

Court of Common Council

Addendum to the Public Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 10 March 2022

Due to time constraints, the Chief Commoner requested that the following remarks be issued to Members after the conclusion of the meeting, by way of an addendum to the Minutes.

Item 19: Resolutions on Retirement

Chief Commoner

My Lord Mayor,

With your leave, I am going to take a little time to pay tribute to all Members who are standing down. It has always struck me as inherently unfair that Members who retire early get full honours, while those who serve the Court until the last hurrah are not normally mentioned in despatches. Members who have chosen not to seek re-election and therefore sit here, in Great Hall, as Common Councillors, for the last time, have given a total of **332** years of service to the Corporation. It would be remiss of me – and indeed of us all - not to thank them.

Taking them alphabetically, we recognise first **Doug Barrow**, Member for Aldgate since 2007. During an illustrious 15 years, Doug's major contribution was to our police. His service on the Police Committee, now the Policy Authority Board, spanned a challenging but great 12 years, including four years as Chair. Doug also found time to serve as Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee for two years, and memorably hosted the Emir of Qatar as Chair of the Ward Reception Committee for his State Visit, and most recently he steered us diplomatically and skilfully through the Statues Working Party. Doug's thorough and well-respected contribution to our work will be missed.

Farewell too to **Adrian Bastow**, who has represented Aldersgate since 2017. Although only with us for one term, Adrian made his mark through his dedication to the Port Health Committee. He has also served actively on the Markets and Community and Children's Services and Barbican Residential Committees. We thank him for all his efforts.

The next farewell is to **John Bennett**, a stalwart of the Court who was first elected for Broad Street in 2005. The respect in which he is held led to

his election as Chief Commoner for 2014, and his tenure was marked by a host of other achievements – including successful chairmanships of the Freeman’s School and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. John served on a number of committees, including long stints on the Policy and Resources, Community and Children’s Services, Markets and Port Health Committees. We all came to appreciate his considered, calm, and thoughtful contributions. We will miss you John – a City gentleman to the last.

Speaking of stalwarts, we now turn to **Deputy David Bradshaw**, who served a remarkable 31 years, representing Cripplegate since 1991, including 26 years on the Barbican Residential Committee. David was also Chair of the Barbican Association’s Security Committee, putting personal safety at the heart of his work. As Chair, David notably organised the highly successful State Banquet for the King and Queen of Spain. Few have worked harder or longer on behalf of their constituents, and they – as well as we – owe him a debt of gratitude. Beyond the Barbican, David served on so many committees that half of them have changed names more than once, but from music, to policing, to education, David has given his time and commitment selflessly. David’s friends on the Court, together with his constituents and neighbours on the Barbican Estate, wish him a long, happy, and well-earned retirement.

In Lime Street, we say goodbye to **Thomas Clementi**. While Covid may have interrupted the term he spent with us since election in 2017, we are nonetheless grateful to him for the significant professional expertise that he brought to bear, having contributed his skills to the work of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, and the Planning & Transportation Committee. We thank him and wish him the very best.

One could be forgiven for not realising that **Anne Fairweather** has only been on the Court since 2016, such is the impact she made during her six years as a Member for Tower. The value her colleagues placed in her judgement and intellect was demonstrated by her swift election to the Policy and Resources Committee and its Resource Allocation Sub Committee. Anne’s passion for the City’s open spaces – epitomised by her chairmanship of the Hampstead Heath Committee – proved to be instrumental during the challenges of Covid, where her dedication and foresight ensured that the Heath and our other open spaces were a lifeline for millions of Londoners. Despite a busy professional life, Anne also found time to serve with distinction on the Barbican Centre Board, and Port Health, and Audit and Risk Management Committees. We thank her warmly for her service.

We turn next to **Tracey Graham**, Member for Cordwainer since 2019. While her time on the Court was brief, Tracey made a stellar impact, serving as Chair of the Establishment Committee, where she oversaw the Committee's vital work supporting our staff during the pandemic, and played a critical role in helping to navigate the City through its Target Operating Model and restructuring. Tracey also served on the Freeman's School, the Culture Committee, the Planning Committee, and the Policy and Resources Committee, where colleagues were always indebted to her for her astute observations and the benefit of her significant business expertise. Thank you, Tracey.

