

FREEDOM APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

CONFIDENTIAL

By virtue of paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

11. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

The Committee considered the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2021.

RESOLVED, that:

the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that actions arising under item 14 (p5) had been progressed as follows:

- i) the nominations of the Chair (Georgia Gould), Deputy Chair (Darren Rodwell) and two of the three Vice-Chairs (Theresa O'Neill and Ruth Dombey) of London Councils had been progressed;
- ii) the FCDO had advised against the nomination of the former First Lady of Mauritius;
- iii) the Worshipful Company of Fletchers had not been able to progress the nomination of the King of Bhutan to date; they had advised that they planned to do so via Brussels;
- iv) the nomination of the Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Hackney, Guy Nicholson, to be progressed and reported to the next meeting.

Members agreed that a separate Confidential Outstanding Actions List, charting progress on confidential actions, be added to the agenda as a standing item for future meetings.

The Remembrancer's Office agreed to include further analysis in the Heads of Mission report for future meetings in order to provide a wider context to the nominations put forward.

RESOLVED, that:

- i) the Town Clerk produce a Confidential Outstanding Actions list to document progress on confidential actions arising from meetings of the Committee;
- ii) the Remembrancer's Office to revise the Heads of Mission report for future meetings.

12. CHAMBERLAIN'S COURT BUSINESS PLAN

With the consent of the Chairman, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

13. FREEDOMS DASHBOARD AND APPLICATIONS REQUIRING DISCUSSION

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain and the Remembrancer presenting members with a report detailing nominations, applications in progress or previous awards of the Freedom requiring discussion by the Committee.

It was noted that the necessary paperwork from Tony Travers had not yet been received. To minimise further delay, the Chairman asked the Deputy Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court to send the most recent correspondence with Mr Travers to the Chairman, to facilitate the Chairman's further communications with Mr Travers.

A member of the Committee proposed, and spoke strongly in favour of, the nomination of Rory Bremner, noting whilst doing so that the Lord Mayor had confirmed that he would be the second nominator. He advised that funding for the ceremony, including hospitality, would be provided by the Mansion House, with the intention that the ceremony would take place during the current Mayoral year. The Committee welcomed the nomination and unanimously agreed that it should be progressed.

Following review of the Freedoms Dashboard, it was noted that the names of some nominators were missing. The Committee requested, therefore, that the full names of both nominators for each nominee be included in the Freedoms Dashboard for all future meetings.

Following a question from the Chairman, it was agreed that, where a ceremony date had been confirmed, as a matter of courtesy the nominators would be notified of the date well in advance. It was also agreed that this information be shared with Claire Holdgate (Events Manager, Town Clerk's Department).

RESOLVED, that:

- i) the report be noted;
- ii) the nominations of the individuals named in Appendix 1 be progressed;
- iii) the most recent email correspondence with Tony Travers be shared with the Chairman by the Deputy Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court;
- iv) the Deputy Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court to confirm the nominators for Marcus Rashford;
- v) the Deputy Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court to confirm the name of the second nominator for Lemn Sissay;
- vi) the names of both nominators for every nominee be included in the Freedoms Dashboard for all future meetings;
- vii) the nomination of Rory Bremner be agreed and progressed at pace.

14. LIST OF HEADS OF MISSIONS

The Committee considered a report of the Remembrancer and it was noted that the nominations of the Heads of Mission of Portugal, Australia, Honduras and Kazakhstan had all been endorsed by the FCDO and agreed at the Court of Common Council.

RESOLVED, that:

- i) the report be noted;
- ii) the need for additional analysis in the Heads of Missions report be agreed.

The Chief Commoner left the meeting at 4.00pm.

15. FREEDOMS BY SPECIAL NOMINATION - COMPOSITE LIST OF POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain which set out a list of outstanding nominations for the Freedom of the City requiring input from the Committee. The Committee also noted the updates provided by the Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court, as found at Appendix 1. The Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court agreed to progress the eight nominations listed in the appendix to the report and report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED, that:

- i) the report be noted;
- ii) agree the Composite List of Recipients for FSN and progress of existing candidates as set out at Appendix 1.

16. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were none.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was none.

The meeting ended at 4.04pm

Chairman

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