

**General Purposes and Arbitration
Committee**

**Monday 20 August, 2018 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room 1,
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Agenda

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting.
3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held 19 March 2018 as a correct record.

Matter Not Delegated to the Committee

4. Nomination for Freeman of the Borough.
5. Nomination for Honorary Alderman.

**J Britton
Chief Executive**

Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution:

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

**Agenda prepared by Andrea Cowley
Democratic Services Unit
Tel No: 0121 569 3171
E-mail: andrea_cowley@sandwell.gov.uk**

This document is available in large print on request to the above telephone number. The document is also available electronically on the Committee Management Information System which can be accessed from the Council's web site on www.sandwell.gov.uk

Please note that this meeting may be filmed by members of the public and press, and may be filmed by the Council of live or subsequent broadcast on the Council's web site.

Apologies

To receive any apologies from members

Declarations of Interest

Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

Minutes of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

**19th March, 2018 at 6.00 pm
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Dhallu (Chair);
Councillors Allen, S Crumpton, P Davies and
S Hosell.

Apologies: Councillors Melia and Rouf.

3/18 **Minutes**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th
February, 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

Matters delegated to the Committee

4/18 **Polling Stations**

The Committee considered the proposed polling stations for the local elections 2018.

The Committee was also informed of the need to conduct a statutory review of existing polling stations. A review was required at least once every four years and related to all polling districts and polling places in accordance to legislative requirements. The next statutory review must be started and completed between 1st October 2018 and 31st January 2020 (inclusive).

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee
19th March, 2018

A detailed assessment of the suitability of both existing and proposed alternative polling stations would be undertaken, which would enable each station to be assessed against a defined criteria. This would ensure that each polling station was fit for purpose and had provisions for required facilities, such as disabled access. All relevant stakeholders would be included in the forthcoming consultation.

The findings of the review would be analysed and presented to the Committee for consideration, along with appropriate recommendations as soon as possible after completion.

The Committee supported both the proposed polling stations for the local elections 2018, and the need to conduct a statutory review of existing polling stations.

Resolved to recommend to the Council:-

- (1) that the polling stations for the local elections 2018, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved;
- (2) that the Director – Monitoring Officer be authorised to undertake a statutory review of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places between 1st October 2018 and 31st January 2020 (inclusive);
- (3) that a further report outlining the findings and any recommendations of the statutory review referred to in Resolution (2) above, be submitted to the General Purpose and Arbitration Committee as soon as possible thereafter.

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee
19th March, 2018

5/18

Nominations for the Offices of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Sandwell for the 2018/19 Municipal Year

In accordance with the Council's agreed process for the selection of Mayor, the Committee considered the nomination received for the office of Mayor for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

A valid nomination was received in respect of Councillor Joy Edis, and was supported by the Committee.

It was confirmed that the nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor was to be considered at the next meeting of the Council.

Resolved to recommend to the Council:-

- (1) that Councillor Joy Edis be nominated for the office of Mayor of the Borough of Sandwell for the 2018/19 Municipal Year;
- (2) that a nomination for the office of Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Sandwell for the 2018/19 Municipal Year be considered by the Council.

(Meeting ended at 6.13 pm)

