



A Special Council meeting to celebrate the  
850th Anniversary of the granting of the  
Royal Charter to the  
Loyal and Ancient Borough of  
Newcastle-under-Lyme





*The Recreated Royal Charter of 1173*  
*By Illustrator, Author and Literacy Champion,*  
*Glenn Martin-James*





**H**enry, King of the English Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine and Count of Anjou, to his justices Sheriffs and ministers of the whole of England, Greetings.

**N**ow that I have granted that the town of Newcastle-under-Lyme is a free burg forever, and know that I have granted to my citizens who are of the merchant guild, all their liberties and free customs within the borough and without, that they may have them everywhere as fully, freely and quietly and honorably. And that the men of the same town and their heirs be free burghesses. And they shall try and determine there the pleas of the town under supervision of the said reeve, and according to the consideration of my burghesses.

**N**ow ye that I have granted to all my burghesses of Newcastle-under-Lyme their merchant guild with all the customs which they had in the time of my father and my ancestors. That there shall be a free market every Sunday as there is now and is wont to be and two acres of land to every burghage. And that the aforesaid burghesses should have common pasture for their animals in the common pasture of the aforesaid borough according to their burghages which they have in the same borough as they were hitherto wont. And if by chance that it should happen that any of these burghesses die, and has made his devise of his property contained in this fee, it shall be valid. Any burghess may sell his land and go where he will, unless that land be in challenge. And in my forest of Newcastle-under-Lyme, timber for their buildings and wood for their hearth under supervision of my foresters. Wherefore I will... that they have and hold their aforesaid liberties and laws and customs and their tenements with sake and soke and toll and team and infangthief.

**W**herefore I will and firmly command that they have and hold their guild with all its liberties and free customs as best they were wont to have in the times of King Henry.

Let no one presume to incur a forfeiture on this account.

Witness,

His Worshipfulness the Mayor of  
Newcastle-under-Lyme at 850  
Councillor Simon White,

Simon White

Councillor Simon Tagg, leader  
of Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Borough Council,

Simon Tagg



Recreated for the 850<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of the Town  
By illustrator, Author,  
and Literacy Champion  
Glenn Martin James

*Glenn Martin James*  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023



— 1173 —



Agenda

850

YEARS



— 2023 —





*PLEASE NOTE THAT PRAYERS WILL BE HELD AT 6.50PM BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL.*

*THE MAYOR REQUESTS THAT ANY MEMBER WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN PRAYERS BE IN ATTENDANCE BY NO LATER THAN 6.45PM.*

*Dear Sir/Madam,*

*You are summoned to attend a Special Meeting of the Borough Council of Newcastle-under-Lyme, celebrating the 850<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the granting of the Royal Charter and to appoint Honorary Aldermen. To be held in the Queen Elizabeth II & Astley Rooms - Castle House, Barracks Road, Newcastle, Staffs. ST5 1BL on Wednesday, 28th June, 2023 at 7.00 pm.*

## **B U S I N E S S**

**1 APOLOGIES**

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

*To receive declarations of interest from Members on items contained within this agenda.*

**3 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL**

*(Pages 13 - 17)*

*To receive the earliest set of Minutes recorded by the Council, dated 1368.*

**4 HISTORY OF THE BOROUGH**

*(Pages 21 - 26)*

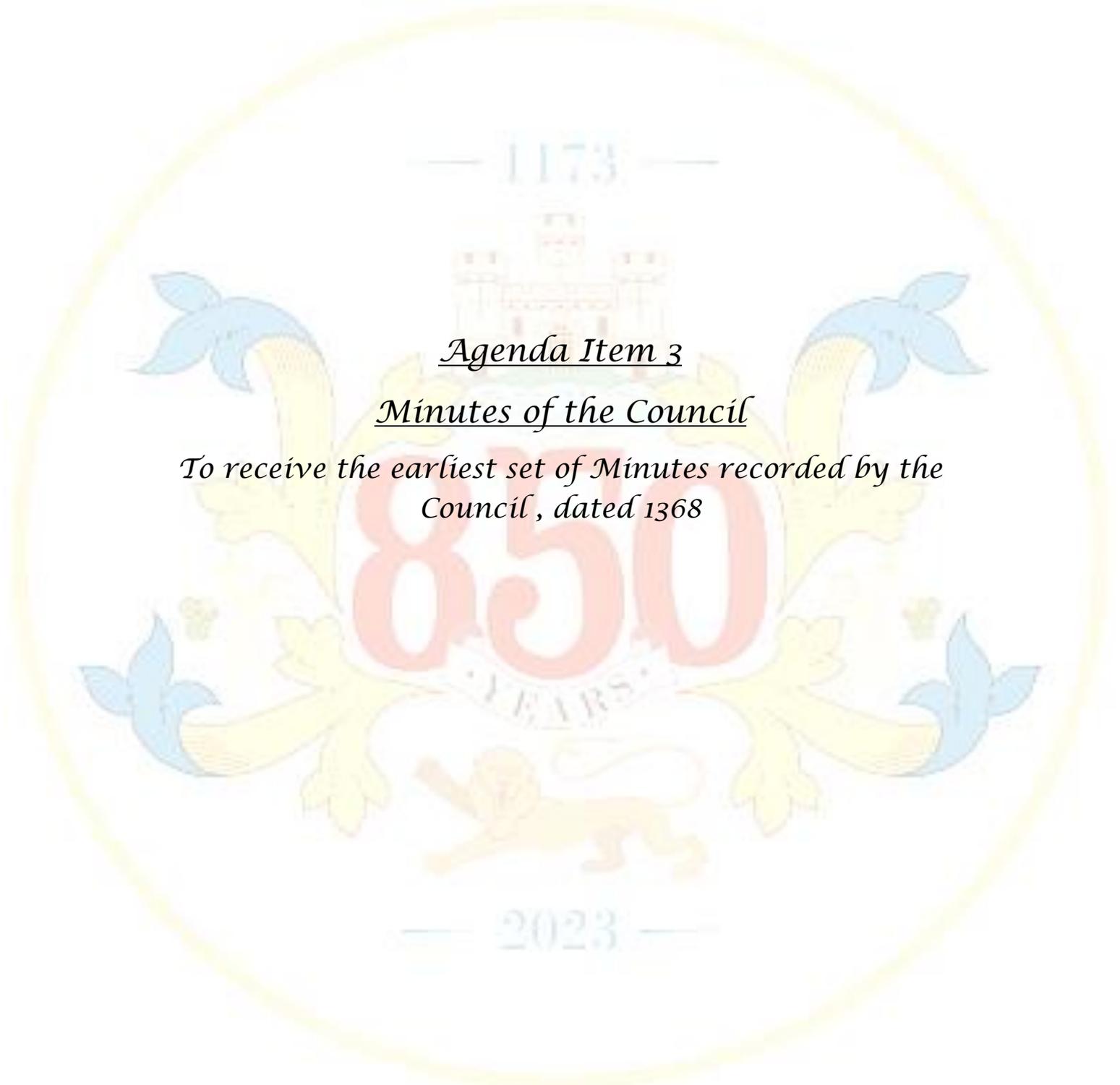
*To receive an address from Honorary Freeman of the Borough, Mr Jim Worgan*

