

Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

**9th October, 2017 at 6.00pm
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Dhallu (Chair);
Councillor P Davies (Vice-Chair);
Councillors S Crumpton, S Hosell, Melia and Rouf.

Apology: Councillor Allen

Minutes

6/17 The minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

Matter not delegated to the Committee

7/17 Honorary Freemen of the Borough

The Committee considered a proposal to admit a suitable person as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough.

Under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, a City or Borough was able to confer the office of Honorary Freeman on persons who, in the opinion of the Council, had rendered eminent service to the city or borough.

A nomination had been submitted by Councillor Gavan in respect of Dr Roy Richardson. Dr Richardson was one of Sandwell's most successful businessmen building a multi-million-pound company and was instrumental in the creation of, and major funder to, the Richardson Bros foundation.

The foundation supported many local and national causes including Macmillan care and Support, Guide Dogs, Alzheimer's Society,

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Save the Children Fund, Crimestoppers, The Prince's trust
Children's Hospital, Ellie Bishop Trust and many other charities and
sports clubs locally.

Resolved to recommend to the Council:-

- (1) that the office of Honorary Freeman of the Borough be conferred upon Dr Roy Richardson;
- (2) that the Director – Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Mayor and Leader of the Council, be authorised to make the appropriate arrangements to implement the decision.

(Meeting ended at 6.14pm)

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