

Cheltenham Borough Council Council Minutes

Meeting date: 18 May 2026

Meeting time: 3.20 pm - 3.45 pm

In attendance:

Councillors:

Martin Horwood (Chair), Mike Collins (Vice-Chair), Glenn Andrews, Victoria Atherstone, Paul Baker, Adrian Bamford, Garth Barnes, Graham Beale, Angie Boyes, Jackie Chelin, Barbara Clark, Julia Chandler, Flo Clucas, Ashleigh Davies, Chris Day, Cathy Dearden, Callum Eldridge, Iain Dobie, Jan Foster, Steve Harvey, Rowena Hay, Cecily Henderson, Jamie Jamieson, Peter Jeffries, Tabi Joy, Richard Lawler, Alisha Lewis, Tony Oliver, Dr Helen Pemberton, Karen Priest, Julie Sankey, Stan Smith, Arthur Snell, Dr Steve Steinhardt, Izaac Tailford, Julian Tooke, Simon Wheeler and Suzanne Williams

Also in attendance:

Claire Hughes (Director of Governance, Housing and Communities), Gareth Edmundson (Chief Executive) and Adele Taylor (Interim Director of Finance and Operations (S151 Officer))

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Holliday and Pineger.

2 Declarations of interest

There were none.

3 Appointment of Honorary Freemen of the Borough

The Chief Executive introduced the report and explained that the title of Honorary Freeman of the Borough was conferred on persons considered to have rendered

eminent and distinguished service to the borough of Cheltenham, and are nominated by group leaders. On this occasion, there are three nominees:

Claire Seed – for her work in installing defibrillators across the borough.

Dave Bath – for his work in distributing selection boxes and Easter eggs amongst children who wouldn't receive anything normally.

Steve Cotterill – for his work with Cheltenham Town football club and what that has done for the morale across the town.

The Leader, spoke in support of all three nominations, highlighting the invaluable contribution each makes to the town through their outstanding work.

Members paid tribute to the work of all three nominees who are very worthy of the honour due to the phenomenal work they do for the town.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that:

-The title of Honorary Freeman is conferred on Dave Bath, Steve Cotterill and Claire Seed.

4 Appointment of Honorary Aldermen

The Chief Executive introduced the report and explained that Council may confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons who it considers have rendered eminent services to the Authority in their past roles as councillors. In Cheltenham, the longstanding criteria applied when conferring the title of Honorary Alderman is that the person has at least 16 years' service or is a past Mayor and Chair of the Council.

On this occasion, former Councillor Willingham falls within the criteria.

Members paid tribute to Dr Willingham for the work he has done not only as Mayor, but as a Ward and Borough Councillor and for his work on the licensing committee, both as Chair and a member of the committee.

Resolved (unanimously) that

The title of Honorary Alderman is conferred on former Councillor Dr David Willingham.