**5 AN 850<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE RESOLUTION**

*(Page 27)*

*On the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Royal Charter, this Council looks back, with pride on the history and achievements of our ancient and loyal Borough and forward with optimism to its further progress and success.*



The background features a large, faint watermark of the City of London's 850th anniversary logo. The logo is circular and contains a central crest with a crown on top, flanked by two lions. Below the crest, the number '850' is written in large, stylized red letters, with 'YEARS' written in smaller letters underneath. The years '1173' and '2023' are positioned at the top and bottom of the circle, respectively. The entire logo is surrounded by decorative flourishes in blue and yellow.

*Agenda Item 3*

*Minutes of the Council*

*To receive the earliest set of Minutes recorded by the  
Council, dated 1368*





Burgess

Item Adam le Smyth recepit est ad libertatem puelle ead anno sub  
tali condicione qd manebit in villa conti. Et si non fuerit puel tunc  
su dextera Majori et Communitati pudent fuit. pntit pndabit ead  
libtate et soluet p libtate sua

xx

Item Johes de Halm recepit est ad libertatem puelle ead anno sub ead  
condicione antedra et soluet p libtate sua

xx

Item Willms pntis famulus Thome Hysp recepit est ad libertatem  
ead condicione pntis et soluet

xx

Item Willms et Wynona Cusse recepit est ad libertatem puelle ead an  
sub ead condicione et soluet

xx

Item Willms de Lorkynge filius Henrici de Lorkynge recepit est ad  
libtatem puelle ead condicione et soluet p libtate sua

xx

Item Johes filius Thome de Penhall recepit est ad libertatem puelle  
ead et soluet

xx

Item Johes Lawrence recepit est ad libertatem condicione ead et soluet  
pro ead

xx

Item Johes Mariott recepit est ad libertatem puelle condicione ead  
et soluet pro libtate sua

xx

Item Johes de Halywode recepit est ad libertatem puelle. Et si non fuerit  
Magna ante finem tunc anni soluet p libtate sua

xx

non fuerit pntis ante finem terminis tunc anni soluet p  
libtate sua

xx

Et etiam in pntis Cista

ix. v.

Cista

1368

*Translation from original Latin:*

*Roger Letys was elected mayor of the town of Newcastle under Lyme on the Tuesday after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the 43rd year of the reign of King Edward, the Third after the conquest of England, to do by law all that pertains to his office during his term. And concerning this he made a solemn oath; and this is the third year in which the same Roger was elected mayor.*

*Thomas Symonde and Nicholas de Camera were elected as bailiffs of the same town on the aforesaid year and day to do all that pertains to their office by law, and they made their solemn oath. And in this matter they paid 20 marks of silver beforehand. And moreover, they shall pay to John, Duke of Lancaster, or to his bailiffs, the established dues of the aforementioned town as accustomed by law on the usual terms. And in this matter they will safeguard the mayor and the community of the same town for the said dues towards the aforesaid Lord Duke and his bailiff in that same place for all the damages done by them during their term towards whomsoever is indemnified. And they have found these guarantors that this be done or faithfully fulfilled, viz: Thomas Symond, Robert de Bykerstegh and Walter Fox and Nicholas de Camera, Richard de Launden and John de Eccleshalle.*

*William Michell was elected a sergeant on the aforesaid year and day and took a solemn oath to discharge his office faithfully. And upon [this] matter he produced the following guarantors: Ranulph Michel, the elder, John Roper, John Bretton, William Patryke to safeguard the mayor and the community of the same town for all the wrongs done by him during his term, towards whomsoever be indemnified.*

*Hugh de Bokenar' and Adam de Gravenhonger were chosen custodians and tasters of the bread and beer and took their solemn oath to taste truly bread and beer in whatever place it might be sold during their term of office and make true complaint wherever they might find it defective.*

