



EMERSONS GREEN
TOWN COUNCIL

HONORARY TITLES POLICY

Background.

1. In accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council may confer the title of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman on:

"Persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past members of that Council, but who are not then members of the Council."

2. The position of Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman is non-political.
3. Requests for an agenda item to vote for Honorary Aldermen or Honorary Alderwomen may only be made by an Emersons Green Town Councillor, and only by way of a letter or email to the Town Clerk, and only for a Member has retired from the Council.
4. Request for an agenda item to nominate an Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman may be submitted by any serving Member of the Council within a five-year period of a Member's retirement from the Council. No public nominations will be accepted.
5. The letter or email must set out the reasons for the request, and the nomination intended to be made. Certain criteria must be met.

Qualification Criteria

6. The following criteria should be applied when considering nominations for an individual to be made an Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman: -
 - a. The former Member should have served a minimum of 10 years of service on the Council, which does not have to be consecutive.

Nomination

7. No person who meets the above qualification criteria will automatically become an Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman. A nomination must still be made by the Full Council.
8. The Town Clerk must list the agenda item for nominations in a private session, excluding members of the press and the public.

9. There must be support for the nomination by a majority of the Members voting at a meeting of the Full Council where a private agenda item has been listed for this purpose.
10. Once a successful nomination has been made at the Full Council the Town Clerk must contact the nominee to confirm acceptance of the nomination.

Enrolment

11. Thereafter, the Town Clerk will advise the Mayor that an Extraordinary Full Council meeting may be arranged to undertake conferment in a formal civic ceremony.

Rights of an Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman

12. An Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman shall be entitled to the following privileges:-
 - a. To enjoy the courtesy of the title of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman and to be addressed as such;
 - b. To be named as an Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman on the Council's website;
 - c. To attend, as an observer, meetings of the Council for which a seat will be reserved;
 - d. To attend civic and social events by invitation and to which Members of the Council are invited, and at the discretion of the Council;
 - e. To walk in civic procession, as invited by the Council; and
 - f. To wear a robe on civic occasions.
 - g. There is no entitlement to any allowances as an Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman.
 - h. Honorary Aldermen/Honorary Alderwomen shall not have the right to influence meetings of the Council, or its Committees, nor have any voting rights whatsoever.

Withdrawal of the Title

13. The title of Honorary Alderman/Honorary Alderwoman may be removed, and privileges may be withdrawn at any time if the behaviour of an individual may affect the reputation of the Council.
14. The removal must be agreed upon by a majority, at a meeting of the Full Council, on the recommendation of the Town Clerk.