Contact Officer: Rebecca Hill
Democratic Services Unit
0121 569 3834

**General Purposes and Arbitration Committee
19th March, 2018**

Appendix 1

**Schedule of Polling Stations
Local Elections 3 May 2018**

PS No	Polling District(s)	Polling Station
1	ABA	St Hilda`s Church Hall, Abbey Road
2	ABB	Abbey Infant School, Nursery Building, Maurice Road
3	ABC	Thimblemill Library, Thimblemill Road, Smethwick
4	ABD	Bearwood Primary School, Ethel Street
5	ABE	St Mary's Hall, St. Mary's Road, Smethwick
6	ABF	St Gregory's R.C. Primary School, Park Road & Wigorn Road Entrances
7	ABG	The Pavilion, Warley Woods Community Trust, 101 Lightwoods Hill
8	BLA	Blackheath Central Methodist Church, entrance from John Street
9	BLB	Rowley Regis Disability Centre, Rowley Village
10	BLC	Community Lounge, St. Giles Court, Reservoir Road
11	BLD	The Parish of The English Martyrs, 297 Oldbury Road
12	BLE	Blackheath Primary School, (Assembly Hall), Britannia Road
13	BLF, BLG	Highfields Primary School, Beeches Road
14	BLH	Blackheath Central Methodist Church, entrance from John Street
15	BRA	Langley Swimming Centre, Vicarage Road, Oldbury
16	BRB, BRC	Baptist Church Hall, Bristnall Hall Road, Oldbury
17	BRD, BRH	Our Lady & St Hubert's R C Primary School, Moat Road
18	BRE	Community Hall, Hurst Road, Smethwick
19	BRF	George Road Community Church, George Road, Oldbury
20	BRG	Barlow Homes Community Centre, Pound Road, Oldbury
21	CHA	Connor Education Centre, Connor Road
22	CHA, CHF	Connor Education Centre, Connor Road
23	CHB, CHC	Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Beaconview Road
24	CHD	Great Barr Hotel, Festival Suite, Pear Tree Drive
25	CHE	Grove Vale Primary School, Monksfield Avenue
26	CHG	West Bromwich Community Centre, Gayton Road
27	CRA	Temporary Hut, Mary MacArthur Memorial Gardens
28	CRB, CRC	Corngreaves Primary School, Plant Street
29	CRD, CRE	Holy Trinity Church, Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath
30	CRF	Temple Meadow Primary School, Clifton Street
31	CRG	Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Barrs Road
32	CRH	Timbertree Primary, Early Years, Valley Road
33	FPA	Woods Methodist Church, Coronation Road, Wednesbury
34	FPA	Woods Methodist Church, Coronation Road, Wednesbury
35	FPB	Priory Primary School, Dorsett Road, Opp. School Road
36	FPB	Priory Primary School, Dorsett Road, Opp. School Road

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee
19th March, 2018

37	FPC	Tameside Primary School, Entrance From, Price Road
38	FPD	Mesty Croft Academy, St. Luke`s Road
39	GYA	Yew Tree & Tame Bridge Community Centre, Redwood Road
40	GYA	Yew Tree & Tame Bridge Community Centre, Redwood Road
41	GYB	Q3 Academy, Community Entrance, Wilderness Lane
42	GYC	Great Barr War Memorial Hall, Corner of Chapel Lane &, Birmingham Road
43	GYD, GYE	Great Barr Library, (car park entrance Readers Walk), Birmingham Road
44	GYF	Holy Name R.C. Parish Centre, Birmingham Road, Great Barr
45	GYG	Temporary Hut 1, Woodruff Way, Walsall
46	GYG	Temporary Hut 2, Woodruff Way, Walsall
47	GBA	Jubilee Park Community Centre, Jubilee Park, Powis Avenue
48	GBA	Jubilee Park Community Centre, Jubilee Park, Powis Avenue
49	GBB	Great Bridge Primary School, (Community Room), Mount Street
50	GBC	Great Bridge Library & Children's Centre, Sheepwash Lane, Tipton
51	GBD	New Testament Church of God, Horseley Heath
52	GGA	Ryders Green Primary School, Claypit Lane
53	GGB	Hanbury Primary School, (Former Guns Village Primary), Hanbury Road
54	GGC	Lodge Road Community Centre, Lodge Road
55	GGD, GGE	Lyng Primary School, Horton Street, West Bromwich
56	GGF	Hanbury Primary School, (Former Guns Village Primary), Hanbury Road
57	GGG	Farley Park Lodge Community Centre, Whitehall Road
58	HHA	St John Bosco School, Monmouth Drive, West Bromwich
59	HHB	Moorlands Methodist Church Hall, (Cornerstone Fellowship), Hydes Road
60	HHC	Holy Cross R.C. Church Hall, Hall Green Road
61	HHD	Hall Green Primary School, Westminster Road
62	HHE	Sandwell Community School, West Bromwich Campus, Former Bridge Centre
63	HHF	West Bromwich Community Centre, Gayton Road
64	HHG	Hargate Primary School, Tantany Lane/Law Street Entrance
65	HHH	Hateley Heath Primary School, Huntingdon Road
66	LAA	St James' C E Primary School, Shelsley Avenue
67	LAB, LAG	Temporary Hut, York Road
68	LAC	Langley Lodge Community Centre, Langley High Street
69	LAD	Zion United Reformed Church Hall, Langley Green Road
70	LAE	Brandhall Golf Club (Coffee Shop), Heron Road
71	LAF	Causeway Green Primary School, Penncricket Lane
72	NEA	St Bernard's Church, Broome Avenue, Great Barr
73	NEB	Temporary Hut, Meadowside Close, Great Barr
74	NEC	Ferndale Primary School, Ferndale Avenue
75	NED	Community Room Hamstead House, Coniston Crescent
76	NEE	Tanhouse Community Centre, Hamstead Road
77	OLA	Methodist Centre Dudley Port, Entrance From Tividale Street

