

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council to be held on Tuesday 23 May 2023

Subject:

HONORARY FREEMEN OF THE CITY

Summary statement:

To consider admitting Harry Cherrington Brook to the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City.

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Harry Cherrington Brook is an English cricketer who plays international cricket for England and domestic cricket for the Yorkshire County Cricket Club. He made his international debut for England in January 2022. He was part of the England cricket team that won the 2022 T20 World Cup. Harry Brook has also been named as the European ambassador for Major League Baseball.
- 1.2 This report proposes that Harry Brook be admitted to the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City. This honour would recognise his outstanding contribution on the field of cricket. Harry Brook is an inspiring role model for the District's young people. (Refer to Appendix A - Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe's nomination).

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City was created in the late nineteenth century. The first person admitted to the roll was Sir Henry Mitchell, a former Lord Mayor, a philanthropist, and a mill owner. Over time, other notable Bradfordians, including J.B. Priestley, Barbara Castle and David Hockney, have been added to the roll. Most recently, in 2020, Jonathan Marc Bairstow and Adil Usman Rashid were also included to the roll.
- 2.2 The Council may admit persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the City and/or District. It is recommended that the person should have demonstrated distinguished and recent service, or made a significant beneficial and noteworthy contribution to the District or secured significant benefit to the District.
- 2.3 It is considered that Harry Brook meets this criterion and should therefore be so honoured and admitted to the roll.
- 2.4 Born in Keighley on 22 February 1999, Harry Brook is an English cricketer. He represents the Yorkshire County Cricket Club in domestic cricket and plays for the English National Team in international cricket making his debut in January 2022. Harry Brook was part of the victorious England squad that won the 2022 T20 World Cup.
- 2.5 As a talented batsman, Harry Brook played for England's Under-19 squad during the 2018 World Cup and became only the second English player to make a century at that level. He ended the tournament as the highest run-scorer for England with 239 runs. Harry Brook's impressive form was already noted by Yorkshire who handed him a first-class debut during the 2016 season.
- 2.6 Harry Brook has earned several accolades, including the Professional Cricketers Association (PCA) Young Player of the Year for both 2021 and 2022, the Cricket Writer's Club Young Cricketer of the Year for 2021, and the International Cricket Council (ICC) World Player of the Month in December 2022 and February 2023. He also scored the first hundred of the 2023 Indian Premier League (IPL) season. Additionally, he has been named as the European ambassador for Major League Baseball

3. LEGAL APPRAISAL

3.1 Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 entitles the Council to admit persons of distinction to the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City.

3.2 The power is expressed in the following terms:

a relevant authority may admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority:

- (i) persons of distinction, and
- (ii) persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area

3.3 Any person nominated for the award of Honorary Freeman/Freewoman should not be an existing member of the Council.

3.4 In order to confer this honour:

- (i) A meeting of the Council specially convened for this purpose must take place (an extraordinary meeting).
- (ii) Notice of the object of the meeting must be given.
- (iii) The resolution conferring the honour must be passed by not less than two thirds of the Members present and voting.

3.5 The Council may spend such reasonable sum as it thinks fit for the purpose of presenting to a person upon whom the honour has been conferred.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

All costs incurred will be met within the current budget provision.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

None.

5.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

None.

5.5 TRADE UNION

None.

6. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 That the Council admit Harry Cherrington Brook to the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the City in recognition of his distinguished career and close association with the City and District, pursuant to Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972.

7.2 That, for the purposes of presenting an address to Harry Cherrington Brook, a civic ceremony be held. The arrangements for this event, including the date and time, to be determined by the Director of Legal and Governance, in consultation with the Lord Mayor.

8. APPENDICES

Appendix A - Nomination of Harry Cherrington Brook for Freeman of the City

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.