



Appointment of Honorary Titles Committee

Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at 5.00pm
Belle Vue Offices, Skipton

Please note the following advice in advance of the meeting:

Whilst there is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face covering or continue to social distance, please be considerate towards the wellbeing of others.

Anyone showing Covid symptoms or feeling unwell, are asked not to attend an in-person meeting, this is in the interest of general infection control. Further guidance can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Membership: The Chair (Councillor Myers) and Councillors Foster, Brockbank, Brown, Madeley and Solloway

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence** – To receive any apologies for absence.
2. **Public Participation** – In the event that any questions/statements are received or members of the public attend, the public participation session will proceed for a period of up to fifteen minutes.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – All Members are invited to declare at this point any interests they have in items appearing on this agenda, including the nature of those interests.

(Note: Declarations should be in the form of:

a “**disclosable pecuniary interest**” under Appendix A to the Council’s Code of Conduct, or “**other interests**” under Appendix B or under Paragraph 16 where a matter arises at the meeting which relates to a financial interest of a friend, relative or close associate.

A Member of Council who has a disclosable pecuniary interest must leave the room and not take part in the discussion or vote. When declaring interests under

Appendix B or Paragraph 16 of the Code, Members must move to the public seating area, not vote, and speak only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting.)

4. Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen – Report of the Democratic Services Manager

Purpose of report – To consider appointing Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen in accordance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972.

5. Any other items which the Chair decides are urgent in accordance with Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Agenda Contact Officer:

Alice Fox, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

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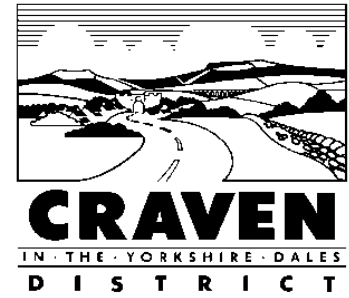
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Recording at Council Meetings: Recording is allowed at Council, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings which are open to the public, subject to

(i) the recording being conducted with the full knowledge of the Chair of the meeting; and

(ii) compliance with the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at meetings, a copy of which is available on request. Anyone wishing to record must contact the agenda contact officer (details above) prior to the start of the meeting. Any recording must be conducted openly and not disrupt proceedings.

Appointment of Honorary Titles Committee – 13 December 2022



Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen

Report of the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Ward(s) affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider appointing Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen in accordance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider appointing Honorary Aldermen and Alderwomen in the final year of Craven District Council.
- 2.2 That the Appointment of Honorary Titles Committee presents its recommendations to an Extraordinary Council meeting convened specifically for that purpose.

3. Background

- 3.1 Craven District Council (CDC) has the power to grant the office of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman to those it is felt have “rendered eminent services to the Council as past members of that Council” (s249, Local Government Act 1972).
- 3.2 On 1 December 2015, Full Council approved to increase the eligible period of former service as a Craven District Councillor as a qualification for appointment as an Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman from 15 to 20 years, which need not be continuous.

4. Report

- 4.1 On 31 March 2023, a total of 8 currently serving Councillors will have served at least 20 years. A further 4 currently serving Councillors will have served at least 15 years (see attached appendix).
- 4.2 Consultation with the other North Yorkshire authorities concludes that the eligibility period to qualify for appointment as an Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman ranges from 15 to 20 years. Some authorities specify that they also have to demonstrate “eminent service”, though there is no official definition of what this constitutes as. One authority has chosen the alternative

phrase of “a significant contribution to the Council and the people it represents”.

- 4.3 In addition to those Councillors who have 20 years of service, the Committee may wish to consider Councillors who have not yet served 20 years, but who, in their views, have provided “eminent services” to the Council and to the people of the Craven District.
- 4.4 As North Yorkshire Council is a continuing authority, Councillors who are currently members of both CDC and NYCC (“dual-hatted” members) will continue as North Yorkshire Council members from the 1 April 2023 and their length of service will be carried forward. This means that for the purpose of the Local Government Act 1972, they are not past members, as their time in office will continue uninterrupted, and therefore they would not normally be eligible for Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman.
- 4.5 There is a consensus that qualifying district and borough members, who are also serving members of NYCC can be made honorary Aldermen or Alderwomen by their district or borough council. Whilst serving on North Yorkshire Council, use of this title will be suspended.
- 4.6 Once these members stop serving on North Yorkshire Council, and if they meet the eligibility criteria, they will receive the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman from the new unitary authority. We have been informed that whilst North Yorkshire Council will honour Aldermen and Alderwomen, it is unlikely that they will be marking the occasions with official ceremonies.
- 4.7 Craven District Council has previously appointed Beth Graham and Marcia Turner as Honorary Alderwomen and Kenneth Hart as Honorary Alderman.

5. Financial and Value for Money Implications

- 5.1 There will be expenditure in providing a scroll to those awarded the honorary title and placing names on the Roll of Honorary Aldermen/Alderwomen. This can be met within the Member Services budget.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 Powers to grant the office of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman to who it is felt have “rendered eminent services to the Council as past members of that Council” (s249, Local Government Act 1972).

7. Contribution to Council Priorities

8. Impact on the declared Climate Emergency

- 8.1 No impact.

9. Risk Management

- 9.1 There is a risk that the reputation of any Councillor awarded the Honorary Title may change between now and 1 April 2023.

10. Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) Statement

10.1 A Chief Finance Officer statement is not required for this report.

11. Monitoring Officer Statement

11.1 A Monitoring Officer statement is not required for this report.

12. Equality Impact Analysis

12.1 Not relevant.

13. Consultations with Others

13.1 Chief Executive, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer, Chief Finance Officer

14. Background Documents

14.1 There are no background documents

15. Appendices

15.1 Appendix A -Length of Service of all current Craven District Councillors

16. Author of the Report

Alice Fox, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

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Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

AGENDA ITEM 4 APPENDIX 1

Members' Length and Continuity of Service to 31st March 2023

Councillors with at least 20 years' service at 31 March 2023

Councillor	Current Length of Service	Previous Lengths of Service	Total
Councillor Philip Barrett	24	6	30
Councillor Robert Heseltine	20	7, 16	43
Councillor David Ireton	25		25
Councillor Eric Jaquin	11	4, 6	21
Councillor Carl Lis	34		34
Councillor Stephen Place	26		26
Councillor Andrew Solloway	21		21
Councillor Alan Sutcliffe	13	7	20

Councillors with at least 15 years' service at 31 March 2023

Councillor	Current Length of Service	Previous Lengths of Service	Total
Councillor Richard Foster	19		19
Councillor Christopher Harbron	16		16
Councillor Peter Madeley	9	6	15
Councillor Mark Wheeler	4	12	16
Councillor Paul Whitaker	7	3, 8	18

Councillors with less than 15 years' service at 31 March 2023

Councillor	Current Length of Service	Previous Lengths of Service	Total
Councillor Linda Brockbank	13		13
Councillor Andrew Brown	6		6
Councillor Stuart Handley	4		4
Councillor Wendy Hull	8		8
Councillor William Mercer	7		7
Councillor Sue Metcalfe	4		4
Councillor Robert Moorby	11		11
Councillor Stephen Morrell	8		8
Councillor Patrick Mulligan	9		9
Councillor Simon Myers	12		12
Councillor David Noland	4		4
Councillor Robert Ogden	2		2
Councillor David Pighills	2	4	6
Councillor Richard Pringle	4		4
Councillor Chris Rose	7		7
Councillor Brian Shuttleworth	7		7
Councillor David Staveley	13		13