

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 24 July 2019 at 7.10 pm

PRESENT: Damien Egan (Mayor), Councillors Tauseef Anwar, Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Chris Best, Kevin Bonavia, Andre Bourne, Bill Brown, Juliet Campbell, Patrick Codd, Tom Copley, Brenda Dacres, Amanda De Ryk, Joe Dromey, Carl Handley, Mark Ingleby, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Caroline Kalu, Silvana Kelleher, Sophie McGeevor, Joan Millbank, Hilary Moore, John Muldoon, Jacq Paschoud (Chair), John Paschoud, James Rathbone, Joani Reid, Sakina Sheikh, Jonathan Slater, Alan Smith, Luke Sorba, James-J Walsh and Susan Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Obajimi Adefiranye, Councillor Abdeslam Amrani, Councillor Peter Bernards, Councillor Suzannah Clarke, Councillor Leo Gibbons, Councillor Louise Krupski, Councillor Pauline Morrison, Councillor Olurotimi Ogunbadewa and Councillor Eva Stamirowski.

20. Proposal to Grant Honorary Freedoms

The proposal to award two new Honorary Freedoms, to Sir Steve Bullock DL and Kris Hibbert was proposed by the Mayor who recounted their significant contributions to public life in the borough and urged the Council to support their nominations.

The Mayor indicated there would be a joint ceremony for the two recipients in November 2019, at which time there would be the opportunity for members to offer individual tributes.

The recommendations were seconded by the Deputy Mayor, who acknowledged the contributions of both recipients

The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote and these were confirmed to be carried unanimously by 34 votes to nil.

RESOLVED that

1) Pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, Sir Steve Bullock DL be awarded the freedom of the London Borough of Lewisham.

It is recommended that Sir Steve Bullock DL be awarded the freedom of the London Borough of Lewisham in recognition of his service to the Borough and its citizens over many years.

Sir Steve was the first directly elected Mayor of Lewisham, serving for 16 years from 2002-2018. Prior to that he was elected as a councillor from 1982, where he served as Chair of Finance, Chair of Leisure and Deputy Leader of the Council, before serving as Leader of the Council from 1988-93.

Whilst he was Mayor, Sir Steve created the Young Mayor's Programme,

which has been emulated throughout England and across Europe; led the council's response to save Lewisham A&E; and he ensured that every single secondary school in Lewisham was rebuilt. He has brought changes to Lewisham that will endure for many decades to come and his service to the borough perfectly illustrates the Council's motto Salus Populi Suprema Lex; the welfare of the people above everything else .

Sir Steve was knighted in 2007 for services to local government and was commissioned to be a Deputy Lieutenant of Greater London in 2018. Sir Steve's unique contribution to the borough and to local government in general over the past decades mean that he is an appropriate recipient of the highest award the borough can make.

(2) Pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, Kris Hibbert be awarded the freedom of the London Borough of Lewisham in recognition of her service to the Borough and its citizens over many years.

Kris served as a councillor for eight years, from 1982-90. She was a pioneer, helping set up the first local government committee on women's issues anywhere in Britain, the Women's Committee, which she served on from 1983-89. She also served on many of the Council's other major committees including Police; Leisure; and Employment and Industry, which she chaired from 1986-88.

Kris also led the fundraising work for the Lavender Trust charity. Her drive, determination and energy has led to Lewisham raising £225,000 to support younger women with breast cancer.

Kris has also made an outstanding contribution to improving the life chances of many of Lewisham's young people. She has been a governor in Lewisham for 29 years and serves as Vice Chair of the Lewisham School Governors Association.

Lewisham is proud to have Kris as in ambassador for our borough and her dedication to Lewisham makes her an appropriate recipient of the highest award the borough can make.

The meeting closed at 7.18pm