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee
19th March, 2018

78	OLB	Tipton Road Methodist Church, Tipton Road
79	OLC	The Meadows Sports College, Dudley Road East
80	OLD	Christchurch C of E Church, Birmingham Street
81	OLE	Rounds Green Primary School, Brades Road
82	OLF	Tividale Community Primary School, Dudley Road West
83	OWA	Brandhall Primary School, Brennand Road, Oldbury
84	OWB, OWC	Lightwoods Primary School, (Peter Wells Community Hall), Wolverhampton Road Site
85	OWD	Warley Baptist Church, Castle Road East, Oldbury
86	OWE,OWF	Brandhall Library, Tame Road, Oldbury
87	OWG, OWH	Perryfields Maths & Computing College, Oldacre Road
88	PEA	William Perry Boxing Club, High Street
89	PEB	Wednesbury Oak Academy, Greenacre Road
90	PEC	St Mark's Church Hall, Ocker Hill Road
91	PED	Glebefields Primary School, Sandgate Road
92	PEE	Glebefields Library, St. Mark`s Road, Tipton
93	PEF, PEG	St John the Evangelist Church Hall, Upper Church Lane
94	ROA	Rowley Regis Sure Start Centre, Dudley Road
95	ROB	Rowley Regis Sure Start Centre, Dudley Road
96	ROC	Rowley Hall Primary School, Windsor Road
97	ROD	Temporary Hut, Blue Stone Walk/, Portway Hill
98	ROE	Rowley Regis Disability Centre, Rowley Village
99	ROF	Brickhouse Primary School, Dudhill Road
100	ROG	St James' W.R. Church, Wesleyan Centre, Highgate Street
101	SMA, SMB	Temporary Hut, Car Park at, Londonderry Lane Playing Fields
102	SMC	Smethwick Fire Station, Entrance Green Street, Smethwick
103	SMD	Holy Trinity Church, Church Hill Street
104	SME, SMG	Akrill Memorial Methodist Church, The Uplands, Entrance from Taylors Lane
105	SMF	Dorothy Parkes Centre, Church Road
106	SMH	St Mark's Church, Junction of Hales Lane/, Thimblemill Road
107	SVA	Smethwick Baptist Church, Regent Street
108	SVB	Windmill Community Centre, Messenger Road, Smethwick
109	SVC	Community Action Project, Windmill Lane
110	SVD	Ron Davis Family Educ., & Training Centre, Ballot Street
111	SVE	Cape Primary School, Durban Road, Smethwick
112	SVF	Shireland Hall Primary Academy, Montague Road
113	SVG	Hadley Park Stadium, Entrance Waterloo Road, Smethwick
114	SVH	Smethwick Heritage Centre, Victoria Park Lodge, High Street
115	SPA	St Johns Community Centre, St Johns Church, St Johns Road
116	SPB	Rood End Primary School, Rood End Road

