

Thurrock - An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage
and excited by its diverse opportunities and future

Extraordinary Council

To the Members of Thurrock Council

The next meeting of the Council will be held at **6.00 pm** on **31 January 2024**

Council Chamber, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex RM17 6SL

Membership of the Council:

Susan Little (Mayor)

Qaisar Abbas (Deputy Mayor)

John Allen
Alex Anderson
Deborah Arnold
Paul Arnold
Gary Byrne
Adam Carter
John Cecil
Daniel Chukwu
Gary Collins
George Coxshall
Jack Duffin
Tony Fish
Robert Gledhill
Aaron Green
James Halden
Vikki Hartstean

Mark Hooper
Mark Hurrell
Andrew Jefferies
Barry Johnson
Tom Kelly
Cathy Kent
John Kent
Martin Kerin
Steve Liddiard
Ben Maney
Jacqui Maney
Cici Manwa
Fraser Massey
Valerie Morris-Cook
Sara Muldowney
Augustine Ononaji

Srikanth Panjala
Maureen Pearce
Terry Piccolo
Georgette Polley
Kairen Raper
Joycelyn Redsell
Elizabeth Rigby
Sue Sammons
Sue Shinnick
Graham Snell
Neil Speight
Luke Spillman
James Thandi
Lee Watson
Lynn Worrall



Dr Dave Smith
Chief Executive

Agenda published on: 23 January 2024

Agenda

Open to Public and Press

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Queries regarding this Agenda or notification of apologies:

Please contact Jenny Shade, Principal Democratic Services Officer by sending an email to Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

Future Dates of Council:

28 February 2024 (Budget), 20 March 2024

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Information for members of the public and councillors

Access to Information and Meetings

Advice Regarding Public Attendance at Meetings

If you are feeling ill or have tested positive for Covid and are isolating you should remain at home, the meeting will be webcast and you can attend in that way.

Hand sanitiser will also be available at the entrance for your use.

Recording of meetings

This meeting will be live streamed and recorded with the video recording being published via the Council's online webcast channel: www.thurrock.gov.uk/webcast

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Democratic Services at Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk

Guidelines on filming, photography, recording and use of social media at council and committee meetings

The council welcomes the filming, photography, recording and use of social media at council and committee meetings as a means of reporting on its proceedings because it helps to make the council more transparent and accountable to its local communities. If you wish to film or photograph the proceedings of a meeting and have any special requirements or are intending to bring in large equipment please contact the Communications Team at CommunicationsTeam@thurrock.gov.uk before the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will then be consulted and their agreement sought to any specific request made.

Where members of the public use a laptop, tablet device, smart phone or similar devices to use social media, make recordings or take photographs these devices must be set to 'silent' mode to avoid interrupting proceedings of the council or committee. The use of flash photography or additional lighting may be allowed provided it has been discussed prior to the meeting and agreement reached to ensure that it will not disrupt proceedings.

The Chair of the meeting may terminate or suspend filming, photography, recording and use of social media if any of these activities, in their opinion, are disrupting proceedings at the meeting.

Thurrock Council Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi is available throughout the Civic Offices. You can access Wi-Fi on your device by simply turning on the Wi-Fi on your laptop, Smartphone or tablet.

- You should connect to TBC-GUEST
- Enter the password **Thurrock** to connect to/join the Wi-Fi network.
- A Terms & Conditions page should appear and you have to accept these before you can begin using Wi-Fi. Some devices require you to access your browser to bring up the Terms & Conditions page, which you must accept.

The ICT department can offer support for council owned devices only.

Evacuation Procedures

In the case of an emergency, you should evacuate the building using the nearest available exit and congregate at the assembly point at Kings Walk.

How to view this agenda on a tablet device



You can view the agenda on your [iPad](#) or [Android Device](#) with the free modern.gov app.

Members of the Council should ensure that their device is sufficiently charged, although a limited number of charging points will be available in Members Services.

