

TO:- Council

Councillor Meg Barrow , Councillor Andrew Adams , Councillor Helen Adams , Councillor Penny Allen , Councillor Jeff Ashley , Councillor Barry Bond M.B.E. , Councillor John Brindle , Councillor Gary Burnett , Councillor Val Chapman , Councillor Bob Cope , Councillor Mike Davies , Councillor Philip Davis , Councillor Steph Dufty , Councillor Robert Duncan , Councillor Sue Duncan , Councillor Christopher Evans , Councillor Mark Evans , Councillor Warren Fisher , Councillor Sam Harper-Wallis , Councillor Dr Paul Harrison M.B.E. , Councillor Rita Heseltine , Councillor Diane Holmes , Councillor Fiona Hopkins , Councillor Matthew Jackson , Councillor Victor Kelly , Councillor Dan Kinsey B.E.M , Councillor Roger Lees J.P. , Councillor Vincent Merrick , Councillor John Michell , Councillor Rob Nelson , Councillor Kath Perry M.B.E. , Councillor Martin Perry , Councillor Ray Perry , Councillor Robert Reade , Councillor Gregory Spruce , Councillor Christopher Steel , Councillor Wendy Sutton , Councillor Sue Szalapski , Councillor Bernard Williams , Councillor David Williams , Councillor Kath Williams , Councillor Victoria Wilson

Notice is hereby given that a Special Council meeting will be held as detailed below for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.

Date: Tuesday, 05 September 2023

Time: 18:00

Venue: Council Chamber, Codsall Community Hub, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, South Staffordshire, WV8 1PX
Community Hub, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, South Staffordshire, WV8 1PX



D. Heywood
Chief Executive

AGENDA**Part I – Public Session****1 Apologies**

To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

2 Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest.

RECORDING

Please note that this meeting will be recorded.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO AGENDA AND REPORTS

Spare paper copies of committee agenda and reports are no longer available. Therefore should any member of the public wish to view the agenda or report(s) for this meeting, please go to www.sstaffs.gov.uk/council-democracy.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL COUNCIL – 5 SEPTEMBER 2023

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE

PART A – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

1.1 To consider four former members of the Council for the title of Honorary Alderman.

2. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

POLICY/COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Council Plan objectives?	
	Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) been completed?	
	No	The award of individual titles does not have any equality impacts.
SCRUTINY POWERS APPLICABLE	No	Council Decision
KEY DECISION	No	
TARGET COMPLETION/ DELIVERY DATE	5 September 2023	
FINANCIAL IMPACT		The costs of appointing each Honorary Alderman can be met from within existing budgets.
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	Section 249 Local Government Act 1972 – decision of full Council.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES		The title of Alderman is used throughout the report and appendix for ease of reference but incorporates Alderwomen as well as Aldermen.
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	None	

PART B – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

- 3.1 At its meeting on 10 May 2022, the Council resolved to adopt a [protocol](#) for the appointment of Honorary Aldermen under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972; which provides that the title of Honorary Alderman can be conferred on “persons who have, in the opinion of the Council rendered eminent services to the Council, but who are no longer Councillors of the Council”.
- 3.2 In order to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on an ex-Councillor a meeting of the whole Council needs to be convened specifically for this purpose and the resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the voting Members present at that meeting.
- 3.3 Four nominations for the title of Honorary Alderman have been received and approved by the Chairman of the Council to be brought forward for consideration. These are for:
- Len Bates B.E.M.
 - Brian Cox
 - Janet Johnson
 - Christine Raven
- 3.4 Once each nominee has been proposed and seconded, Members will then have the opportunity to speak to the Motion in accordance with the speaking rights set out in the Constitution.
- 3.5 If the resolution is passed, the person being awarded the title of Honorary Alderman will be presented with:
- a) A ‘Certificate of Conferral of the Status of Honorary Alderman’ which will carry the Council’s Coat of Arms and the Common Seal of the Council and be witnessed by the Chairman and the Chief Executive;
 - b) A frame in which the Certificate will be placed;
 - c) A Badge of Office including the title ‘Honorary Alderman’.
- 3.6 Following the presentation the person appointed Honorary Alderman will be asked to sign the “Book of Honorary Aldermen” and will be afforded the opportunity to address the Council meeting.

4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

None

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Council 10 May 2022

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nominations as set out in the appendices

8. APPENDICES

Appendix A – Nomination Form – Len Bates B.E.M.

Appendix B – Nomination Form – Brian Cox

Appendix C – Nomination Form – Janet Johnson

Appendix D – Nomination Form – Christine Raven

9. RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 That Council considers the award of the title of Honorary Alderman of South Staffordshire Council.

Report prepared by: Lorraine Fowkes, Corporate Director of Governance

Appendix A

NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ROLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Please complete the following using either black ink or type (continue on separate A4 sheet if necessary):-

