

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL	
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Report of:	Corporate Director of Legal and Corporate Services (Monitoring Officer), Charlotte Benjamin
Submitted to:	Council
Date:	9 September 2026
Title:	Extraordinary Council Meeting - Resolution
Report for:	Decision
Status:	Public
Council Plan priority:	Delivering Best Value

Proposed decision(s)
That Council resolves to: - call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave. - agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council.

Executive summary
The report seeks Council approval, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.5 (ii) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave. 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 and its contribution to the achievement of the Council Plan ambitions

- 1.1 To seek approval of Council, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.8.5 (ii) to agree a resolution to call an Extraordinary meeting of Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Council resolves to:

- (i) call an Extraordinary meeting of the Council for the purpose of considering whether to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Mr Ronald Cave.
- (ii) agree that the date of the Extraordinary meeting will be determined with the approval of the Chair of Council

3. Background and relevant information

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 One such person of distinction has been nominated to be admitted to be Honorary Proposed Freeman of the Borough: Ronald Cave, in recognition of 45 years of voluntary service to the people of Middlesbrough. As a boxing coach with gyms in various locations in the town, Ronald Cave has contributed to both the sport and local communities by helping to develop several national and international champions, including an Olympic Bronze medal recipient. At a time when boxing largely attracted young men with abundant energy, strong personalities and, in some cases, a greater risk of falling into trouble, he provided a positive outlet and a disciplined environment in which they could thrive. Through his patience, dedication and belief in people, he has helped countless individuals stay on the right path, teaching respect, self-discipline, resilience and responsibility. In addition to full-time employment, Ronald regularly gave up his weekends to support boxers representing their club and community at junior, novice or ABA championships. The sacrifices made by both him and his family over four and a half decades demonstrate an unwavering dedication to his local community and Middlesbrough generally.
- 3.3 Subject to approval of the recommendations set out at 2.1 in this report, suitable arrangements will be made for the Freedom Ceremony.

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

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

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

Topic	Impact
Financial (including Social Value)	If Full Council agree to hold the Extraordinary Council meeting, which includes the Freedom Ceremony, the costs are anticipated to be approximately £1,000 and will be met directly from the Democratic Services budget.

Procurement	Not applicable as this is a report requesting an Extraordinary Council meeting.
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	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Climate Change / Environmental	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Children and Young People Cared for by the Authority and Care Leavers	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.
Data Protection	The subject of this report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised.

Appendices

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Background papers

Body	Report title	Date

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