).

### **3 NOMINATION PROCESS**

- 3.1 The policy requires a nomination to be made to the Strategic Director for Law and Governance by an elected Member and the nominee must meet the following criteria:
- 3.1.1 Must have served as a Councillor for at least 2 terms.
  - 3.1.2 Must be considered suitable for fulfilling the role of an Honorary Alderman and respected by their peers and communities.
  - 3.1.3 Their achievement/s should be exemplary.
  - 3.1.4 Must no longer hold elected office within the Rutland County District Council area.
- 3.2 In line with the adopted policy a Member has nominated former Councillors Kenneth Bool and Jeffrey Dale setting out their suitability for such an appointment. The Strategic Director for Law and Governance has considered the nomination and is satisfied both nominees meet the above criteria.
- 3.3 Mr Bool and Mr Dale have been consulted and confirmed they would be honoured to accept the appointment.
- 3.4 It is usual for a Principal Council to present Honorary Alderman or Freeman with an address, in the form of a scroll, marking the conferring of the honour. Such scrolls will be presented at Council following conferring of the title.

### **4 KENNETH BOOL**

- 4.1 Kenneth Bool was born outside of Rutland but has contributed to its communities and their wellbeing for many years. Mr Bool was initially elected to represent Uppingham in 2003 and would go on to serve as a Councillor for Uppingham and later Normanton for 20 years in total until his retirement from the Council at the May 2023 Elections.
- 4.2 In his time as a Councillor, Mr Bool served on most Committees of the Council and would Chair both the Corporate and Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panels, Mr Bool was also a Member of the Cabinet with responsibility for Adults and Children's services from 2011 to 2015.
- 4.3 Mr Bool also served as the Council's representative on numerous outside organisations including sitting on the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority for a notable 16 years, in which time he would serve as Chair of the Fire Authority's Corporate Governance and Employment Committees.
- 4.4 Mr Bool served as Vice-Chairman of the Council from 2009-2011 before notably serving as Chairman of the Council continuously from 2015 through to 2021, thereby serving as Chairman of the County Council for both the longest continuous period and longest period overall.

- 4.5 Outside of the Council Mr Bool has provided work experience and apprenticeship tasters through his business, has held numerous voluntary positions with local schools in Rutland, and continues to serve as Clerk to HM Lord Lieutenant of Rutland, a position he assumed on the retirement of the previous clerk in 2020.

## **5 JEFFERY DALE**

- 5.1 Jeffrey (Jeff) Dale was born in Uppingham and attended Uppingham C of E Primary School and then Oakham School. After leaving school Mr Dale was employed by Messers Royce chartered surveyors and then Noton chartered surveyors for 14 years. He then set up his own business Oakham Auction Centre which he has run with his wife, Margaret, for 40 years.
- 5.2 Mr Dale was initially elected for a term to represent the Belton Ward in 1987 on the then Rutland District Council and during this period served on a number of committees including the one that drew up the Rutland Water Plan. In 2003 Mr Dale was elected to Rutland County Council which he served on for 20 years until his retirement at the May 2023 elections.
- 5.3 During his time on the Council Mr Dale was a committed ‘backbencher’ and was actively involved in most Committees of the Council having chaired three Scrutiny Panels and several working groups on specific topic areas.
- 5.4 Mr Dale would also serve as Vice-Chairman of the Council from 2018 to 2020 and then as Chairman of the Council from 2021 until his retirement as a Councillor 2023.
- 5.5 Outside of the Council Mr Dale has made many contributions to local charitable courses, including through hosting of auctions to raise funds for Imperial Cancer Research Fund and Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

## **6 CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 Mr Bool and Mr Dale have each confirmed their wish to accept the appointment.

## **7 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 7.1 Not to appoint the proposed Honorary Alderman, this is not recommended as the proposed appointments are in line with the adopted policy and Mr Bool and Mr Dale are considered suitable appointees.

## **8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The costs of providing honorary scrolls, refreshments at Oakham Castle, and the Roll of Honorary Alderman in the Council Chamber can be met from within the Civic and Public Functions Budget administered by the Democratic Services Team.

## **9 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 9.1 The following provisions of the Local Government Act apply.
- 9.1.1 Section 249 (1) A Principal Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon at a meeting of the council specially convened for the purpose with notice of the object, confer the title of honorary aldermen or honorary alderwomen on persons who have, in the opinion of the

Council, rendered eminent services to the council as past members of that council, but who are not then members of the council.

9.1.2 Section 249 (4) An honorary alderman or honorary alderwoman of a Principal Council may attend and take part in such civic ceremonies as the council may from time to time decide.

9.1.3 Section 249 (4A) A principal council may spend such reasonable sum as they think fit for the purpose of presenting an address, or a casket containing an address, to a person on whom they have conferred the title of honorary alderman or honorary alderwoman.

9.2 The Council's adopted policy entitles an Honorary Alderman:

9.2.1 To enjoy the ceremonial title of Honorary Alderman/Honorary Freeman and be so addressed.

9.2.2 To be invited to attend the following Civic events where appropriate and be invited to take part in civic processions where appropriate such as:

Remembrance Sunday  
Annual Civic Service

9.2.3 To be invited to attend meetings of Annual Council.

## **10 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has not been completed because there are no risks to the rights and freedoms of natural persons and no personal data has been collected in the preparation of the report.

## **11 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

11.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has not been completed because there are no changes to existing policies proposed.

## **12 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no community safety implications arising from this report.

## **13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 There are no health or wellbeing implications arising from this report.

## **14 ORGANISATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 There are no organisation implications arising from this report.

## **15 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

15.1 Mr Bool and Mr Dale have been nominated in accordance with Council's adopted policy and meets all eligibility criteria.

15.2 Council is therefore recommended to confer upon Mr Bool and Mr Dale the title of an Honorary Alderman and confer the privileges outlined in the recommendations.

## **16 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

16.1 Local Government Act 1972, Section 249

16.2 Report No. 58/2018 – Scheme for Honorary Alderman and Freeman - approved by Council on 10 September 2018

16.3 Report No. 127/2023 – Conferring the Title of Honorary Alderman, considered by Council at a Special Meeting on 6 September 2023.

## **17 APPENDICES**

17.1 There are no appendices to the report.

**A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.**