Name of Person being nominated:	Len Bates
Address:	xxxxxxxxxxxxx, Acton Trussell, ST17 xxx
Tel No:	01785 714xxx
Please explain how the nominee meets the following criteria for appointment:	
1. How long has the nominee served on the District Council? The person being nominated must have served for a minimum of 20 years on the District Council.	
Len has severed 12 years on the District Council, although not serving the full 20 years there are very special circumstances to warrant his appointment including a British Empire Medal (BEM) for service to the residents of South Staffordshire and in particular Penkridge and surrounding areas.	
2. What eminent services has the nominee rendered during their time on the District Council?	
Len has given eminent services to his residents and during his time on the District Council as Chairman of the Council, Chairman of several sub-Committees and also served on the Cabinet for many years, holding the Community Services Portfolio in very difficult times. For this work and also for the diligent work he carried out with the residents of Penkridge he was awarded the BEM. Serving on several outside bodies, including the Sow and Penk Drainage Board and the Staffordshire Playing Fields Association, the protection of the environment and the provision of quality service were always at the forefront of Len's thinking.	
3. What significant contribution has the nominee made to the Council and its residents?	
Len was involved in the sometimes challenging introduction of new waste contracts including Green Bins, Blue Bags and he represented SSDC on the Staffordshire Waste Board; always seeking to obtain the best results for the residents whilst keeping the principles of the green agenda upheld. Len led on the programme of Leisure Centre Refurbishments, ensuring these key facilities remained fit for purpose and available to residents linking strongly with the wider health agenda. Len had a lead role in respect of Cannock Chase ANOB, ensuring the protection of this nationally recognised asset. Len also led on the council's climate change agenda and was a vociferous champion of this, particularly focussing on the role of young people in this area.	
4. Any other information that indicates this person should be conferred the appointment of Honorary Alderman?	

Appendix A

He negotiated the Council through some very difficult challenges, at times to his personal detriment, warranting very special circumstances as to why he should be conferred an Honorary Alderman.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Lees', is written on a light green background.

Print name:
Cllr Roger Lees

Date 14.6.23

Please return this form to: Lorraine Fowkes, Director Legal & Governance, South Staffordshire Council, Community Hub, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall WV8 1PX who will forward the nomination to the Chairman for his/her consideration.


Appendix A

NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ROLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Please complete the following using either black ink or type (continue on separate A4 sheet if necessary):-

Name of Person being nominated:	Brian Cox
Address:	xxxxxxxxxx, Bishopswood, ST19 xxx
Tel No:	01785 840xxx
Please explain how the nominee meets the following criteria for appointment:	
1. How long has the nominee served on the District Council? The person being nominated must have served for a minimum of 20 years on the District Council.	
Brian has served 36 years on the District Council	
2. What eminent services has the nominee rendered during their time on the District Council?	
Brian has given eminent services to his residents and during his time on the District Council as Chairman of the Council, Chairman of Planning Committee for many years and also served on the Cabinet. During his 36 years' service, Brian held positions on numerous outside bodies across a range of subjects including tourism, rural transport, economic regeneration and sports provision. Brian was a strong advocate for South Staffordshire and for his ward area.	
3. What significant contribution has the nominee made to the Council and its residents?	
For many years Brian served as Chairman of Planning Committee, overseeing this sometimes contentious meeting with fairness and equanimity; ensuring all parties had an opportunity to have their say. Although he held a number of high-profile positions, Brian was first and foremost a ward representative, always keen to ensure the voices of its residents were heard.	
4. Any other information that indicates this person should be conferred the appointment of Honorary Alderman?	
In later years of his service, Brian suffered a period of ill-health. He voluntarily sought to adjust his role within the Council at the time in furtherance of the greater good; his selflessness is to be admired.	

Appendix A


<p>Signed:</p> 	<p>Print name: Cllr Roger Lees</p>
<p>Date 14.6.23</p>	

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NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ROLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Please complete the following using either black ink or type (continue on separate A4 sheet if necessary):-

Name of Person being nominated:	Janet Johnson
Address:	xxxxxxxxxxx, Great Wyrley WS6 xxx
Tel No:	01922 415xxx
Please explain how the nominee meets the following criteria for appointment:	
1. How long has the nominee served on the District Council? The person being nominated must have served for a minimum of 20 years on the District Council.	
Janet has served 27 years in total on the District Council; firstly from 1987 to 1994 and then from 2003 through to 2023.	
2. What eminent services has the nominee rendered during their time on the District Council?	
Janet has given eminent services to her residents and during her time on the District Council as Chairman of the Council and also chaired the Wellbeing Select Committee for a number of years.	
3. What significant contribution has the nominee made to the Council and its residents?	
During her tenure as Chairman of the Wellbeing Select Committee, Janet was instrumental in ensuring a breast screening provision in Codsall. Janet was an active local representative, always championing Great Wyrley and its residents.	
4. Any other information that indicates this person should be conferred the appointment of Honorary Alderman?	
In addition to serving on many committees at the Council, and a number of outside bodies, Janet undertook a number of voluntary roles in the local community including being a school governor, and trustee and very active member of Landywood Volunter Help Centre.	
Signed: 	Print name: Cllr Roger Lees
Date 14.6.23	


Appendix A

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Appendix A

NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ROLE OF HONORARY ALDERMAN OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Please complete the following using either black ink or type (continue on separate A4 sheet if necessary):-

Name of Person being nominated:	Christine Raven
Address:	xxxxxxxxxx, Penkridge ST19 xxx
Tel No:	01785 715xxx
Please explain how the nominee meets the following criteria for appointment:	
1. How long has the nominee served on the District Council? The person being nominated must have served for a minimum of 20 years on the District Council.	
Christine has served 20 years on the District Council, from 2003 to 2023.	
2. What eminent services has the nominee rendered during their time on the District Council?	
Christine has given eminent services to her residents and during her time on the District Council as Chairman of the Council and also chaired several sub-committees.	
3. What significant contribution has the nominee made to the Council and its residents?	
Christine was first and foremost a local representative, representing the residents and business of Penkridge throughout her period of service; ensuring that the residents of her area had an effective voice. Christine was well known and respected locally.	
4. Any other information that indicates this person should be conferred the appointment of Honorary Alderman?	
Signed:	Print name: Cllr Roger Lees
	
Date 14.6.23	

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