

**Extract from the minutes of the Civic Sub-Committee's meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2010**

**4. HONORARY ALDERMEN AND FREEMEN**

The Sub-Committee considered proposals relating to the Honorary Aldermen and Freemen of Cheshire East Council who were admitted under the Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No2) Regulations 2008.

The Sub-Committee had previously considered a report on matters relating to the Honorary Aldermen and Freemen of Cheshire East Council who had been admitted from the demised authorities. A provisional list of Honorary Aldermen and Freemen, who had been admitted by the demised authorities, had been circulated at the previous meeting together with a list of rights and privileges that had been extended to them. The Civic Sub-Committee had resolved that the Democratic Services Manager write to all Members of the Council with a view to confirming the accuracy of the list of Honorary Aldermen and Freemen and to consult with all Members of the Council on what rights and privileges should be granted by Cheshire East Council.

Cheshire East Council now needed to consider its own arrangements. A draft Scheme had been drafted for Members' consideration which dealt with:

- the criteria for the appointment of Honorary Alderman and Freemen;
- the rights and duties to be conferred on Honorary Alderman and Freeman;
- the order of proceedings for the ceremony for their admission; and
- arrangements for their attendance at meetings and events and notification of events.

**RESOLVED**

That the draft scheme relating to the appointment, rights and privileges of Honorary Aldermen and Freemen as set out at Appendix 5 to the report be approved and recommended to the Constitution Committee subject to the following:

1. for the purposes of the scheme, the term 'eminent service' shall mean a minimum of 12 years' service, whether consecutive or otherwise;
2. the rights and privileges previously afforded to County Honorary Aldermen as set out in Appendix 4 shall be conferred on newly-appointed Honorary Aldermen in Cheshire East and incorporated into the scheme accordingly, subject to the following amendments:

- a. parking passes shall be provided for Westfields and Macclesfield Town Hall
    - b. a life pass to Tatton Park and its facilities shall be granted to an Honorary Alderman and one guest
  3. the rights and privileges conferred on Honorary Aldermen under this Scheme shall also apply to newly-appointed Honorary Freeman; and
  4. where the title of Honorary Freeman has been conferred on a body or organisation, an appropriate representative of that body shall be invited to attend any relevant functions.
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**Note:**

The recommendations of the Sub-Committee make reference to the issuing of parking passes for Westfields and Macclesfield Town Hall. The Car Parking Team has been consulted on the implications of this and has expressed concerns about placing further demands on the limited parking capacity at the two sites. The Committee may therefore wish to revise the scheme to take into account their comments concerning the capacity at Westfields and other car parks. The provision of life passes for Tatton Park has no implications.

A proposal is set out below.

5. An Honorary Alderman of the Cheshire East Council shall enjoy such privileges as may properly be conferred by the Council from time to time and in particular shall be entitled:
  - (1) to attend civic receptions and other civic functions or ceremonies to which all Members of the Council are invited *and to be provided with a car parking space* and where the spouses and partners of Members are able to attend so shall the spouses and partners of Aldermen;
  - (2) to attend meeting of the Full Council *and to be provided with a car parking space* and to be allocated a seat in the reserved part of the Council Chamber;
  - (3) to be notified on a regular basis of significant civic matters by the Democratic Services Manager;
  - (4) *to be provided with a life pass for Tatton Park;*
  - (5) *to be provided with a pass on request when attending visiting Council premises.*

The Committee is asked to consider the additional information and what changes if any it wishes to make to the Scheme and recommend it to Council for approval.