*Also, on the same day and year, David le Shermon was admitted to the freedom of the town and he shall remain in the town continuously or otherwise he shall be deprived of his freedom and he shall pay one mark for his freedom.*

*Also, William de Colborne was admitted to the freedom of the town on that same day and year paid one mark for the same.*

*Also, Nicholas Snelle was admitted to the freedom of the town on that same day and year and paid 10s for the same.*

*Also, William Trumon was admitted to the freedom of the town on that same day and year to use his craft and paid ten shillings for the same.*

*And let it be remembered that each of them shall pay on the next coming feast of the Lord's Birth half a mark.*

*Also, Thomas Simond and Nicholaus de Camera pay half a mark for the common hall.*

*Let it be remembered that on the Friday next after the feast of St. Michael in the same year in which Roger Letys was elected for the third time as mayor, twenty marks were deposited in the common chest.*

*Also, Adam le Smyth was admitted to the freedom of the town in the same year under such a condition that he will remain in the town continuously. And if he shall be found a rebel or deceitful to the mayor and community and be completely deprived of his freedom; and he shall pay 20s for his freedom.*

*Also, Johannes de Halin' was admitted to the freedom of the town in the same year under the same aforesaid condition and he shall pay 20s for his freedom.*

*Also, William, the one-time servant of Thomas Hepppe received the freedom [of the town] on the same aforesaid condition, and he will pay 20s.*

*Also, William de Wytemor the tailor was admitted to the freedom of the town in the same year and under the same condition and he shall pay 10s.*

*Also, William le Locksmyth, son of Henry le Locksmyth, was admitted to the freedom of the town on the same condition, and shall pay 13s. 4d for his liberty.*

*Also, John son of Thomas de Penkull, was admitted to the freedom of the aforesaid town and will pay 13s. 4d.*

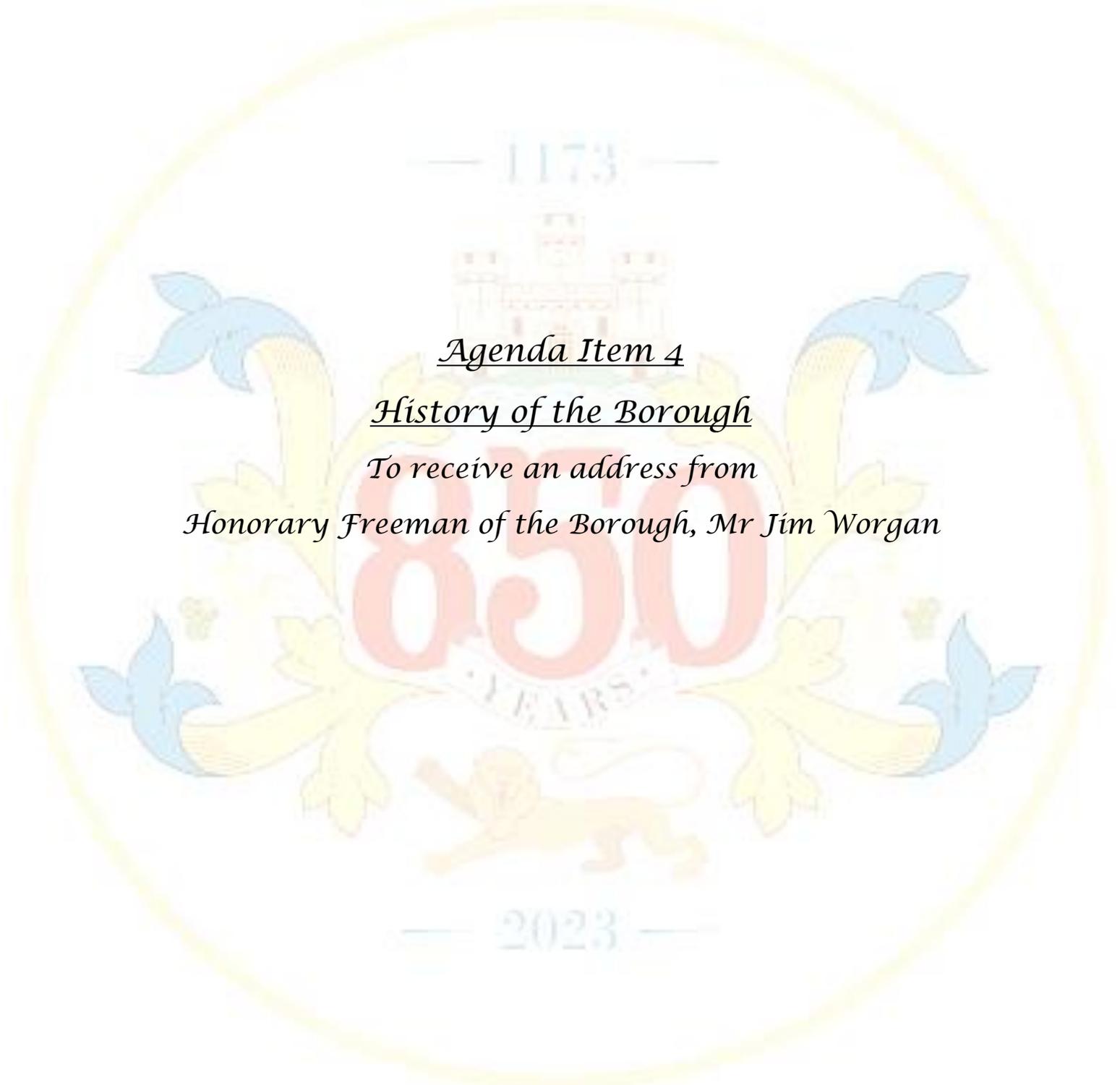
*Also, John Lawrenc' was admitted to the freedom [of the town] on condition that he should pay for the same 20s.*

