

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

Friday, 9 March 2018 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Sir Steve Bullock (Mayor), Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Peter Bernards, Kevin Bonavia, Bill Brown, Suzannah Clarke, Janet Daby, Brenda Dacres, Amanda De Ryk, Joe Dromey, Damien Egan, Colin Elliott, Mark Ingleby, Stella Jeffrey, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Jim Mallory, Sophie McGeevor, David Michael, John Muldoon, John Paschoud, Joan Reid, Jonathan Slater, Alan Till and James-J Walsh.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Obajimi Adefiranye, Councillor Chris Best, Councillor Alan Hall, Councillor Joan Millbank, Councillor Hilary Moore, Councillor Rachel Onikosi, Councillor Jacq Paschoud, Councillor Luke Sorba and Councillor Susan Wise.

151. Summons

Sir Ian Mills

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that this special meeting of the Council was to confer upon Sir Ian Mills the Honorary Freedom of the London Borough of Lewisham.

The Vice Chair then announced that, under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, a Borough Council can admit to the Honorary Freedom of the Borough, 'persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough'. He then called upon the Chief Executive to read out the resolution of the Council passed at a meeting of the Council on November 22 2017.

The Acting Chief Executive formally reported that it was resolved that Sir Ian Mills be admitted as an Honorary Freewoman of the London Borough of Lewisham "It is recommended that Sir Ian Mills be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the London Borough of Lewisham in recognition of his service to the Borough and its citizens over many years. He has played key roles not only in Lewisham but across the city, including for the London NHS. He was a transformational chair of Age Exchange leading it to become the key hub it is today for Blackheath. He has been the founding chair of Youth First helping to secure quality provision for our young people. His personal contribution to its launch has been extraordinary and he continues to support our young people with an enthusiasm and a commitment that epitomises a lifetime of service and demonstrates why he is an appropriate recipient of the highest award the borough can make."

Sir Ian Mills then signed the Freedom Roll of Honour and his signature was witnessed by the Mayor and the Acting Chief Executive.

The Vice Chair, after paying his own personal tribute to Sir Ian then called upon, in turn, the Mayor, Canon Reverend Alan Race of St. Margaret's Church Lee, David Savill, Artistic Director of Age Exchange, Melanie Jones,

Chief Executive of Talkabout Arts Trust, Mervyn Kaye, Chief Executive of Youth First and Councillor Kevin Bonavia to speak in support of the Council's recommendation.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, then presented to Sir Ian Mills a casket containing the Council's resolution inscribed on a vellum scroll and sealed by the Council. The Mayor further highlighted congratulatory messages received from Freewoman Bridget Prentice and from Rafa Benitez, Manager of the legendary Newcastle United Football Club.

The Honorary Freeman then responded and concluded by thanking the Council for the honour that had been accorded to him.

The meeting closed at 8.59pm.