

City Council (Extraordinary) – 13 November 2023

Report of the Leader of the Council

Corporate Director/ Director:

Malcolm Townroe, Director of Legal and Governance

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Title: Appointment of Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen

Does the report form part of the Budget or Policy Framework?

Yes No

Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication?

No

Relevant Council Plan Key Outcome:

Green, Clean and Connected Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Working	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carbon Neutral by 2028	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safer Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child-Friendly Nottingham	<input type="checkbox"/>
Living Well in our Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keeping Nottingham Moving	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve the City Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serving People Well	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Summary

- 1.1 Provision exists within the Local Government Act 1972 to appoint former councillors who, in the opinion of the Council, have provided eminent service to the Council as Honorary Aldermen or Alderwomen.
- 1.2 This report proposes the appointment of seven former councillors as Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To appoint Merlita Bryan, Eunice Campbell-Clark, Rosemary Jacobs (formerly Healy), Sally Longford, Anne Peach, Roger Steel and David Trimble as Honorary Aldermen/ Alderwomen.

3. Reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 The former councillors nominated to receive the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman have, in the opinion of current councillors, provided eminent service to Nottingham City Council.

4. Other options considered in making recommendations

- 4.1 Councillors had the option to identify former councillors who had provided particularly eminent service to the Council and therefore warranted nomination to receive the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman at this time. Seven individuals have been nominated to receive the title.

5. Consideration of Risk

- 5.1 No significant risks identified.

6. Best Value Considerations

- 6.1 Efforts have been made to ensure that the process of making the appointments, which recognise the eminent service of former councillors who have volunteered their time in the service of the Council and its local communities over many years, is at minimal cost to the Council.

7. Background (including outcomes of consultation)

- 7.1 Provision exists within the Local Government Act 1972 to appoint former councillors who, in the opinion of the Council, have provided eminent service to the Council as Honorary Aldermen or Alderwomen.
- 7.2 Honorary Aldermen/ Alderwomen must be appointed by two thirds of councillors voting at a specially convened Extraordinary meeting of Council.
- 7.3 Councillors have nominated the following individuals to receive the title: Merlita Bryan, Eunice Campbell-Clark, Rosemary Jacobs (formerly Healy), Sally Longford, Anne Peach, Roger Steel and David Trimble. A summary of the service of these individuals is set out below.

7.4 Merlita Bryan

Merlita Bryan was first elected to Nottingham City Council in May 2007 and served as a councillor for the Arboretum area of the City (initially the then Arboretum Ward and latterly the Hyson Green and Arboretum Ward) for 16 years. During her time as a councillor she was an active member of the Council's scrutiny committees and for several years chaired the Area Committee for the area that she served. Between 2019 and 2021 Merlita was the Executive Assistant for Schools. She worked hard to recognise the achievements of Nottingham's black and ethnic minorities communities. She set up the Black Achievers Award and, as Lord Mayor and Sheriff, she celebrated events such as Jamaican Independence Day and Windrush Day. Merlita held the office of Lord Mayor in 2013/2014 and Sheriff in 2012/13 and again in 2021/22. In her civic year, as Lord Mayor Merlita hosted Julius Garvey M.D, son of Marcus Mosiah Garvey, III, Jamaican activist. Merlita also introduced the Lord Mayor's Certificate for school children with 100% attendance.

7.5 Eunice Campbell-Clark

Eunice Campbell-Clark was a councillor in the city and county for over 34 years. During her time on the County Council she sat on the Fostering and Adoption Panel and championed the Early Years and Childcare Partnership. Eunice served the

City's then Byron Ward between 1996 and 2003 and was then elected to the Bulwell Forest Ward in May 2003, which she served continuously until she stood down in May 2023. Eunice was a member of the Council's Executive for many years holding Portfolios focusing on adult social care, health, personnel and HR and equalities issues. Throughout her time as a councillor she championed equality and diversity, representing the black and ethnic minority community and as a champion for older people. Eunice also represented the Council on the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority between 2013 and 2018; Nottingham Revenue and Benefits; and the East Midlands Shared Services Committee with Leicestershire County Councillors. Between 2008 – 2023 Eunice served on the Local Government Association (LGA) representing the East Midlands region on the Council of Europe, in 2016 - 2018 Eunice was elected as the first Caribbean woman to represent the Congress of Regions and was voted the 1st Vice President in 2016 - 2018.

