

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON
MONDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2019, AT 7.17 P.M.**

Councillors present: Councillor Major J Sibbald (Town Mayor)
Councillors I R Cameron, A Dunford, J Goodman,
J T Hannaby, A C Menzies, J E Nunn-Price,
I L Sheldon, Dr C Walters and C H Wills-Wright.

Others present: Eighteen members of the public

Clerk: W P Falkenau.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Crawford, Curley, Duveen, Gilhome, Johnson and O'Leary.

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

None.

46. Statements and questions from the public

None.

47. Honorary Freedom of the Town

Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a relevant authority, such as Wantage Town Council, to admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority:

- (a) persons of distinction, and
- (b) persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area.

This requires a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting on it at a meeting of the Council, specially convened for the purpose and where notice of the object of the meeting has been given.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald
SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman

IT WAS MOVED that in accordance with the provisions of Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council admit Her Majesty's Ship Queen Elizabeth and Ship's Company, being persons of distinction, in recognition of their service to the Defence of the Realm and grant them the Honorary Freedom of Wantage whereby permitting Freedom of Entry into the Town with the right, title, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of Wantage on ceremonial occasions with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, bands playing and Colours flying. In a vote the proposition was unanimously approved.

A letter confirming the Freedom offer was presented to Commodore D G Elford OBE ADC Royal Navy, Naval Regional Commander Eastern England, who signed the letter as indication of acceptance of the offer and accepted the Honorary Freedom of Wantage on behalf of the Commanding Officer of Her Majesty's Ship Queen Elizabeth and Ship's Company.

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.