

## **APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY TITLES COMMITTEE**

**13 December 2022**

**In attendance:** Councillors Myers (Chair), Foster, Brockbank, Brown, Madeley and Solloway

**Officers:** Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) and Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

**Apologies for absence:** None

Start: 5.00pm

Finish: 5:30pm

### **Minutes for Decision**

AHT.2

### **HONORARY ALDERMEN AND ALDERWOMEN**

The Democratic Services Manager submitted a report which asked the Committee to consider awarding Alderman or Alderwoman status in accordance with Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972. Members were reminded that in 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.

The Committee is required to present their recommendations at an Extraordinary Council Meeting in February 2023.

Councillor Solloway pointed out that some Members have served for longer than they were elected for as elections were cancelled during the Covid pandemic. Also, it should be recognised that some long serving Members have retired.

Members agreed that Councillors who have served at least 20 years should be awarded Alderman/ Alderwoman status. There was discussion around if they should look at other Members who have served less than 20 years but have provided exemplary service, especially given that this is the final year of Craven District Council.

The following actions were agreed:

- The Solicitor to the Council to confirm the protocol for awarding post-humous awards and Freedom of Craven awards. Once this has been established, the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager to ask all Councillors for their nominations for post-humous or Freedom of Craven recognition.
- The Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager to establish how the other North Yorkshire authorities are proposing to recognise Aldermen/Alderwomen and other awards similar to post-humous or Freedom of Craven.
- The Appointment of Honorary Titles Committee will convene a further meeting in January.

### **Recommended –**

- a) That, Alderman and Alderwoman status to be awarded to Members who have served at least 20 years' service (need not be continuous service).
- b) That, Members of the Committee should consider if length of service could be

- reduced to 15 years.
- c) That, the Solicitor to the Council will confirm the protocol for formally awarding post-humous and Freedom of Craven awards.
  - d) That, the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager will circulate the criteria and ask all Councillors for their nominations for post-humous or Freedom of Craven recognition.
  - e) That, an Appointment of Honorary Titles Committee is convened in January 2023 and recommendations presented to an ECM in February 2023.

Chairman.