

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Report of:	Director of Legal and Governance Services (Monitoring Officer)
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	21 May 2025
Title:	Extraordinary Council Meeting - Resolution
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Key decision:	No
Why:	Not applicable
Subject to call in?	No
Why:	Not applicable

Proposed decision(s)

That the Council

- (i) In accordance with Procedure Rule 4.14.1 (b) is requested to pass a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purposes of awarding the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.
- (ii) Agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of the Council.

Executive summary

The report seeks Council approval, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.14.1(b) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.

If Council resolve to call an Extraordinary meeting then the date of that meeting will be agreed with the Chair of the Council and arrangements will be made for a Freedom Ceremony to take place.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek approval of Council, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.14.1(b) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council:

Resolves to:

- (i) call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purposes of granting the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Norman Moorsom and Mr Alan Peacock.
- (ii) agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council.

3. Rationale for the recommended decision(s)

- 3.1 The Council's procedure rule 4.14.1(b) provides that Council may resolve to call an Extraordinary meeting.

4. Background and relevant information

- 4.1 The Council of every borough may from time to time, by the authority of not less than two-thirds of their number present and voting at a meeting of the Council specially called for the purpose with notice of the object, admit to be Honorary Proposed Freeman of the Borough, persons of distinction and any persons who have rendered eminent services to the borough.

- 4.2 Two such persons of distinction have been nominated to be admitted to be Honorary Proposed Freeman of the Borough:

4.2.1 Norman Moorsom, former teacher and the most notable living historian of Middlesbrough, with some 40 published works on the town's history dating back to 1963. Recently, Norman has contributed to "Discover Middlesbrough", as well as the work of Ageing Better Middlesbrough and also successfully campaigned for the former St. Hilda's parish church.

4.2.2 Alan Peacock, former Middlesbrough FC and England footballer, who has worked tirelessly following his own diagnosis to raise awareness and support those also living with dementia.

- 4.3 Subject to approval of the recommendations set out at 2.1 in this report, suitable arrangements will be made for the Freedom Ceremony.

5. Ward Member Engagement if relevant and appropriate

5.1 Not relevant.

6. Other potential alternative(s) and why these have not been recommended

6.1 There is an option not to call an Extraordinary Council meeting. This is not recommended as the Freedom Ceremony could not take place.

7. Impact(s) of the recommended decision(s)

Topic	Impact
Financial (including procurement and Social Value)	If Council agree to the Extraordinary Council meeting there will be costs associated with the Freedom Ceremony. The costs are anticipated to be approximately £1,000 and will be met directly from the Democratic Services budget.
Legal	There are no legal implications as a result of this decision.
Risk	There is no impact on risk as a result of this decision.
Human Rights, Public Sector Equality Duty and Community Cohesion	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. It is considered that an equality impact assessment is not required.
Reducing Poverty	This decision will have no impact on reducing poverty.
Climate Change / Environmental	This decision will have no impact on climate change/environment.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	This decision will have no impact on Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers.
Data Protection	This decision will have no impact on Data Protection.

Actions to be taken to implement the recommended decision(s)

Action	Responsible Officer	Deadline
Make arrangements for an Extraordinary Council Meeting	Monitoring Officer	As soon as practicable

Appendices

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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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