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee
19th March, 2018

117	SPC	Galton Village Play Centre, 25 Woodland Drive
118	SPD	North Smethwick Resource Centre, Cambridge Road
119	SPE	Galton Valley Primary School, Brasshouse Lane
120	SPF	West Smethwick Methodist Church Parlour, Holly Lane
121	SPG	St Alban's Community Centre, St Alban's Road
122	SPG	St Alban's Community Centre, St Alban's Road
123	TGA	Grace Community Church, Newhall Street, Tipton
124	TGB	The Nursery, St Paul's Academy, Robert Road
125	TGC	Multi Agency Centre, St. Martin`s Primary School, Lower Church Lane
126	TGD	Church of Sacred Heart & Holy Souls, (Church Hall), 31 Victoria Road
127	TGE	Silvertrees Academy, Silvertrees Road, Tipton
128	TGF	Church Hall Rear of St. Matthew`s Church, Dudley Road
129	TIA	Oakham Primary School, Darby`s Hill Road, Tividale
130	TIB	Tividale Hall Primary School, Regent Road
131	TIB	Tividale Hall Primary School, Regent Road
132	TIC	Oakham Library, Poplar Rise
133	TID	Grace Mary Primary School, School Hall, Hawfield Road
134	TIE	Residents Lounge Darley House, (Rear Entrance), Wallace Close
135	WNA	Temporary Hut , Cemetery, Beebee Road
136	WNB	Albert Pritchard Infant School, Coleman Road & Crew, Road Entrances
137	WNC	St Bartholomew's Church Hall, Church Hill
138	WND	Wood Green Junior School, Hobs Road
139	WND	Wood Green Junior School, Hobs Road
140	WNE	Holyhead Primary Academy , Holyhead Road
141	WSA, WSB	Leabrook Methodist Church Hall, (entrance via Bannister Road), Leabrook Road North
142	WSC	Wesley Centre, Central Methodist Church, Springhead
143	WSD	Moorlands Primary School, Winchester Road
144	WSE	Hill Top Methodist Church, New Street, Hill Top
145	WSE, WSF	Hill Top Methodist Church, New Street, Hill Top
146	WSG	Harvills Hawthorn Primary School, Wolseley Road, West Bromwich
147	WBA	Hallam Street Methodist Church, Community Room, Lewisham Street
148	WBB	The Park Inn Hotel, Birmingham Road, (Access Europa Avenue)
149	WBC	Holy Trinity Church Hall, Mary Road
150	WBD	Kenrick Park Community Centre, Rear Entrance, 70 Glover Street
151	WBE	West Bromwich African Caribbean Resource Centre, Thomas Street, West Bromwich
152	WBF	St Philips Church, Beeches Road, West Bromwich
153	WBG	West Bromwich Town Hall, Committee Room A, Entrance From Lodge Rd
154	WBH	Greets Green Access Centre, Tildasley Street

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

20 August 2018

Subject:	Freeman of the Borough
Director:	Director - Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Andrea Cowley 0121 569 3171

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Committee indicate whether or not it would wish to recommend persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough.

2. That, in the event of any persons so nominated, the Director – Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Mayor and the Leader, be authorised to make the appropriate arrangements to implement the decision.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 In accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the authority to admit suitably qualified persons to be Honorary Freeman/Freewomen of the Borough.

- 1.2 The Council has, from time to time, conferred the title of Honorary Freeman/Freewoman on suitably qualified persons in recognition of the service they have given to the Borough.

- 1.3 This report seeks to obtain the Committee’s instructions as to the admittance of suitable persons to be Honorary Freeman/Freewoman of the Borough.

2 **IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION**

- 2.1 Nominations for Honorary Freeman/Freewomen are an endorsement of the talent and achievements of local people.

3 **BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 The Council may, by resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose, consider the admittance of persons to be Honorary Freeman of the Borough. The persons should be of distinction or persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent service to the Borough.
- 3.2 The Committee is invited to indicate whether or not it would wish to confirm the title on any person or persons. If the Committee wishes to nominate a suitable person it is recommended that an extraordinary meeting of Council is held on 17 October 2018, prior to the ordinary meeting of Council. The Council will consider this Committee's recommendations and, if appropriate, pass the necessary statutory resolutions required by Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 3.3 It is usual to present the Freeman with a scroll and badge of office at a special ceremony, at which the Honorary Freeman and their guests are invited. The scrolls are personal to each Freeman and the badges specially manufactured. In light of the number of detailed arrangements to be made it is recommended that authority be given to the Director – Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Mayor and the Leader, to make the appropriate arrangements to implement the decision.
- 3.4 Councillor Gavan has nominated Mr David Manners to be Freeman of the Borough. Mr Manners was born and raised in Smethwick and has been an exemplary employer for over 40 years. In addition, he has donated significant amounts of money to local charities over the years, and continues to do so. Mr Manners also undertakes a great deal of unsponsored work for the local community.