*Also, John Mariott was admitted to the freedom of the town on condition that he should pay 10s. for his freedom.*

*Also, Philipote Irenta was admitted to the freedom of the town and if she has husband before the end of the same year she will pay 13s 4d. But if she is not engaged before the end of the term of one year, then she shall pay 20s for her freedom*

*And also in the aforementioned common chest. 9 pounds, 5s.*





*Agenda Item 4*

*History of the Borough*

*To receive an address from  
Honorary Freeman of the Borough, Mr Jim Worgan*



## *The Origins of Newcastle-under-Lyme (1066 - 1173)*

*At the time of William the Conqueror's invasion in 1066, the area of modern-day Newcastle would have been covered by the Lyme Forest and grassland, a land of small farms and hamlets. There is no direct mention of a settlement where Newcastle is today in the Domesday Book of 1086. A double entry for Trentham in the book may suggest a small settlement.*

*The area we call Newcastle today grew in significance in the mid-12<sup>th</sup> century. In the years following the death of Henry 1st, his daughter Matilda and nephew Stephen fought a bloody civil war to inherit the throne. Staffordshire found itself surrounded by barons with rival ambitions.*

*During this turbulent time a castle was built here in the 1140s to defend this strategic position on the north-south route and near the Welsh border. The early castle was constructed out of earth and timber, but was later rebuilt in stone. It consisted of a "Motte" (or mound) on top of which the castle was constructed, and a "Bailey" (or walled enclosure) comprising the storehouses and stables. To protect the castle from invaders, the nearby Lyme Brook was dammed in two places - "Pool Dam" and "Rotterdam" - to create a large pool surrounding the castle. The castle would have been accessible by either a bridge or causeway, with the entire site occupying the land of modern-day Pool Dam Playing Fields. Remains of the motte and remnant of the walls can still be seen today.*

*A settlement sprang up outside the castle walls, near to the areas of modern-day Dunkirk and Holborn. For the soldiers stationed in the castle and the local population, this would have been a mutually beneficial arrangement. The early settlers would have received the protection of the castle, and the garrison would have been provided with the food, clothing and other resources it needed. Under the medieval feudal system the settlement was in the Manor of Trentham, controlled by the Prior. As Lord of the Manor, the Prior of Trentham wielded considerable control over the "villeins" or common people living on his lands. This included the power to require them to work for him - for instance, he could order them to plough his fields. They*

*were are the beck and call, and mercy, of the Lord of the Manor.  
The first Royal Charter for the town in 1173 began to change the  
balance of power in the town.*



### *Newcastle-under-Lyme (1173 - 1800)*

*In 1173, King Henry II granted Newcastle a royal charter. It is this charter that we are celebrating 850 years later. The charter released the up-and-coming town from the control of the Prior of Trentham and turned Newcastle into a "borough". With this came new rights and responsibilities. In exchange for an annual fee to the King, a privileged few were allowed to set up their own shops and market stalls on burgage plots (or strips of land) - initially by Upper Green (the site of modern-day "Sainsbury's") - later the higher ground of the "High Street". They were also provided with common fields on which to grow crops. There were 6 open fields surrounding the town used for this purpose: Brampton Field, Stubbs Field, King's Field, Ash Field, Pool Field & Clayton Field. These early inhabitants of the town were called Burgesses. They enforced local laws and collected taxes on behalf of the King.*

*Thirteen subsequent charters between 1173 and the 1970s have extended and confirmed the town's rights. The Gild Merchant Charter of 1235 created a closed shop in which only Newcastle people could sell certain goods and services in Newcastle. The first meeting place for the Gild was the twelfth century St. Giles' Chapel (much later St Giles' Church). In the 1250s a Guild Hall was constructed for the Gild meetings on the site of the current hall.*

*It was at this time that the Blackfriars Priory was established. It sat in the valley alongside the Lyme Brook and to the south of the castle. The Friars settled in larger towns where they tended to the sick, taught the poor and provided spiritual guidance. In 1538 the priory was dissolved by Henry VIII after the split with Rome and its assets.*

*By the end of the thirteenth century Newcastle under Lyme was a thriving small town with a castle, church, priory, guild hall and market.*

*Due to its low lying position and development of the cannon our castle lost its strategic value as a defensive fortification. The last recorded date of repairs on the castle is 1485. By 1539, John Leland, King Henry VIII's antiquary, passed through the town he reported that "All the*

*castle is down, save one great tower". Only the castle mound and a few wall foundations survive today - which can be seen by John O'Gaunt's Road and Silverdale Road.*

*Newcastle was the most important town in North Staffordshire, predating Stoke on Trent by some centuries. This was due to its markets and commerce and its location on the north-south route though England made it an important stopping place for horse drawn coaches from London to Chester. It became a centre for clockmaking, ironmaking, mining, early porcelain and agriculture. By the 1800s it was a bustling and prosperous town.*



