



COUNCIL

MEETING : Thursday, 24th March 2022

PRESENT : Cllrs. Finnegan (Chair), Tracey (Vice-Chair), Cook, Norman, S. Chambers, Hilton, Pullen, Gravells MBE, Morgan, Wilson, Bhaimia, Williams, D. Brown, Taylor, Field, Organ, Patel, Toleman, Brooker, J. Brown, Hyman, Melvin, Bowkett, Ackroyd, Castle, A. Chambers, Chambers-Dubus, Dee, Durdey, Evans, Kubaszczyk, O'Donnell, Padilla, Radley and Sawyer

Others in Attendance

Managing Director

Monitoring Officer

Director of Communities

Director of Policy and Resources

Policy and Governance Manager

Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

Mr Robin Morris

Mr Garry Mills

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Hudson, Lewis, Conder and Zaman

84. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

84.1 There were no declarations of interest.

85. ADMISSION OF HONORARY FREEMAN

85.1 Councillor Morgan moved and Councillor Pullen seconded the following motion:

That pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, Mr Robin Morris be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Gloucester in recognition of his significant contribution to the character and life of the City through his many years of active involvement in the protection and preservation of Gloucester's unique heritage.

85.2 Councillor Morgan praised the outstanding contribution Mr Morris had made to the City over a period of fifty years noting that he had been a founding

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member of Gloucester Civic Trust as well as its Chair for forty years. Councillor Morgan also pointed to Mr. Morris' position as Senior Officer of the Order of St. John and his receiving of the award of MBE as further testament to his qualifications for receiving the award of Honorary Freeman. On behalf of the people of Gloucester, Councillor Morgan thanked Mr Morris for his significant contribution to the character and life of the City of Gloucester.

- 85.3 In seconding the motion, Councillor Pullen recounted the port status of Gloucester being bestowed upon it in 1580 and that Mr. Morris had organised the 400th anniversary of this event through the Gloucester Civic Trust which had been an integral part of regenerating the Docks area of the City. Councillor Pullen paid tribute to his work over many years in his many and varied roles.
- 85.4 Councillor Hilton spoke in favour of the motion and stated that it was a thoroughly deserved award. He stated his belief that the Westgate area of the City would have been different today were it not for Mr. Morris' endeavours in terms of, not only his work to regenerate the area but to also preserve its historic nature.
- 85.5 Mr. Morris addressed Council expressing his gratitude for receiving the honour of the award. He thanked Members for their kind words and implored all to continue to preserve Gloucester's heritage.
- 85.6 **RESOLVED that:-** pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, Mr Robin Morris be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Gloucester in recognition of his significant contribution to the character and life of the City through his many years of active involvement in the protection and preservation of Gloucester's unique heritage.

86. FREEDOM OF ENTRY

- 86.1 Councillor Gravells moved and Councillor Hilton seconded the following motion:
- That pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Gloucester Branch of the Royal British Legion be granted Freedom of Entry to the City of Gloucester in recognition of their significant contribution and eminent service to the City.
- 86.2 Councillor Gravells praised the good work of the Royal British Legion (RBL) in Gloucester and particularly recalled the good work of a number of key individuals. He paid tribute to the organisers of the annual Poppy Appeal and noted that in this, the centenary year of RBL the Gloucester branch aimed to raise £100k. Additionally, Councillor Gravells encouraged Members to become members of RBL themselves.
- 86.3 Councillor Hilton noted the educational work RBL had undertaken over many years and that awarding the Freedom of the City to RBL was the right thing to do, noting that numerous other areas had made the same award.

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- 86.4 Councillor Pullen noted that the founding principles of the RBL and support for veterans still applied today and pointed to the fact that the organisation continued to make a significant contribution to the City.
- 86.5 Councillor Chambers-Dubus stated that it was a well deserved award. She noted that RBL also educated people how important how support for veterans was and how peace could be achieved.
- 86.6 On behalf of the Gloucester branch of RBL, Mr. Garry Mills spoke to thank Members for their support. He recalled his work over numerous years working with Members and the wider community. Mr. Mills reiterated that the work of RBL was both to support those who had been involved in conflict and to move away from conflict in principle.
- 86.7 **RESOLVED that:-** pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Gloucester Branch of the Royal British Legion be granted Freedom of Entry to the City of Gloucester in recognition of their significant contribution and eminent service to the City.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours

Time of conclusion: 7.25 pm hours

Chair