Councillor Gavan's nomination expresses that Mr Manners has demonstrated exceptional innovation and entrepreneurship, which is delivering significant economic growth and prosperity in the borough of Sandwell. Mr Manners has exemplified selflessness and sustained commitment to the community through charitable deeds.

- 3.5 The Council has previously granted the Freedom on the Borough to:-
- Baroness Boothroyd of Sandwell;
 - Lord Archer of Sandwell;
 - Joseph Adams OBE;

- Christopher Graham Collins (Frank Skinner);
- Cyrille Regis MBE;
- Julie Mary Walters CBE;
- Wilfred Lunn MBE;
- Patrick John Sullivan;
- Dr Hiren Roy;
- Francis Arthur Betteridge MBE;
- Lord King of West Bromwich;
- Lord Snape of Wednesbury;
- Anthony “Bomber” Brown;
- Wendy Mary Lawrence (Josie);
- David Heeley (blind Dave).

4 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.5** The cost of the ceremony and associated scrolls and badges will be met from within existing resources.

5 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1** The Local Government Act 1972, Section 249 allows the Council to admit suitably qualified persons to be Honorary Freemen/Freewomen of the Borough.

Surjit Tour
Director – Monitoring Officer

General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

20 August 2018

Subject:	Honorary Alderman
Director:	Director - Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
Contribution towards Vision 2030:	
Contact Officer(s):	Andrea Cowley 0121 569 3171

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Committee considers recommending the Council to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on Mr Gurcharan Singh Sidhu.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 In order to recognise eminent or notable service rendered to the Borough by former Councillors, in 1997, the Council introduced a scheme for the enrolment of Honorary Alderman of the Borough. This scheme was amended in 2008 to reduce the required number of years' service to twelve and in 2013 to reflect Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 to the effect that any reference to Honorary Alderman should be followed by the insertion of Honorary Alderman.
- 1.2 The Local Government Act 1972 gave authority to the Council to confer the honour to elected members who had given eminent service to the Borough. Local Authorities define the operation of the scheme within their Council areas.
- 1.3 The Committee is requested to consider an application by Councillor John Edwards, to nominate Mr Gurcharan Singh Sidhu to the office of Honorary Alderman.

- 1.4 In accordance with the scheme of enrolment, Mr Singh Sidhu has indicated his willingness to accept the nomination for enrolment as Honorary Alderman.
- 1.5 If the Committee is minded to support the nomination, the Committee's recommendation will be submitted for consideration at an Extraordinary Council meeting, to be held on 17 October 2018, immediately prior to the ordinary meeting of Full Council, scheduled to be held on the same day.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION 2030

- 2.1 Nominations for Honorary Alderman are an endorsement of the aspirations, talent and achievements of local people, captured by Ambition 1.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Mr Singh Sidhu has been in public office and represented the Greets Green and Lyng ward for 32 years, until 2018. He was formerly Chairperson of the Council's Education Committee and Audit Committee, and was Mayor of Sandwell for the Municipal Year 2007/2008. Mr Sidhu has given many years of service to the residents of Greets Green and Lyng ward. He is well respected and liked, and his 32 years as a Councillor is a testament to his commitment and dedication to the borough of Sandwell as a whole.
- 3.2 The Committee is invited to indicate whether or not it would wish to confirm the title on any person or persons. If the Committee wishes to nominate a suitable person it is recommended that an extraordinary meeting of Council is held on 17 October 2018, prior to the ordinary meeting of Council. The Council will consider this Committee's recommendations and, if appropriate, pass the necessary statutory resolutions required by Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Local Authorities are empowered to incur reasonable expenditure on the provision of an address or casket on the conferment of the title of Honorary Alderman or Honorary Alderwoman.
- 4.2 It is the practice of this Authority to present a Badge of Office and a commemorative scroll to the Aldermen and Alderwomen, the cost of which is met from the civic ceremonial budget.

5 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The authority to confer the title of Honorary Alderman and the power to incur expenditure is contained within Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, as now amended by Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

Surjit Tour
Director – Monitoring Officer