

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO SPECIAL COUNCIL

29 JANUARY 2020

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

NOMINATION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN

SUMMARY

Council is asked to give consideration to the appointment of Honorary Aldermen status to the following former long serving Councillors in accordance with Section 249 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972:-

- Kathryn Nelson
- Paul Baker

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

1. Consideration be given to conferring the title of Honorary Alderman to:-
 - Kathryn Nelson
 - Paul Baker
2. Subject to approval of the above recommendation, Kathryn Nelson and Paul Baker and their guest be invited to attend a future meeting of Council to participate in a ceremony during which the title will be conferred.

DETAIL

1. Under Section 249 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 a principal Council may, by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of Members in attendance and 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 services 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 has agreed that reckonable service for the purpose of conferring this title should be at least 16 years and should take into account factors such as the nominees previous attendance at Council/Committee meetings; and/or contribution the individual has made to the Council.
4. A nomination has been received in respect of the following nominees, who satisfy the terms of the above criteria:-

Name	Terms of Service	Cumulative Years' Service
Kathryn Nelson	1999-2019	20
Paul Baker	1999-2019	20

5. Both nominees were former Mayors of the Borough, with Kathryn Chairman of the Licensing Committee from 2000-2007 and then later Vice Chairman from 2007-2019. She also served on a number of Committees, including Arts, Leisure & Culture Select, Executive Scrutiny Committee, Audit Committee and Employee Appeals Panel; the latter of which she was Vice Chairman from 2007-2015.
6. Paul served on Cabinet from 2000-2002 and was Chairman of the Crime & Disorder Select Committee for 2015/16 and Vice Chairman of the Appeals & Complaints Committee from 2007-2008. He was also a member of the Adult Services & Health Select Committee, Health Select Committee, Housing & Community Safety Select Committee and Standards Committee.
7. Whilst attendance details are not recorded for their full term of office, the records that are available from the period 2006-2019 reveal that each attended 72% and 79% of their respective meetings.
8. If Members agree the above nominations, then it is recommended that the title be conferred at a future meeting of Council.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. There are limited financial implications associated with the cost of providing each Honorary Alderman with a framed certificate and photograph; the cost of which can be borne within existing budgets. The recommendations comply with the legislative provisions of the Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

RISK ASSESSMENT

10. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce the risk.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

11. This report is not subject to an Equality Impact Assessment as it makes no proposals for service development or policy change.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

12. Strong local democracy.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

13. Consultation has taken place with political group leaders.

Margaret Waggott
Assistant Director of Administration, Democratic & Electoral Services
margaret.waggott@stockton.gov.uk

Tel number 01642 526188

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