

## **FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH – CROSS PARTY WORKING GROUP**

### **Report of Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Councillors D. Bevan  
K. Hayden  
J. Hill  
J. Holt  
G. Thomas

**AND:** Democratic Officer

### **CHAIR**

It was AGREED that Councillor J. Hill take the Chair.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

It was noted that Councillor Godfrey Thomas had been appointed President of the Rassau & Beaufort Branch of the Royal British Legion.

### **FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH – APPLICATIONS**

The Working Group considered the following applications:

#### **Royal British Legion (RBL)**

Members were advised that an application had been received to bestow the Freedom of the Borough on the Royal British Legion in 2021 to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary and in recognition of the dedicated charitable work local branches (Abertillery, Beaufort, Blaina, Brynmawr, Cwm, Ebbw Vale, Rassau and Tredegar) did across the borough supporting serving and ex-service men and women and their families. Also recognising the wide range of people in the county borough who raised funds every year to support the RBL and Armed Forces community.

It was noted that the other four Gwent Local Authorities had all awarded Freedom of Borough to Royal British Legion and the intention was to hold a potential Gwent, outdoor, Commemorative Event in 2022, where all five

local authorities could mark Legion 100 by taking part in a joint ceremony to mark award Freedom of the Borough.

Members commended the application and stated that the RBL undertook valuable and good work throughout the community and supported serving and ex-service personnel from all branches of the Armed Forces.

Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously,

RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council that the application to bestow the Freedom of the Borough on the Royal British Legion be acceded to.

### **Former Councillors Brian Scully and Malcolm Dally**

The Working Group was advised that applications had been received to bestow the Freedom of the Borough on former Councillors Brian Scully and Malcolm Dally for their for long and distinguished service to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

It was noted that former Councillor Scully had served the Borough for 49 years and had been the longest serving Councillor in Wales. Former Councillor Dally had also served the Borough for in excess of 40 years.

A discussion ensued and upon a vote being taken it was unanimously,

RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council that the application to bestow the Freedom of the Borough on former Councillors Brian Scully and Malcolm Dally be acceded to.

The Chair, thereupon, thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

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