



# WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

An Extraordinary Meeting of the **COUNCIL** will be held in Council Chamber - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN on **MONDAY 24 JULY 2023 AT 7.30 PM**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Parsonage', written in a cursive style.

Susan Parsonage  
Chief Executive  
Published on 14 July 2023

**Note:** Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting or participate in the meeting virtually, in accordance with the Council's Constitution. If you wish to participate either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams please contact Democratic Services.

The meeting can also be watched live using the following link:  
[https://youtube.com/live/cOcb3WX\\_8WA?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/cOcb3WX_8WA?feature=share)

This meeting will be filmed for inclusion on the Council's website. Please note that other people may film, record, tweet or blog from this meeting. The use of these images or recordings is not under the Council's control.

<b>Our Vision</b>
<b><i>A great place to live, learn, work and grow and a great place to do business</i></b>
<b>Enriching Lives</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Champion excellent education and enable our children and young people to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background.</li> <li>• Support our residents to lead happy, healthy lives and provide access to good leisure facilities to enable healthy choices for everyone.</li> <li>• Engage and empower our communities through arts and culture and create a sense of identity for the Borough which people feel part of.</li> <li>• Support growth in our local economy and help to build business.</li> </ul>
<b>Providing Safe and Strong Communities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and safeguard our children, young and vulnerable people.</li> <li>• Offer quality care and support, at the right time, to reduce the need for long term care.</li> <li>• Nurture our communities: enabling them to thrive and families to flourish.</li> <li>• Ensure our Borough and communities remain safe for all.</li> </ul>
<b>Enjoying a Clean and Green Borough</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play as full a role as possible to achieve a carbon neutral Borough, sustainable for the future.</li> <li>• Protect our Borough, keep it clean and enhance our green areas for people to enjoy.</li> <li>• Reduce our waste, promote re-use, increase recycling and improve biodiversity.</li> <li>• Connect our parks and open spaces with green cycleways.</li> </ul>
<b>Delivering the Right Homes in the Right Places</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer quality, affordable, sustainable homes fit for the future.</li> <li>• Ensure the right infrastructure is in place, early, to support and enable our Borough to grow.</li> <li>• Protect our unique places and preserve our natural environment.</li> <li>• Help with your housing needs and support people, where it is needed most, to live independently in their own homes.</li> </ul>
<b>Keeping the Borough Moving</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve our roads, footpaths and cycleways.</li> <li>• Tackle traffic congestion and minimise delays and disruptions.</li> <li>• Enable safe and sustainable travel around the Borough with good transport infrastructure.</li> <li>• Promote healthy alternative travel options and support our partners in offering affordable, accessible public transport with good transport links.</li> </ul>
<b>Changing the Way We Work for You</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be relentlessly customer focussed.</li> <li>• Work with our partners to provide efficient, effective, joined up services which are focussed around our customers.</li> <li>• Communicate better with customers, owning issues, updating on progress and responding appropriately as well as promoting what is happening in our Borough.</li> <li>• Drive innovative, digital ways of working that will connect our communities, businesses and customers to our services in a way that suits their needs.</li> </ul>
<b>Be the Best We Can Be</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be an organisation that values and invests in all our colleagues and is seen as an employer of choice.</li> <li>• Embed a culture that supports ambition, promotes empowerment and develops new ways of working.</li> <li>• Use our governance and scrutiny structures to support a learning and continuous improvement approach to the way we do business.</li> <li>• Be a commercial council that is innovative, whilst being inclusive, in its approach with a clear focus on being financially resilient.</li> <li>• Maximise opportunities to secure funding and investment for the Borough.</li> <li>• Establish a renewed vision for the Borough with clear aspirations.</li> </ul>