To view any “exempt” information that may be included on the agenda for this meeting, Councillors should:

- Access the modern.gov app
- Enter your username and password

DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Breaching those parts identified as a pecuniary interest is potentially a criminal offence

Helpful Reminders for Members

- *Is your register of interests up to date?*
- *In particular have you declared to the Monitoring Officer all disclosable pecuniary interests?*
- *Have you checked the register to ensure that they have been recorded correctly?*

When should you declare an interest *at a meeting*?

- **What matters are being discussed at the meeting?** (including Council, Cabinet, Committees, Subs, Joint Committees and Joint Subs); or
- If you are a Cabinet Member making decisions other than in Cabinet **what matter is before you for single member decision?**



Does the business to be transacted at the meeting

- relate to; or
- likely to affect

any of your registered interests and in particular any of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests?

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests shall include your interests or those of:

- your spouse or civil partner's
- a person you are living with as husband/ wife
- a person you are living with as if you were civil partners

where you are aware that this other person has the interest.

A detailed description of a disclosable pecuniary interest is included in the Members Code of Conduct at Chapter 7 of the Constitution. **Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer about disclosable pecuniary interests.**

What is a Non-Pecuniary interest? – this is an interest which is not pecuniary (as defined) but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.

Pecuniary

If the interest is not already in the register you must (unless the interest has been agreed by the Monitoring Officer to be sensitive) disclose the existence and nature of the interest to the meeting

If the Interest is not entered in the register and is not the subject of a pending notification you must within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the register

Unless you have received dispensation upon previous application from the Monitoring Officer, you must:

- **Not participate or participate further in any discussion of the matter at a meeting;**
- **Not participate in any vote or further vote taken at the meeting; and**
- **leave the room while the item is being considered/voted upon**

If you are a Cabinet Member you may make arrangements for the matter to be dealt with by a third person but take no further steps

Non- pecuniary

Declare the nature and extent of your interest including enough detail to allow a member of the public to understand its nature

You may participate and vote in the usual way but you should seek advice on Predetermination and Bias from the Monitoring Officer.

PROCEDURE FOR MOTIONS

No speech may exceed 4 minutes without the consent of the Mayor [Rule 19.8], except for the proposer of any motion who shall have 5 minutes to move that motion (except on a motion to amend where the 4 minute time shall apply) [Rule 19.8(a)]

All Motions will follow Section A and then either Section B or C

- | | | | |
|-----------|----|--|----------------------------|
| A. | A1 | Motion is moved | [Rule 19.2] |
| | A2 | Mover speaks | [Rule 19.8(a) (5 minutes)] |
| | A3 | Seconded | [Rule 19.2] |
| | A4 | Secunder speaks or reserves right to speak | [Rule 19.3] (4 minutes) |

Then the procedure will move to either B or C below:

B.		C.	
IF there is an AMENDMENT (please see Rule 19.23)		If NOT amended i.e. original motion	
B1	The mover of the amendment shall speak (4 mins).	C1	Debate.
B2	The seconder of the amendment shall speak unless he or she has reserved their speech (4 mins).	C2	If the seconder of the motion has reserved their speeches, they shall then speak.
B3	THEN debate on the subject .	C3	The mover of the substantive motion shall have the final right of reply.
B4	If the seconder of the substantive motion and the amendment reserved their speeches, they shall then speak.	C4	Vote on motion.
B5	The mover of the amendment shall have a right of reply.		
B6	The mover of the substantive motion shall have the final right of reply.		
B7	Vote on amendment.		
B8	A vote shall be taken on the substantive motion, as amended if appropriate, without further debate.		

Our Vision and Priorities for Thurrock

An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future.