We also say goodbye to **Stephen Haines**, who retires to spend more time working in his parish in the Philippines. A Member for Cornhill since 2005, Stephen cared diligently for his flocks – his Ward constituents, his parishioners, his colleagues on this Court, and indeed the staff, whom I know are grateful to him for his care and concern as a past Chairman of the Establishment Committee. Stephen also had a keen interest in education and chaired the Board of the City of London School, and we send him our gratitude for the difference he has made to the lives of so many during his time with the City.

Graeme Harrower, who joined the Court for Bassishaw in 2015, has written his own valediction, so I need say no more.

Since 2017, **Christopher Hill** has been a Member for Farringdon Within, and now also departs. The Planning and Port Health Committees, as well as the Streets and Walkways and Local Plan Sub Committees, have all benefitted from his experience in the legal and construction industries, and we owe him thanks for his contributions over the past five years.

Deputy Tom Hoffman is another long-serving Member, as well as a former Chief Commoner, to whom we bid fond farewell. Having represented Vintry since 2002, Tom is a long-serving Member of the Finance, Planning, and Culture Committees, as well as the Gresham Committee and Board of Governors of the Girls' School, both of which he served as Chairman. Tom's dedication to education and the arts also resulted in a successful Chairmanship of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, as well as long membership of the Barbican Centre Board, the Board of the Museum of London, the Gresham College Council, and the City Arts Trust, all of which was recognised in 2018 with the award of an MBE. He also served as an admirable host for the President of Mexico,

as Ward Reception Committee Chairman during the 2009 State Visit. We can truly say that the City is a more cultured place thanks to Tom.

Deputy Clare James is also standing down, after 14 years on the Court. Clare was first elected in 2008, representing Farringdon Within, and has served on a range of Committees including Planning, Finance, and Audit and Risk Management. She also served as Chairman of the Girls' School, helping to inspire a future generation of women. But it is her actuarial skills which she brought to bear perhaps most effectively on the Corporation's behalf, and I know that successive Chamberlains have been indebted for the time Clare spent working with them providing the benefits of her expertise. Clare, you will be sorely missed.

Turning to **Angus Knowles-Cutler**. Although only a Member for one term, having been elected for Castle Baynard in 2017, Angus has worked in the Ward since 1987 and also served as Deputy Chairman of the Ward Club. Angus served on the Finance, Community & Children's Services, and Markets Committees, and we thank him warmly for all his work.

We also say farewell to **Vivienne Littlechild**, Member for Cripplegate since 1998. Vivienne served on 24 Committees, nine as Deputy Chair, and on 16 Sub Committees and Outside Bodies. Vivienne was awarded the MBE in 2018 for her dedicated service to Culture and Heritage in the City of London. Having served as Chair of the Culture Committee, as well as the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Vivienne was also something of a fixture on the Museum of London's Board, helping to shape their exciting new vision, as well as on our own Barbican Centre Board. Vivienne will be greatly missed by friends and colleagues, and I know that residents of the Barbican – whom she has represented so ably and tirelessly – would also like to record their deepest appreciation.

Farewell and thanks, too, to **Oliver Lodge**, who represented Bread Street for 13 years, having first been elected in 2009. Oliver served with distinction on 15 Committees, including Finance, Planning and Transportation, and Markets. He was a vibrant voice on as a deputy chair of Planning, and he also chaired the former Standards Committee at a challenging time.

The Court, and the Ward of Bassishaw, will also be sad to lose **Robert Merrett**, who leaves after 13 years. Robert enjoyed particularly long service on the Port Health, Markets, and Finance Committees and he was always ready to bring his professional expertise in banking to bear. Many of us have fond memories of the spectacular state banquet for the

Republic of Korea organised under Robert's chairmanship. Robert, our thoughts are with you, and we thank you.

