

COUNCIL – 24TH JUNE 2019

Report of the Chief Executive

ITEM 3 CONFERMENT OF THE TITLE OF HONORARY FREEMAN ON MR LEZ COPE-NEWMAN

Purpose of Report

To enable the Council to consider conferring the title of Honorary Freeman on Mr Lez Cope-Newman.

Recommendation

That consideration be given to conferring upon Mr Lez Cope-Newman the title of Honorary Freeman.

Reason

To recognise his eminent services to the Borough and its people.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The Local Government Act 1972 allows the Council to confer the title of Honorary Freeman or Honorary Freewoman on persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough. There must be a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose.

The title of Honorary Freeman is the highest honour the Council can bestow on any citizen and, in order of precedence, Honorary Freemen are placed immediately above Honorary Aldermen.

The Council has conferred the title of Honorary Freewoman and Honorary Freeman on Ms Paula Radcliffe MBE in 2004 and Mr Mike Jones in 2008.

At its meeting on 25th March 2019, the Council agreed that arrangements be made to hold the special Council meeting that is required to confer the title of Honorary Freeman on a person (minute 91.6 2018/19 refers).

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

It has been suggested that the Council gives consideration to conferring the honour of Honorary Freeman on Mr Lez Cope-Newman. Mr Cope-Newman is currently the Chair of the Love Loughborough Business Improvement District (BID), having previously served as Vice-chair, founder member and director following the BID's establishment in 2012. Mr Cope-Newman has lived in the Borough for almost all of his life and has owned and managed a number of

businesses locally. Mr Cope-Newman has undertaken a significant amount of work to raise money for charities including the Breast Care Unit at Glenfield Hospital, Loughborough Beacon Rotary Club and to support people with Down's syndrome and their families. That work has followed from his earlier activities in youth work.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

Any costs associated with arrangements for conferring the honour of Honorary Freeman can be met from existing budgets.

Risk Management

There are no risks associated with making this decision.

Background Papers: None

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