

## Council

A meeting of Council was held on Thursday, 1st December, 2011.

**Present:** The Worshipful the Mayor (Cllr Paul Baker); Cllr Mrs Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Derrick Brown, Cllr Mark Chatburn, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Michael Clark, Cllr David Coleman, Cllr Robert Cook, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Gillian Corr, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Cllr Phillip Dennis, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Robert Gibson, Cllr David Harrington, Cllr Ben Houchen, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Eileen Johnson, Cllr Elliot Kennedy, Cllr Jean Kirby, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Terry Laing, Cllr Colin Leckonby, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Kath Nelson, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Ross Patterson, Cllr Maurice Perry, Cllr David Rose, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Michael Smith, Cllr Andrew Stephenson, Cllr Norma Stephenson, Cllr Mick Stoker, Cllr David Wilburn, Cllr Norma Wilburn, Cllr Mrs Mary Womphrey, Cllr Mick Womphrey, Cllr Bill Woodhead and Cllr Barry Woodhouse.

**Officers:** N Schneider (CE); D E Bond, P K Bell (LD); P Dobson (DNS); J Danks, L King (R); J Humphreys (CESC).

**Also in attendance:** 4 Members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllr Ian Dalgarno, Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Barbara Inman, Cllr Tina Large, Cllr Alan Lewis, Cllr Ann McCoy, Cllr Maureen Rigg, Cllr Tracey Stott, Cllr Steve Walmsley and Cllr Sylvia Walmsley.

### **C Declarations of Interest**

**155/11**

Councillor Bill Woodhead declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 3 - Proposal to Confer the Honour of the Freedom of the Borough to the Royal Air Force and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers as he had served in the Royal Air Force and was a member of 49 Bomber Squadron.

Councillor Colin Leckonby declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 3 - Proposal to Confer the Honour of the Freedom of the Borough to the Royal Air Force and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers as he had served in the Royal Air Force and was a member of the Royal Air Force Association.

### **C Proposal to Confer the Honour of the Freedom of the Borough to the Royal Air Force and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers**

**156/11**

Consideration was given to a report on a proposal to grant the Freedom of the Borough to the Royal Air Force (RAF) and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME).

The requests had been made by the Branch President of the Royal Air Force Association and the Regimental Sergeant Major of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

A letter had been received from the Branch President of The Royal Air Force Association requesting that the Council bestow the Freedom of Stockton on the RAF. The letter explained that the link between Stockton and the RAF should be bonded further as they had been associated together since the 1930's and had historically attended each others parades and ceremonies.

A request had also been received from the Branch Secretary of the Teesside branch of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Association as the unit had made Catterick their home after returning from many years in Germany.

The unit did not have any freedom associations with any borough in the north and wished to make Stockton their home.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The Freedom of the Borough of Stockton be conferred upon the RAF and the REME.
2. Their names be placed on the Roll of Honorary Freeman of the Borough.
3. The RAF and REME be presented with a sealed and illuminated copy of the Resolution at an appropriate occasion.
4. The RAF and REME be requested to exercise the Freedom of the Town at an opportune date during their Regimental programmes for 2012, with the suggestion that the Freedom parades be linked to Armed Forces week 2012.