## *Newcastle-under-Lyme (1800 - present day)*

*The Industrial Revolution of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century changed the landscape of Newcastle -culturally, economically and literally! Newly mechanised processes turned old industries on their head and transformed Newcastle and the surrounding towns into a manufacturing heartland. With plentiful reserves of coal and iron in the mines of Silverdale, Apedale, Audley & Talke (later Holditch & Wolstanton), these burgeoning industries had the fuel they needed to power their mills.*

*Three Silk Mills were built in Newcastle - on Hempstalls Lane, on Marsh Parade and Friarswood Road. On Liverpool Road, Richard Thompson built a Cotton Mill. A series of limekilns were also constructed.*

*During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Newcastle was particularly well known for its hat making industry, at one point employing up to a third of the working population in either hat production or related industries. Other major industries included pipe, nail, paper and clock making.*

*Newcastle-under-Lyme also produced pottery with the first viable porcelain produced at the Pomona pottery (now the site of the Belong Heritage Centre) in the first half of the eighteenth century.*

*To transport the necessary raw materials to these factories and mills, and to provide them with the water they needed, canals were built. These were replaced by the railways in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century which had become the preferred method of long-distance travel for both goods and people.*

*Being on the main transport route from London to Liverpool Newcastle flourished as a market town serving both local residents and overnight travellers who rested at the many coaching inns and hotels along the High St and Ironmarket. Regular market days are still a feature of the town today.*

*By the late 1920s, the motor car was an increasingly common sight in Newcastle. This change in travel habits would also lead to a programme of road building - with the dual carriage way around the town constructed between the early 1960s and late 1980s.*

*Newcastle was also a centre of culture. The many market days and fairs attracted showmen, carnival performers and all kinds of outdoor entertainment. The Father of the Modern Circus, Philip Astley was born in Newcastle-under-Lyme.*

*In 1787, the first theatre in North Staffordshire - The Newcastle and Pottery Theatre - opened its doors, overlooking what is today Nelson Roundabout. The New Vic Theatre moved to its present home in 1986.*

*Despite the fact that over 8 centuries have passed since the town received its first royal charter it's reassuring to know that many of Newcastle's town's traditions are still with us today such as the Burgesses, the markets, industry, family business' and its vibrant culture.*

*As traditional industries declined, new industries took their place. The Nineties and Noughties saw a huge growth in the service sector and high tech industries. Of particular note is the spectacular success of Keele Science and Innovation Park which has grown from a single Innovation Centre, opened in 1999 to six innovation centres and the first independent purpose-built centre dedicated to people with autism.*

*Keele University has also become a leader in green energy, being home to a European first, the Smart Energy Network Demonstrator. This facility enables the testing and evaluation of new and evolving energy technologies, using the campus as a 'living laboratory'. The borough clearly has a long-time relationship with providing energy to the nation!*

*Sadly, the last two decades have seen a significant decline in town centres across the country, and Newcastle and Kidsgrove are no exception. However, both towns have been able to benefit significantly from the government's 'Levelling Up' agenda. Over £50 million worth of investment is already planned over the next five years, with the prospect of more on the way. This investment will help to provide jobs, improve access, enhance leisure opportunities and generally create a more vibrant and sustainable quality of life for the Borough as we move towards our 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*



*Agenda Item 5*

*An 850<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Resolution*

*On the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Royal Charter, this Council looks back, with pride on the history and achievements of our ancient and loyal Borough and forward with optimism to its further progress and success.*



Agenda Item 6  
High Steward

850  
YEARS

— 1173 —  
— 2023 —



NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S  
REPORT TO

Council  
28 June 2023

Report Title: *Newcastle under Lyme High Steward*

Submitted by: *Deputy Chief Executive*

Portfolios: *One Council, People and Partnerships, and Culture, Leisure and Heritage*

Ward(s) affected: *All Wards within the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme*

Purpose of the Report

*To seek Council support to the re-establishment of a High Steward for Newcastle under Lyme as part of the legacy programme of the 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations.*

Recommendation

*That Council:*

- 1. Notes the historical role of the High Steward in Newcastle under Lyme.*
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council to further investigate and pursue the relevant processes to re-establish the role of the High Steward for Newcastle under Lyme.*

Reasons

*Until 1956 the Borough appointed a High Steward, which was a ceremonial role, entailing the appointment of a prominent resident for their lifetime.*

*From Museum records we understand that the Loyal Address for the establishment of a High Steward was issued in 1901, upon the death of Queen Victoria, and the role was in place until 1956. After that time, no-one has held this position.*

*This report explores the potential to re-establish the role as a legacy of the Borough's 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

## 1. Background

- 1.1 *High Steward is an honorary title bestowed by the councils or Charter Trustees of certain towns and cities in England. Originally a judicial office with considerable local powers, by the 17th century the role had evolved into a largely ceremonial one. Examples of the ceremonial role in modern times include processing with the Civic party at ceremonial events. The title is usually awarded for life, and in some cases has become associated with a particular peerage title. As of 2007 twenty-four communities have the right to confer the status of high steward, although the office is in abeyance in a number of these (Newcastle under Lyme is not one of the listed communities). These places include Congleton, Ipswich, Chichester, Tamworth and Southwark.*
- 1.2 *The role of High Steward is mentioned in some of the Newcastle under Lyme Charters. It was resurrected in Newcastle in 1901 for reasons unknown, although likely related to the death of Queen Victoria and the subsequent coronation of Edward VII.*
- 1.3 *Such special occasions / anniversaries appear to have been the time when 'loyal addresses' were made - in effect a petition to revive or create the role. Loyal addresses are statements of loyalty to the crown by persons and corporations of esteem on any royal occasion of note. They are thus published infrequently. In the last 40 years, there have only been three occasions whereby loyal addresses and responses have been gazetted (The Silver Jubilee in 1977; the marriage of Charles and Diana in 1981; and the Diamond Jubilee in 2012).*
- 1.4 *The Council minute books do record the creation of the role in Newcastle, but not the reason for doing so. There is a mention of a report, but that is not with the minutes. The minutes do not record how the High Steward was chosen but we know from press reports that Grand Duke Michael of Russia was elected by council. The Grand Duke was present at the 1902 coronation when he was High Steward, although he appears on the list of Foreign Royalty as he was a Romanov. The last High Steward of Newcastle was Lord Webb-Johnson who died in 1958.*

