

COUNCIL			
Report Title	Announcements or Communications		
Key Decision			Item No.
Ward			
Contributors	Acting Chief Executive		
Class	Part 1	Date: July 24 2019	

Recommendation

The Council is invited to receive any announcements or communications from the Mayor or the Chief Executive.

(1) Report of the Returning Officer

To submit the return of the following persons elected as Borough Councillors on May 2 2019

Electoral Division	Name	Place of residence	Description
Evelyn	Lionel Openshaw	51 Wearside Road London, SE13 7UL	The Labour Party
Whitefoot	Kim Amanda Powell	(Address in London Borough of Lewisham)	The Labour Party Candidate

(2) Obituaries: Former Councillor Terry Scott RIP and Simon Garcha RIP

The death in April of former Mayor and Councillor Terry Scott has been reported.

Terry started off his public service as an indirectly elected Alderman in the mid 1970's. He was then elected as a Councillor in 1978 and was Mayor for the municipal year 1978-1979. Former Councillor Sylvia Scott served as his Mayoress.

In all, he served three terms as a Councillor for Grove Park ward, one term serving Marlowe ward, two terms representing Drake ward and finally one term for Brockley ward. His service as a Councillor ended in 2006 after completing twenty-eight years' service to the borough.

He was a major figure on the Council and was Chair of various committees including Highways and Planning.

His funeral took place on Wednesday 1st May at 11.30a.m. at Hither Green Crematorium, Verdant Lane, SE6.

His family requested no flowers, but instead, donations to the Deptford Labour Party or Dementia UK.

The death was also reported in May of Simon Garcha, the son of former Mayor and Councillor Gurbakhsh Garcha.

The Council will be asked to observe a minute of silence in memory of Terry Scott and Simon Garcha.

(3) Queen's Birthday Honours

The Council is asked to congratulate the following persons with a Lewisham connection who were recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Spyros Elia Chair of governors Brindishe Federation awarded an MBE.

Holocaust survivor Rachel Levy from the Catford synagogue awarded the BEM.

Elizabeth Sclater from Sydenham received an OBE for services to Older Women.

Elizabeth worked for the Council in the Women's Unit and then the Equalities Team. She is a current member of the Council's statutory Pensions Board and still supports the Pensioners Forum.

(4) Top Women Cyclists

The Council is asked to congratulate Jane Davis of Lewisham Cyclists who was named in the top 100 Women Cyclists list

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/article/jane-davis>

(5) Britain's Best Walking Neighbourhood

The Brockley bid from Lewisham for the Ramblers' competition to celebrate Britain's Best Walking Neighbourhood came second in a national public vote. The winning bid was Falkirk, meaning Lewisham was voted as the best walking neighbourhood in England. Congratulations are offered to all those involved in the bid, especially Lewisham resident Jack Cornish.

(6) Launch of Beckenham Place Park

The Council launches the renovated Beckenham Place Park on 20 July. After three years of hard work, Beckenham Place Park has been transformed into a beautiful, peaceful location which, as south east London's largest park, can now be enjoyed by all. The restored lake has been the centrepiece of this work, and the ability to swim, paddle and kayak will be a unique opportunity for Lewisham residents.

(7) Councillor Alan Hall

1 Summary

This report seeks the Council's approval of the reason for non-attendance of Councillor Alan Hall at Council meetings.

2 Purpose of this report

To approve the reason for Councillor Hall's non-attendance at Council meetings

3 Recommendation

The Council is recommended to approve the reason for Councillor Alan Hall's non-attendance at Council meetings since 13/6/19, as set out in this report.

4 Background

- 4.1 Councillor Hall's last attendance at a Council meeting was at the Public Accounts Select Committee on 13 June 2019. His family has contacted the Council to say he is unwell and unable to attend meetings.
- 4.2 Section 85(1) Local Government Act 1972 states that if a member of a local authority fails, throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his/her last attendance, to attend any meeting of the authority, then unless the failure was due to a reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, they cease to be a member.
- 4.3 If the Council approves the reason for the non-attendance as proposed, Councillor Hall will not cease to be a member on expiry of his 6 months absence. Were the Council not to approve the reason for absence, a vacancy would arise on expiry of the six month period of absence.

5 Legal implications

These are set out in the body of the report

6 Financial implications

There are no financial implications

7 Conclusion

Council is asked to approve the reason for Councillor Hall's absence as set out in this report.