1. **People** – a borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay
 - High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time
 - Build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing
 - Communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together

2. **Place** – a heritage-rich borough which is ambitious for its future
 - Roads, houses and public spaces that connect people and places
 - Clean environments that everyone has reason to take pride in
 - Fewer public buildings with better services

3. **Prosperity** – a borough which enables everyone to achieve their aspirations
 - Attractive opportunities for businesses and investors to enhance the local economy
 - Vocational and academic education, skills and job opportunities for all
 - Commercial, entrepreneurial and connected public services

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31 January 2024		ITEM: 3
Extraordinary Full Council		
Freedom of the Borough		
Wards and communities affected: None	Key Decision: Non-Key	
Report of: Dave Smith, Chief Executive		
Accountable Assistant Director: Not applicable		
Accountable Director: Asmat Hussain, Interim Director of Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

This report sets out the case for conferring the ceremonial status of 'Freedom of the Borough' to the named individuals.

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 **To confer the award of Freedom of the Borough on the Reverend Canon Darren Barlow**

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 In accordance with section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, Members are able to confer the award of Freedom of the Borough on people they deem appropriate.

- 2.2 Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides for:

Subject as follows, a relevant authority may admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority—

(a) Persons of distinction, and

(b) Persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area.

- 2.3 Freedom of the Borough is the highest honour that the Council can bestow on any individual or organisation. In past years, Freedom of the Borough has been conferred upon the following organisations and individuals:

- The Thurrock Branch of the Burma Association (26 November 2008)
- Port of Tilbury Police (25 September 2002)
- Mrs. Dorothy Coker (26 September 2001)
- Royal Anglian Regiment (18 July 1990)
- 215 Essex Squadron (28 June 1986)
- Revd John Guest, Father Brian O'Shea and Father Paul Dynan (30 September 2021)

2.4 At 25 October 2023's Full Council meeting, Members agreed they wished to confer the freedom of the borough to Revd Canon Barlow.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

3.1 It is the current practice of the Council for recipients of Freedom of the Borough to be invited to civic events, such as Annual Council, the Civic Dinner and the Civic Awards Ceremony.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 The named individual has made a significant contribution to the civic and pastoral life of Thurrock. Awarding Freedom of the Borough is a suitable and befitting recognition the Council can make for their work.

4.2 Reverend Canon Barlow took up post of Team Rector of the Grays Thurrock Team Ministry in the summer of 2006, this role involved him having oversight of four churches (Grays, Little Thurrock, West Thurrock & Chafford Hundred) but with particularly Grays Parish Church. In early summer 2011, he was asked by the Bishop of Chelmsford to take on the additional role as Area Dean of Thurrock. This has meant that Reverend Cannon Barlow has a leadership oversight of all of the clergy and Church of England churches in Thurrock of which there is 23. Furthermore, in 2021 he became Priest-in-Charge for Chadwell St Mary. Within the wider community he has held various roles in the local community including Chaplain to Grays Athletic FC, Thurrock Scouts, the Grays Thurrock branch of the Royal British Legion, Palmer's College, governor at Quarry Hill, Belmont Castle and Palmer's College and was the Church of England representative on the Children's O & S committee for about six years. He was first asked to become Mayor's Chaplain in 2010 and has since served Ann Cheale, Yash Gupta, Tony Fish, Steve Liddiard, Sue Gray, Tunde Ojetola, Barbara Rise, Terry Piccolo, Sue Shinnick, James Halden and Sue Little.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

5.1 Not applicable.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

6.1 Granting the Freedom of the Borough to an individual or organisation allows Members to formally recognise exceptional contributions to the civic life of Thurrock and promotes the work and activities of people in the community.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Rosie Hurst**
Interim Finance Manager (30/11/23)

The financial implications resulting from this is expected to be contained within current budgets.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Jayne Middleton-Albooye**
Interim Head of Legal Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer (29/11/23)

The power to confer this award is set out at paragraph 2.1 above. Section 249 (5) states that the decision to confer the award should be made by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon at a meeting of the council specially convened for the purpose with notice of the object.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Becky Lee**
Team Manager – Community Development & Equalities (01/12/23)

There are no diversity or equality implications arising from this report.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health Inequalities, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, or Impact on Looked After Children

None

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- None.

9. Appendices to the report

- None.

Report Author:

Matthew Boulter

Head of Democratic, Scrutiny and Member Services

Legal Services