1.5 *The various Acts of Parliament that established the new Local Government areas in 1974 made all prior positions such as High Steward obsolete, unless the area was listed in one of 24 communities who continue to hold the right to appoint a High Steward.*

## 2. ***Update***

2.1 *To date and through the historical records we have not been able to establish why the post of High Steward lapsed but are certain that many areas do indeed have such a ceremonial role. It is understood that a Loyal Address to the Crown is capable of creating such a role in any area although further work is required to establish whether and how the role could be reprised in Newcastle.*

2.2 *In the event that it is possible to re-establish the role of High Steward, a future meeting of Council would be required to define the parameters of the role and the consider prominent residents who might be considered for the role.*

## 3. ***Proposal***

3.1 *That Council:-*

- 1) *Notes the historical role of the High Steward in Newcastle under Lyme.*
- 2) *Authorises the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council to further investigate and pursue the relevant processes to re-establish the role of the High Steward for Newcastle under Lyme.*

## 4. ***Reasons for Proposed Solution***

4.1 *The re-establishment of the role of High Steward will form part of the legacy programme of the Council's 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations.*

## 5. ***Options Considered***

5.1 *The only other option considered was to not re-establish the role of High Steward. However, this ceremonial role historically present in the Borough has been re-discovered and it is considered that its*

*reinstatement would be a fitting legacy of the Council's 850<sup>th</sup> year celebrations.*

6. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

6.1 *These are set out in the body of the report and any further updates required will feature in future reports as the proposal progresses.*



*Agenda Item 7*

*850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations  
and Legacy*



NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S  
REPORT TO

Council  
28 June 2023

Report Title: 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations & Legacy

Submitted by: Deputy Chief Executive

Portfolios: One Council, People and Partnerships, and Culture, Leisure and Heritage

Ward(s) affected: All Wards within the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme

Purpose of the Report

To provide an update to Council on the 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations and the legacy programme being delivered as part of the Year.

Recommendation

That Council notes:-

1. the progress made with the 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations programme of activity
2. the development of the legacy programme including:-
  - a) An annual award ceremony to celebrate individuals from our borough who make an outstanding contribution to their community
  - b) An educational programme for young people, introducing them to sustainable engineering careers and University opportunities
  - c) Commissioning a statue of the late Monarch Queen Elizabeth II for Newcastle under Lyme Town Centre funded through the sale of 11 limited edition bronze maquettes
  - d) The 850 Lyme Forest

## Reasons

*As part of the 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations it has been agreed to create a cultural legacy for the Borough as well as celebrate the many magnificent assets of the Borough created over its long history.*

### 1. Background

- 1.1 *The 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations were launched in January 2023 and a whole year of activity has been planned, based around a twelve-month celebration of the many magnificent assets of the Borough, created over its long history. Each month a different theme of celebration has been used to base historical programmes of activity for schools, residents and visitors.*
- 1.2 *In the first weekend in June 2023 the Brampton Museum held the “Celebrate Newcastle” event on the Brampton which was attended by over 3000 residents and visitors. The event celebrated the medieval history and the early roots of the Borough.*
- 1.3 *Each month during this 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary year the borough celebrates someone who has made a significant contribution to the borough’s status and reputation. These celebrations are through talks at the Brampton Museum, themed around:*
  - *Firsts & Pioneers*
  - *Business & Industry*
  - *Writing & Literature*
  - *Military*
  - *Performing Arts*
  - *Sports*
  - *Heroes*
  - *Rights & Protests*
  - *Art*
  - *Science & Engineering*
- 1.4 *The programme of talks will culminate in a celebration of some of our “living legends”.*

1.5 One key cornerstone of the 850<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations is the legacy programme that the celebrations will create. These will be cultural, leisure and educational in nature and are addressed below.

## 2. Legacy Projects

### *Borough Heroes*

2.1 In March the first Borough Heroes Awards were held as part of the Mayor's Charity Ball. Three awards were granted:

- **Community Champion** - Briony Bowler has been involved with scouts since the age of six. Supporting the Beaver and Cub sections at the 94th Keele Scout Group as a young leader from the age of 14, once Briony turned 18 she proposed launching a scout section for older youngsters. Her energy and enthusiasm made it work and she used all her ingenuity to keep it going during the pandemic. Now around 50 youngsters attend, under the supervision of 12 leaders, where once there was nothing.
- **Young Hero** - Hannah Wollas volunteered to help at Kidsgrove Sports Centre when it re-opened. The 17-year-old began by cleaning, trained to become a receptionist and is now a qualified volunteer lifeguard. Hannah is now the centre's first apprentice and is preparing to qualify as both a swimming and fitness instructor.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** - Jim Worgan is a walking archive of the history of the Borough and wider North Staffordshire, having spent 40 years researching. The last curator of Chatterley Whitfield mining museum until its closure in 1993, Jim remains an authority on the history of coal and ironstone mining here. Between 1990 and 2017 he gathered an extensive collection of photographs, articles and memorabilia connected to the industry, which he donated to the Brampton Museum and Apedale Heritage Centre. Jim was granted the Freedom of the Borough in 2021.

