

Crawley Borough Council

Minutes of Governance Committee

Monday, 10 June 2024 at 7.00 pm

Councillors Present:

T Lunnon (Chair)

C M Burke (Vice-Chair)

E Barrott, D Crow, G S Jhans, M G Jones, P K Lamb, S Pritchard, T Rana and S Sivarajah

Officers Present:

Mez Matthews Democratic Services Officer

Chris Pedlow Democracy & Data Manager

Apology for Absence:

Councillor R A Lanzer

1. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interests were made.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Governance Committee held on 5 March 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. Public Question Time

No questions were asked by the public.

4. Nominations for Appointment of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen and Honorary Freeman/Freewomen

The Committee considered report [LDS/213](#) of the Head of Governance, People & Performance which requested that it consider nominations received for the award of the courtesy titles of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman and Honorary Freeman or Freewoman in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the Act").

Additionally, it was proposed that the Protocol on the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen and Honorary Freeman/Freewomen be amended to reflect that an Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman, whilst serving as a Borough Councillor,

would not be entitled to be addressed as Alderman/Alderwoman or attend or take part in any civic ceremonies of the Council in their capacity as an Alderman/Alderwoman.

The Committee expressed its support both for the nominations as set out in the report and the proposed change to the related Protocol.

RESOLVED

1. That the Mayor be requested to convene an Extraordinary Meeting of the Full Council to bestow the title of Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman on the following former Councillors.
 - a) Colin Lloyd
 - b) Brian Quinn
 - c) Brenda Smith

2. That the Mayor be requested to convene an Extraordinary Meeting of the Full Council to bestow the title of Honorary Freeman/Freewoman on the following people.
 - a) Richard Burrett
 - b) Colin Lloyd
 - c) Brian Quinn
 - d) Brenda Smith

RECOMMENDATION 1

That the Full Council be recommended to amend the Protocol on the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen and Honorary Freemen/Freewomen to include the following additional sentence:

“Where an Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman is subsequently re-elected as a Councillor, that Honorary Alderman/Alderwoman shall, whilst serving as a Borough Councillor, not be entitled to be addressed as Alderman/Alderwoman or attend or take part in any civic ceremonies of the Council as an Alderman/Alderwoman”.

5. Appointment of Independent Person

The Committee considered report [LDS/221](#) of the Head of Governance, People & Performance which proposed that Mr Peter Nicholson be appointed as an Independent Person for a further two years.

The Committee gave its full support to the recommendation, especially given the significant number of years Mr Nicholson had already dedicated as an Independent Person for the Council.

RESOLVED

RECOMMENDATION 2

That the Full Council be recommended to appoint Mr Peter Nicholson as an Independent Person for a further two years until the end of July 2026.

Closure of Meeting

With the business of the Governance Committee concluded, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.10 pm

T Lunnon (Chair)