



Report of the Town Clerk to be considered in conjunction with Item 9 –

The Election of Chief Commoner

To be presented on Thursday, 18th October 2018

*To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of
the City of London in Common Council assembled.*

To elect a Chief Commoner

The job description of the Chief Commoner can be found on the City's website:
<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/about-the-city/how-we-make-decisions/Documents/Chief-Commoner-Job-Description.pdf>

Three candidates, Deputy Roger Chadwick, Deputy Tom Hoffman, and Deputy Brian Mooney have been validly nominated in accordance with Standing Order no. 18. The candidates were invited to provide information in support of their nomination and the following submissions were received:-

Deputy Roger Chadwick, O.B.E

I seek support for election as Chief Commoner for 2019/20.

I joined Common Council as a Member for the Ward of Tower in 1994 and have served on most major Committees. I've been Chairman of the Finance Audit Sub Committee; Chairman of the Finance Committee and its sub committees (2011-16); Deputy Governor of the Irish Society, and am Chairman of the City of London Freemen's School. I also served as the City's Representative on the London Councils Audit Committee for 5 years.

As Finance Chairman I had to balance the complex finances of the Corporation with extensive budget cuts and efficiency drives, and engaged with Members and Officers on a variety of issues during a challenging period.

In 2015 I chaired the President of China State Banquet Committee, which gave me useful insight and experience of Civic events.

In 2017 I was honoured to receive the OBE in acknowledgement of my services to the City Corporation and community initiatives in Northern Ireland.

Outside the Corporation I'm Chairman of the GB Executive of Co-operation Ireland, a leading cross-border/community charity; Governor and Member of the Advisory Council of Goodenough College, and Honorary Treasurer of St Lawrence Jewry.

My experience over the years has enabled me to form relationships with Aldermen and Members, and to develop a working relationship with Officers. I'll use this experience to form a bridge between Members and the Corporation and be a positive point of contact as champion of Members expectations, issues and rights.

If elected, I'll engage with every Member and commit the time and energy required to be Chief Commoner. My wife Chris supports my candidacy, and will play her part in supporting me as Chief Commoner when required.

In all the roles that I've performed for the Corporation I've been motivated by delivering results. I would bring that same sense of purpose to the role of Chief Commoner.

Deputy Tom Hoffman, M.B.E.

After a successful career in the City as an international banker I continued, since retirement, to centre my life on the City, primarily as a Member of Common Council.

The role of Chief Commoner requires an understanding of both the Corporation and the broader City environment within which it operates.

For me, it is important that the Chief Commoner is well equipped to play both the inward-facing role of Members' advocate and support, and the outward-facing one of representing the Court to our many colleagues and beneficiaries, as well as the wider public. I feel I am particularly well equipped for both these roles.

Within the Corporation, I am familiar both with serving on the backbenches and playing leadership roles. I have served on all Ward committees, as well as on many others. I have been Chairman of: The Guildhall School, City of London School for Girls, Gresham (City Side) Committee, and Deputy Governor of the Irish Society. I have also played a prominent role in many of the outside bodies associated with the Corporation including: Chairman of Finance of Christ's Hospital, Vice-Chairman of Gresham College, and Governor of Birkbeck College, the Museum of London, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, and Master of the Tybers and Bricklayers' Company.

I regard collaborative relationships between Members as pivotal and have always sought to behave in a collegiate fashion. As Chief Commoner, I would operate an open-door policy.

My initiatives might include: support for Members suffering stress-related problems, access to physical wellbeing classes, Officer-led visits for all Members to Corporation

facilities (eg Heathrow Animal Reception Centre, the City's Markets and Open Spaces), and allowing Members to fill empty spaces at formal dinners, etc.

In the light of my background, skills, commitment and enthusiasm, I hope you will feel able to support me.

Deputy Brian Mooney

I am a professional communicator with a successful record in international journalism and public relations. I have operated on the world stage, interviewing and working closely with leaders such as Margaret Thatcher, Pope John Paul II, Lech Wałęsa, Felipe Gonzalez, the Kings of Jordan and Spain, Yasser Arafat and Shimon Peres.

I have been an active and vocal member of Common Council for more than 20 years, responding to the needs of my ward of Queenhithe and maximising my position at Court to challenge entrenched positions and bring about change by not being afraid of asking questions. I have worked hard as a backbencher, particularly in Planning and Transportation, and I chaired the acclaimed state banquet for Irish President Michael Higgins.

After graduating from Oxford University, I spent the bulk of my career as a journalist and manager with Reuters, working in more than 50 countries. I was a Pulitzer nominee and an American Press Club award winner for my reporting of the Solidarity Revolution in Poland. I speak near fluent French, Italian and Spanish and basic Polish, Hebrew, Russian, German and Swedish. Since leaving Reuters, I have worked in international financial PR, published six books on travel, history and business, and written articles in The Times, Financial Times and a variety of magazines. My work in the UK has invariably been based in the City, where I have owned an apartment in Queenhithe since 1989. I am an investor in Lloyd's of London. My outside interests include mountaineering and long-distance walking, and I am a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

I am standing for Chief Commoner to serve the Court with respect and zest, and to raise its profile. If elected, I will defend the interests and rights of all members and support the Civic Team. I am open to change and committed to diversity and individual freedom.