2.2 The Borough Heroes Awards will become an annual celebration of those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to their community.

## *Education*

- 2.3 *As a legacy of the 850 anniversary, the Council has been keen to establish a programme to encourage the young people of Newcastle under Lyme to make the most of the world class university on our doorstep - Keele University, who fully support this ambition.*
- 2.4 *GivEnergy are a British owned battery storage manufacturer with manufacturing, research and development facilities in the UK, Ireland, Australia and Shenzhen, China. They are based in Newcastle-under-Lyme and are expanding.*
- 2.5 *The company are keen that green energy engineering skills are developed locally within the Borough - to grow awareness of the skill sets required for the future and to provide skilled employees for their expanding workforce here in the Borough.*
- 2.6 *After discussions with all parties it has been proposed that GivEnergy will fund a two-day and one-night residential for a group of 85 year 10 students from low participation areas of Newcastle-under-Lyme, as part of the 850 Year Celebrations. The young people will be immersed in a university and campus experience at Keele University. The residential stay will give the young people a real-life university experience, whilst exploring sustainability and clean energy, along with the heritage of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme.*
- 2.7 *During their stay, the young people will visit the Sustainability bungalow, Weigh and Go station in the Students Union and Horwood Energy Centre. The Horwood Energy centre will put into context how the energy generated by the wind turbines and solar panels is distributed around the campus. They will also visit the Low Carbon Energy Park to see the university's wind turbines and solar panels.*
- 2.8 *The young people will also experience university lectures and seminars, delivered by academics who are experts in their field, with a focus on science and sustainability.*
- 2.9 *The event will be an annual event and will be badged as an 850<sup>th</sup> Year legacy. It will be targeted at:-*
- *Schools in geographic areas Bradwell, Silverdale and Knutton especially but open to all areas*

- Year 10 students, age 14-15
- TUNDRA Quintile 1 & 2
- First in the family to attend Higher Education (parents/carers have no experience of Higher Education)
- In receipt of pupil premium / free school meals
- Currently in care or previously in care
- Estranged
- Young Carers
- Have a parent in the military services
- Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- Underrepresented ethnic groups, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
- Young people with a disability

2.10 As part of the legacy, the Council will award a bursary of £1000 to one of the cohort who go through this programme and subsequently secure a place at Keele University.

#### *Statue - Queen Elizabeth II*

2.11 The third element of the legacy will be a statue to the late monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, to be placed in Queens Gardens.

2.12 The Council has engaged local sculptor Andrew Edwards to design the statue. Mr Edwards has an international reputation for his bronze statues which include of The Beatles in Liverpool, Sir Stanley Matthews in Stoke and The Bee Gees in the Isle of Man, to name but a few. Locally, many will know Mr Edwards as the sculptor who worked with local apprentices to design and produce the public art on the borough's key roundabouts.

2.13 The late Queen visited the borough in 1973 to mark our 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and conducted a walkabout in the town centre, speaking to many in the huge crowds who turned out to greet her. The event generated some iconic images of the Queen and one of these has been used by Mr Edwards as the basis from which to create a small bronze maquette, and thereby creating a statue which is both a fitting tribute to the late queen, and distinctively "Newcastle" in design. The maquette also provides a powerful link between the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in 1973 the 850<sup>th</sup> celebrations now ongoing.

2.14 *The small bronze maquette by Andrew Edwards was designed in a small studio that he has established at the Newcastle College campus on Knutton Lane, as an educational element to the Arts students at the College.*

2.15 *There will be 11 individually numbered limited edition maquettes produced and offered for sale at a cost of £8,500 each. This will generate the funds to cover the costs of a “one and quarter life sized” statue that will be placed in the Queens Gardens.*

### *The Lyme Forest*

2.16 *Linked to the Council’s Urban Tree Planting Strategy which contributes to the Sustainable Environment Strategy Action Plan, the 850 Lyme Forest was planted at land on the boundary of the former Keele Golf Course in April 2023. It consists of 850 lime trees, alongside around 2000 other native broadleaf trees. This forest will form part of an essential mosaic of local greenspace sites that will be protected for the benefit of nature recovery and carbon capture for the future and in time, further carbon reduction opportunities on selected sites will also be considered with community involvement.*

### 3. *Legal, Statutory and Financial Implications*

3.1 *There are no legal, statutory or financial implications arising from this report*

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A large, faint watermark logo for the 850th anniversary of Newcastle-under-Lyme. It features a central crest with a castle, the year '1173' at the top, '850 YEARS' in large red letters in the middle, and '2023' at the bottom. The crest is surrounded by decorative flourishes in blue and yellow, and a lion rampant at the base.