To: The Members of Wokingham Borough Council

ITEM NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
32.		<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
		To receive any apologies for absence.	
33.		<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
		To receive any declarations of interest.	
34.		<b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b>	
		To answer any public questions.	
		A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions submitted under notice.	
		The Council welcomes questions from members of the public about the work of the Council.	
		Subject to meeting certain timescales, questions can relate to general issues concerned with the work of the Council or an item which is on the Agenda for this meeting. For full details of the procedure for submitting questions please contact the Democratic Services Section on the numbers given below or go to <a href="http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions">www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions</a>	
35.	None Specific	<b>APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMAN</b>	5 - 8
		In accordance with the Protocol for the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen of Wokingham Borough Council, as agreed at the Annual Council meeting held on 19 May 2016 and amended in 2018, a nomination has been received for past Member of Council Angus Ross to be conferred the title of Honorary Alderman. Council is asked to consider this nomination and whether to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Mr Ross.	
		<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	
		That this Council, in sincere appreciation of the distinguished public service rendered by him to the Borough of Wokingham does hereby admit Mr Angus Ross to be an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Wokingham in recognition of his untiring service over a period of 32 years to the people of the Borough and particularly to those of the Wokingham Without Ward; on Committees of the Council, including as an Executive Member, to local organisations including the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority, and in the offices of Chairman and Mayor.	

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

**Priya Patel**  
**Email**  
**Postal Address**

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Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN

# Agenda Item 35.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Appointment of Honorary Alderman</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Council on 24 July 2023
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Susan Parsonage, Chief Executive

## **OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

The position of Honorary Alderman is intended to acknowledge the eminent services of past Members of the Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That this Council, in sincere appreciation of the distinguished public service rendered by him to the Borough of Wokingham does hereby admit Mr Angus Ross to be an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Wokingham in recognition of his untiring service over a period of 32 years to the people of the Borough and particularly to those of the Wokingham Without Ward; on Committees of the Council, including as an Executive Member, to local organisations including the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority, and in the offices of Chairman and Mayor.

## **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

In accordance with the Protocol for the Appointment of Honorary Aldermen of Wokingham Borough Council, which was agreed by Council on 19 May 2016, and amended in 2018, a nomination has been received for a past Member of Council to be conferred the title of Honorary Alderman in recognition of his eminent services during his time on the District/Borough Council. Council is therefore asked to consider this nomination.

## **Background**

1.1 Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the title of Honorary Alderman can be conferred on “persons who have, in the opinion of the Council rendered eminent services to the Council, but who are not then Councillors of the Council”.

1.2 In order to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on a past Member of Council a meeting of the whole Council needs to be convened specifically for this purpose and the resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the voting Members present at that meeting.

## **2. Role of Honorary Alderman**

2.1 An Honorary Alderman may attend and take part in civic events organised by Wokingham Borough Council and is entitled to wear the badge of ‘Honorary Alderman’ at such events. An Honorary Alderman will receive invitations to all civic and social events to which Members of the Council are also invited.

2.2 The badge of Honorary Alderman must only be worn at civic events outside the Borough at the specific request of the organisers of the event.

2.3 Those elected to the roll of Honorary Alderman are entitled to use the title ‘Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Wokingham’.

2.4 An Honorary Alderman does not carry any right to attend meetings of the Council or its committees or to claim any allowances payable under the Members’ Allowances Scheme.

## **3. Criteria for Appointment**

3.1 The appointment of Honorary Alderman is to confer recognition on previous Councillors who, over a period of time, have made a significant contribution to the Council in particular and public service.

3.2 Any person nominated must meet the following criteria:

- a) No longer holds the position of Councillor;
- b) Must have served for a minimum of 20 years on the District/Borough Council;
- c) Must have rendered eminent services during their time on the District/Borough Council;
- d) Must have made a significant contribution to the Council and the people it represents.

3.3 Past Member of Council, Angus Ross has been duly nominated having met the criteria in 3.2 above. Mr Ross was a District/Borough Councillor for 32 years and represented Wokingham Without Ward during this time, as well as being the last Chairman of Wokingham District Council and the first Mayor of the Borough Council.

In his time on the Council, Mr Ross has played a significant role for the Borough in many organisations such as the Veteran Tree Association, and the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority, and has also served as the Council’s Armed Forces Champion.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

***The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.***

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£912.50	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A	N/A	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A	N/A	Revenue

### **Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision**

£912.50 is required to purchase a Badge of Office and Illuminated Scroll. Costs will be met from the Mayor's and Democratic Services' budgets.

### **Cross-Council Implications**

None

### **Public Sector Equality Duty**

N/A

***Climate Emergency – This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030***

None

### **Reasons for considering the report in Part 2**

None

### **List of Background Papers**

None

<b>Contact:</b> Madeleine Shopland	<b>Service:</b> Governance
<b>Telephone No:</b> 07783 828176	<b>Email:</b> madeleine.shopland@wokingha.gov.uk

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