Mere words cannot do justice to **Barbara Newman** and the enormous contributions she made during a remarkable 33 years on the Court. A Member for Aldersgate since 1989 and, indeed, a City Resident since 1976, Barbara became an integral part of this organisation. A source of sage counsel to colleagues and officers, she had an encyclopaedic knowledge of "how things are done" and what the Corporation is, having served on 42 Committees - many for more than 10 years – as well as on 14 Sub Committees and Outside Bodies. Her contributions are too many to list, having chaired as diverse a range of Committees as Planning, the Barbican Centre Board, Establishment, Epping Forest, and the Ward Reception Committee for the President of Brazil's state visit. Barbara was made a CBE in the Millennium Honours List and served as Chief Commoner during that most auspicious year. Her vast experience and knowledge of the City will be greatly missed by all.

We also say adieu to **William Pimlott**, Member for Cripplegate since 2017. William was a tireless advocate for residents, and he served diligently on the Barbican Residential Committee and Community Services Committee, with the Housing Management and the Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Sub Committee also benefitting from his unwavering commitment to the health, safety, and wellbeing of City residents. William's colleagues and friends at the City Corporation wish him every success in the future.

We say farewell to **Stephen Quilter**, Member for Cripplegate since 1998. During his 24 years, Stephen served on a range of committees, including the various iterations of the Markets and Culture Committees, the latter of which he served for 18 years, including a term as Chairman when it was known as the Libraries, Archives and Guildhall Art Gallery Committee. An ardent advocate for residents, Stephen also served on the Barbican Residential Committee for 15 years.

Heartfelt good wishes and thanks also for **Deputy Richard Regan**, who has represented Farringdon Within with distinction since 1998. Becoming both Sheriff and Chief Commoner, Richard was awarded an OBE in 2013 for his services to the Corporation and London. His many achievements include chairing the Board of Governors of the Girls' School, with his interest and commitment to education extending to serving on the Boards of the City of London School and Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Richard also served diligently on the Community and Children's Services

and Livery Committees, which he chaired, and the Port Health, Police, and Standards Committees.

Farewell, too, to **Deputy Elizabeth Rogula**, who has been a Member for Lime Street since 2008 and, during her time with us, has been one of the kindest and most thoughtful colleagues. Her compassion was particularly evident on the Community & Children's Services Committee, but she also brought to bear her significant skills from her career in insurance across a range of committees. As Chair of the Ward Reception Committee for the President of Mexico in 2015, she was the most wonderful host and represented the City Corporation with aplomb. Elizabeth, we send you our best wishes for the years ahead.

It is with profound sadness that we say goodbye to **Jeremy Simons**, who **has** served as a member for Castle Baynard since 2005. Jeremy was a calm, considered, and sound colleague, with tenacity and an eye for detail - attributes that served him well during chairmanships of the Hampstead Heath and Port Health Committees, and the Streets and Walkways Sub Committee. The OBE awarded to Jeremy for his environmental conservation work is testament to his enormous efforts in safeguarding the City. He has also been a strong advocate of the City's heritage, serving on the City of London Archaeological Trust, and he gave long service on cultural committees and outside bodies such as the Guildhall School, Culture Heritage & Libraries Committee, Museum of London, and Dr Johnson's Trust. His service to the City is appreciated enormously, and we wish him well for the future.

Last, but by no means least, we record our thanks to **Deputy John Tomlinson**, Member for Cripplegate since 2004. In his 18 years on the Court, John chaired both the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and Barbican Centre Board, while also making invaluable contributions during long tenure on the Policy & Resources, Finance, and Barbican Residential Committees, where above all his deep and abiding care for others was always evident. His detailed knowledge of the work of the Barbican Centre in particular - together with his enthusiasm for culture - and his keen financial acumen and eye for detail were critical in the transformation of the Barbican into a more commercially-minded organisation. To John, we owe our thanks.

And thanks to **you** all for bearing with me through this lengthy tribute.

My Lord Mayor, I hereby move the sincere gratitude of the Court to all the colleagues I have mentioned, and I am sure Members will join me in a round of applause to show our appreciation to our departing colleagues.

My Lord Mayor