

22nd March 2006

Report of the Director, Law and Democracy

HONORARY ALDERMEN

Summary

Council is asked to give consideration to the appointment of Honorary Aldermen in accordance with Section 249 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Recommendations

1. That consideration be given to conferring the title of Honorary Alderman to former Councillor J.H.Cooke.
2. That subject to the above, the nominee be invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of Council on the 5th April 2006 to participate in a ceremony during which the title will be conferred.
3. That the Honorary Alderman elect be invited to bring a guest to the ceremony.

Detail

1. Under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 a principal Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose, confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Council as past Members but who are not current Members of the Council
2. The Act indicates that service with predecessor Authorities would count as service to be taken into account when conferring the honour.
3. Stockton on Tees Borough Council, at their meeting on 29th March 2000 accepted the recommendations of the Civic sub-Committee that reckonable service with relevant Councils should be at least 20 years or 15 years including holding a senior office over a long period. In this context it has also been the practice not to count service with the former Cleveland County Council where that service was contemporaneous with service with Stockton on Tees Borough Council or its predecessor authorities.
4. A nomination has been received in respect of the following nominee, who satisfies the terms of the above criteria.

Name	Known Service	Identified Total
Cllr Jim Cooke	Stockton on Tees BC 1974 – 1991 including Chair of Policy & Resources & Former Leader of the Council Teesside County Borough 1971-1974 Former Stockton District Council 1957-1968	31

5. If Members agree the above nomination then it is recommended that the title be conferred at the Annual Council meeting on the 5th April 2006. It is also recommended that the Honorary Alderman elect be invited to bring a guest to that meeting.

Legal and Financial Implications

6. There are no financial implications contained within this report. The recommendations comply with the legislative provisions of the Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Consultation

7. Consultation has been undertaken with relevant Group Leaders.

Risk Analysis

8. The issue covered by this report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control/reduce risk.

Director, Law and Democracy
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Background Papers	None
Education Related Item	No
Ward(s) and Ward Councillors	All
Property Implications	None