
Conferment of Title of Honorary Alderman: Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972

Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 29th September 2010, the Council resolved to introduce the titles of Honorary Aldermen and Honorary Alderwomen for current and future Members of the Council who cumulatively have served a minimum of 15 years as an elected Councillor on the District Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that -

"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 that Council but who are not then Councillors of the Council".

- 2.2 Should the Council bestow the honour of Honorary Alderman, the incumbent would enjoy the courtesy title of Alderman/Alderwoman, would be so addressed and may receive invitations to civic functions such as the Chairman's Ball, Reception, Carol Service, etc as the Council may from time to time decide. No other specific rights are granted with the title and no financial allowance is payable. In addition, an Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman shall not have the right to attend meetings of the Council or a Committee or Panel of the Council other than as a member of the public.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 Former Councillor Michael Frank Newman recently retired from the Council having served for 41 years as a District Councillor representing the Warboys Ward from 1993 - 2004 and Somersham Ward to May 2011. Over this period, he was Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the former Personnel, Environmental Services and Policy & Resources Committees and Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council between 1984 -1988. He served as Portfolio holder for the Environment on the first Cabinet appointed by the Council. Mr

Newman also represented the Council on various outside bodies during that time.

- 3.2 Following consultation through the Council Programme meeting, it is proposed that the title of Honorary Alderman is bestowed on Mr Newman who has indicated that he would be pleased to accept the honour.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 In recognition of his achievement and the dedicated years of public service rendered by Mr M F Newman, it is

RECOMMENDED

that the Council, in sincere appreciation of distinguished public service resolves under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor M F Newman.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Council Minutes 29th September 2010
Local Government Act 1972

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