*Agenda Item 8*

*Appointment of Honorary Alderman for the  
Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme*





## *INSTALLATION OF HONORARY ALDERMEN*

*Councillor Simon Tagg will move the following resolution and speak in support of the new Aldermen:-*

*“That pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 the undermentioned persons be admitted as Honorary Aldermen of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of their long and dedicated service to the people of the Borough through the performance of their duties as members of the Borough Council.*

*Silvia Burgess*

*Member of the Borough Council for a period of 12 years including as Vice-Chair of the Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee*

*Julie Cooper*

*Member of the Borough Council for a period of 16 years including as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Working Party.*

*Tony Kearon*

*Member of the Borough Council for a period of 11 years including as a Group Leader.*

*Mary Maxfield*

*Member of the Borough Council for a period of 11 years including as a Cabinet member.*

*Mark Olszewski*

*Member of the Borough Council for a period of 14 years including as Chair*

*of the Licensing and Public Protection Committee.*

*Marion Reddish*                      *Member of the Borough Council for a period of 18 years including as the Mayor of the Borough for the 2009/10 Municipal Year.*

*Kyle Robinson-Payne*              *Member of the Borough Council for a period of 12 years including as a Group Leader.*

*Elizabeth Shenton*                      *Member of the Borough Council for a period of 16 years including as a Group Leader.*

*Sandra Simpson*                      *Member of the Borough Council for a period of 13 years including as a member of many committees.*

*June Walklate*                      *Member of the Borough Council for a period of 35 years including as a member of many committees.*

*Councillor Dave Jones will second the motion and speak in support of the proposed admission of Honorary Aldermen*

*Any other Members wishing to speak in support of the motion will be invited to do so.*

*The Mayor will put the motion to the meeting.*

*The Mayor will then say:*

*“In accordance with custom I beg to tender to you as Honorary Aldermen of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme the right hand of fellowship and present each of you with a framed certificate to commemorate your new status as an Honorary Alderman.”*

*The Mayor will then present framed certificates to each recipient and in turn the newly appointed Honorary Aldermen will reply.*





NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL  
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM  
TO COUNCIL

23 November, 2022

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY ALDERMEN FOR  
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

Submitted by: Mayor's Secretary

Portfolio: One Council, People and Partnerships

*In accordance with the Council's decision on 4 June 2014 to adopt the principle of appointing Honorary Aldermen, the Mayor has called a Special Meeting of the Council to consider making such appointments.*

*Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables Councils to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Council as past elected members. Thus, the title can only be conferred upon past members of the Council who are not councillors at the date of the meeting.*

*The Council's constitution in this matter is worded as follows:-*

*"That an Honorary Alderman shall at least:-*

- a) Not be a serving Member of the Council.*
- b) Be a person of distinction who has rendered eminent services to the Council and the community.*
- c) Have served a period of not less than 12 years on the Council which may be continuous or discontinuous.*
- d) Ordinarily have held a substantive office on the Council such as Mayor, Committee Chair, Group Leader, or Cabinet Member"*

*Criteria (d) above allows the flexibility to confer the title of Honorary Alderman for a former member who has either not served a full 12 years, or served for a substantial period, but not in a role of special responsibility, but none the less have rendered eminent services to the Council and the community.*

*Any decision to confer the title of Honorary Alderman must be made by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting thereon at a special meeting of the Council.*

*Honorary Alderman are entitled to attend civic occasions as the Council may from time to time decide. They do not have any specific right to participate in the ordinary business of the Council.*

*The Council is now invited to consider appointing further Honorary Aldermen for Newcastle-under-Lyme by passing the following resolutions:-*

**Marion Reddish**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Marion Reddish be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for a period of 18 years between 2002 and 2016 and 2002 to 2022 including as a former Mayor in 2009/10, Group Leader for the Liberal Democrats and Cabinet Member.*

**Mark Olszewski**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Mark Olszewski be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 14 years between 2004 and 2008, 2010 and 2014 and 2016 and 2022 including the role as Chair of two committees.*

**Kyle Robinson-Payne**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Kyle Robinson-Payne be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 12 years between 2010 and 2022 and as Labour Group Leader and Cabinet Member.*

**Julie Cooper**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Julie Cooper be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 16 years between 2006 and 2022 and as Chair and Vice-Chair of various Committees.*

**Elizabeth Shenton**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Elizabeth Shenton be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 16 years between 2006 and 2022 and as Labour Group Leader, Cabinet Member and as Leader of the Council between 2015 and 2017.*

**Silvia Burgess**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Silvia Burgess be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through*

*performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 12 years between 2007 and 2011, 2012 and 2016 and 2018 and 2022 and as a Vice-Chair of a Scrutiny Committee*

### **June Walklate**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 June Walklate be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 35 years between 1987 and 2022 and as a member of many committees*

### **Sandra Simpson**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Sandra Simpson be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 13 years between 2004 and 2006 and 2007 and 2018 and as a member of many committees.*

### **Mary Maxfield**

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Mary Maxfield be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of her duties as a member of the Borough Council for 11 years between 1999 and 2010 and as a Cabinet Member between 2002-2004 and again between 2006-2010. Ms Maxfield was also a member of many committees.*

### *Tony Kearon*

*That in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 Tony Kearon be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in recognition of the eminent services to the people of the Borough through performance of his duties as a member of the Borough Council for 11 years between 2011 and 2022 and as Labour Group leader.*

### *Derrick Huckfield*

*Derrick Huckfield was appointed as an Honorary Alderman on 5 September, 2018. This status was temporarily suspended between 25 November, 2021 and 5 May, 2022 when he returned to serve as a Borough Councillor. Following the elections held in May, 2022, Alderman status was automatically returned to Mr Huckfield.*

### *Ceremony for new Honorary Aldermen*

*Newly appointed Honorary Alderman will be invited to a special ceremony in the Spring of 2023, the Borough's 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.*



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