

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF  
MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE ON  
27 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**Present:** Councillor Newton (Mayor) and  
Councillors Mrs Blackmore, Bryant, Burton, Cannon,  
Clark, Cleator, Coates, Conyard, Cooke, Cooper, Cox,  
Eagle, English, Forecast, Fort, Garten, Mrs Gooch,  
Mrs Grigg, Harper, Hastie, Hinder, Holmes, Jeffery,  
Jones, Joy, Khadka, Kimmance, Knatchbull, McKenna,  
Mortimer, Naghi, Parfitt-Reid, Perry, Reid, Riordan,  
Mrs Robertson, Round, Russell, J Sams, T Sams,  
Spooner, M Thompson, S Thompson, Trzebinski,  
Webb, Wilby, D Wilkinson and J Wilkinson

51. PRAYERS

Prayers were said by the Very Reverend John S Richardson of All Saints Church.

52. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bartlett, Harwood, Munford, Rose, Springett and T Wilkinson.

53. DISPENSATIONS

There were no applications for dispensations.

54. DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no disclosures by Members or Officers.

Note: Councillor Bryant entered the meeting during consideration of this item (6.35 p.m.).

55. DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING

There were no disclosures of lobbying.

56. EXEMPT ITEMS

**RESOLVED:** That the items on the agenda be taken in public as proposed.

57. PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

58. HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH - ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRANCHES

It was moved by Councillor Mrs Gooch, seconded by Councillor Round, supported by Councillors English, S Thompson, Cleator and Harper and:

**RESOLVED:** That pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 all Royal British Legion branches throughout the Borough be awarded the Honorary Freedom of the Borough in recognition of the eminent services rendered to the Borough by them and everything they have done and continue to do for our Armed Forces, veterans and families past and present; the award of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough also acknowledges branches reaching their Centenary in line with the National Royal British Legion which celebrated its 100th Anniversary throughout 2021.

Mr Alan Port (Headcorn Branch RBL), Mr Mike FitzGerald MBE (Sutton Valence and District Branch RBL) and Councillor David Naghi (Maidstone and District Branch RBL) then signed the Roll of Honorary Freemen, witnessed by the Mayor and the Chief Executive, and were presented with Certificates of Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

Mr Port, Mr FitzGerald MBE and Councillor Naghi addressed the Council indicating that they were proud and honoured to receive this award.

Note: Councillors Cannon and Fort entered the meeting during consideration of this item (6.40 p.m. and 6.42 p.m. respectively).

59. DURATION OF MEETING

6.30 p.m. to 7.20 p.m.