7.6 Rosemary Jacobs (formerly Healy)

Rosemary Healy was elected to the Mapperley Ward in May 2011 and served that ward for 12 years until she stood down in 2023. During that time, she served on a range of different committees including the Council's scrutiny committees, Planning Committee and Licensing Committee. She held the position of Executive Assistant for 3 years supporting the Executive on matters including area working and neighbourhoods and was the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and Cleansing Services in 2021/22. Rosemary was Lord Mayor in 2019/20 and 2020/21 during the Covid 19 pandemic, representing the City in the most difficult of times. She has since taken her married name – Rosemary Jacobs.

7.7 Sally Longford

Sally Longford was first elected as a councillor in May 2011, initially for the then Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey Ward and then in 2019 as a councillor for the Lenton and Wollaton East Ward, a position that she held until she stood down in May 2023. Sally was a councillor for 12 years. She was Deputy Leader of the Council for three of those years, showing leadership through the Covid-19 pandemic and during Government intervention. Having served as the Majority Group Whip, Sally was a member of the Executive between 2017 and 2023 holding Portfolios covering neighbourhood services, transport, energy and the environment. She was an active member of the Planning Committee throughout her time as a councillor. She championed the Council's ambition for carbon neutrality by 2028 and tackling climate change. This work will have a long-lasting impact on the city of Nottingham for years and decades to come.

7.8 Anne Peach

Anne Peach was a councillor for 10 years serving the Radford area of the City, having been first elected in a by-election in November 2013. She was a councillor for the then Radford and Park Ward between 2013 and 2019 and the Radford Ward between 2019 and 2023, and during that time fought to protect local amenities for those communities. She was an active member of the Council's scrutiny committees holding the key positions of Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee between 2016 and 2019 and Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee between 2019 and 2022, holding senior officers and Portfolio Holders to account and ensuring good governance across the Council.

7.9 Roger Steel

Roger Steel was a councillor representing the Clifton area of the City for over 8 years. He was elected to serve the Clifton North Ward between May 2011 and May 2015 and then again during 2018/2019. He was elected to serve the Clifton West Ward in May 2019, which he did until 2023. During his time as a councillor he served on a number of committees including the local area committee, Licensing Committee, Regulatory and Appeals Committee, Planning Committee, Trusts and Charities Committee and the Standards Committee and worked hard to represent the residents of Clifton, Wilford and Silverdale.

7.10 David Trimble

David Trimble was a councillor for over 29 years. He was first elected as a City councillor in a by-election in October 1993 and was a councillor for the then Park Ward between 1993 and 2003, the Dunkirk and Lenton Ward between 2003 and 2019 and the Lenton and Wollaton East Ward between 2019 and 2023. David was a member of the Council's Executive for a total of 16 years with Portfolios including housing, social services, communities, leisure and culture. During his tenure he made a lasting impact on Nottingham through many major projects by leading the 10 year Leisure Transformation Programme. This included securing significant investment for Nottingham Castle, as well as major investment in libraries across the city including setting in motion the development of the plans for the development of the new Central Library and major investment in leisure centres across the city including the new Harvey Hadden Sports Village which opened in 2015. Having set a commitment for Nottingham to have the highest number of Green Flag accredited parks and green spaces of any local authority in the UK, the Council went from having 6 Green Flags to 71 Green Flags – far exceeding any other local authority area. Much of the funding for this was secured externally and for parks 90% was externally funded. David held the position of Lord Mayor in 2021/22.

8. Finance colleague comments (including implications and value for money)

This report proposes the appointment of seven former councillors as Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen. The activity will be funded from existing budgets in 2023-24. There is no additional financial implication as a direct or indirect result of this work.

Alfred Ansong, Strategic Finance Business Partner 23/10/2023

9. Legal colleague comments

- 9.1 As referred to in the body of the report the power to appoint Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen is contained in the Local Government Act 1972. The specific provision, which is under s249 of that act, requires not less than 2/3rds of the members voting at the meeting, specially convened for that purpose, to pass the resolution for the titles to be conferred.

Malcolm R. Townroe – Director of Legal and Governance – 1 November 2023

10. Other relevant comments

- 11.1 None

11. Crime and Disorder Implications (If Applicable)

11.1 Not applicable

12. Social value considerations (If Applicable)

12.1 Not applicable

13. Regard to the NHS Constitution (If Applicable)

13.1 Not applicable

14. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

14.1 Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



An EIA is not required because the recommendations do not relate to a new or changing policy of service.

15. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)

15.1 Has the data protection impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



A DPIA is not required because the proposals do not relate to the use of personal or sensitive data.

16. Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA)

16.1 Has the carbon impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



A CIA is not required because the proposals do not have any significant carbon impact.

17. List of background papers relied upon in writing this report (not including published documents or confidential or exempt information)

17.1 None

18. Published documents referred to in this report

18.1 Local Government Act 1972

**Councillor David Mellen
Leader of the Council**