



TO GRANT
THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
FREEDOM OF ENTRY INTO THE
BOROUGH OF DACORUM
AND TO ADMIT
HEATHER ALLEN MBE
DAVID FURNELL
DANIEL ZAMMIT
AS HONORARY FREEMEN OF THE BOROUGH
AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
24 SEPTEMBER 2014
SUMMONS & AGENDA

SUMMONS

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, 24 September 2014 – 7:00PM BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBER, DACORUM CIVIC CENTRE, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

You are hereby summoned to a special meeting of the Dacorum Borough Council in the County of Hertfordshire to be held in the Council Chamber, Dacorum Civic Centre, Hemel Hempstead on Wednesday 24 September 2014 at 7.00 pm to transact the business set out in the attached Agenda.



**SALLY MARSHALL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 1

**THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT –
FREEDOM OF ENTRY
INTO THE BOROUGH OF DACORUM**

To consider the following motion to be moved by Councillor Herbert Chapman and seconded by Councillor Graham Adshead.

“That the Council in accordance with the Resolution passed at the Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Dacorum held on 24 September 2014 granting the Freedom of Entry into the Borough of Dacorum to The ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT thereby conferring on all ceremonial occasions the right, privilege and honour of marching through the streets of the Borough of Dacorum with full ceremonial, in recognition of the distinguished record and the eminent and gallant military service rendered to our country by its officers and personnel over many years and in recognition also of many years successful co-operation and shared values between the residents of the Borough and the men and women of The Royal Anglian Regiment: and in acknowledgement of the close and friendly relations which have at all times existed between them.

That the Council direct that the Common Seal of the Dacorum Borough Council be affixed to a framed copy of this Resolution and presented to The Royal Anglian Regiment.”

BACKGROUND

At the meeting of Council on 23 April 2014 a Notice of Motion was unanimously approved to confer Freedom of Entry into the Borough of Dacorum to The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Following the ceremony on 24 September 2014 granting the Freedom of Entry into the Borough of Dacorum to The Royal Anglian Regiment a special ceremony will be arranged for a date in the New Year in which The Royal Anglian Regiment will be given permission to exercise the Freedom of Entry by a formal parade where the Mayor inspects the assembled troops and then invites all involved to a reception at the Civic Centre.

On a historical note, the granting of Freedom of Entry tradition has its roots deep in the history of local government, and is an example of the power and influence of the old boroughs in the past; during the Middle Ages, bodies of troops were not allowed to march through a borough without seeking the permission of the Council. The Freedom of Entry would normally be granted to locally based troops once mutual confidence and friendship had been established and when the citizens were satisfied that the troops would protect their interests.

Permission to enter confers upon individual regiments/service units the right "to march through the city with due ceremonial, drums beating, bands playing and banner flying", in recognition of the confidence, trust and friendship existing between the citizens and troops.

Today, martial freedom of the Borough is an entirely ceremonial honour to show the ties between a borough or a city and a regiment/service unit. It does however remain the highest tribute that a Borough can bestow and it is because of this that admissions are few. The Royal Anglian Regiment is the second to receive this honour in the Borough of Dacorum. Royal Air Force Halton was the first to receive this honour on 11 November 2011

BRIEF HISTORY THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

As a result of the end of National Service and the subsequent Sands Defence Review amalgamations of the Suffolk Regiment (incorporating the Cambridgeshire Regiment) with the Royal Norfolk Regiment (1959), the Northamptonshire Regiment with the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (1960) and the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment with the Essex Regiment (1958) took place.

These amalgamations resulted in the formation of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd East Anglian Regiments, who were later joined in the East Anglian Brigade by the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. In 1964 these became the four Battalions of the Royal Anglian Regiment. This was the first large Regiment of Infantry to be formed in the British Army.

In 1967 the Regular Battalions were joined by a new TA Battalion, the 5th Battalion and 1971 saw the formation of the 6th and 7th Battalions. The 4th Battalion was reduced to company strength in 1970 and was finally disbanded in 1975.

In October 1992, following a major defence review (Options for Change) the 3rd Battalion was merged with the 1st and 2nd Battalions and in 1996, following a major re-structuring of the TA, the 5th Battalion was re-rolled into a Royal Logistic Corps transport regiment. On further re-organisation of the TA in 1999 the 6th and 7th Battalions merged to form the East of England Regiment. On 1st April 2006, following a re-grouping of TA units, the 3rd Battalion was formed.

CURRENT ORGANISATION

The Royal Anglian Regiment is part of the Queen's Division. The Division is made up of 6 battalions; two from The Royal Anglian Regiment, two from The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and two from The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. Until recently, the Colonel Commandant of the Queen's Division was General Sir John McColl, late Royal Anglian.

The Regiment consists of 5 components; the Regular Battalions, the TA element (3rd Battalion), Royal Anglian cap-badged Army Cadet Force (ACF) detachments and school Combined Cadet Forces (CCFs), the Regimental Association and finally individuals serving away from these units or retired. All the components are closely related and are vital to the future wellbeing of the Regiment.

AGENDA ITEM 2

HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE BOROUGH HEATHER ALLEN MBE

To consider the following motion to be moved by Councillor Neil Harden and seconded by Councillor C Wyatt-Lowe.

“That the Council in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by statute admit to being an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Dacorum (the most honourable distinction which it is their privilege to bestow), **HEATHER ALLEN MBE** In appreciation of the outstanding contribution she has made to the voluntary sector in Dacorum over many years and for the support she has given to the citizens of Hemel Hempstead through her enthusiasm, determination and hard work within the voluntary sector. Her leadership of the voluntary sector, both locally and more widely, has enriched and enabled the lives of so many, especially those less able to help themselves and has made Dacorum a better place

That the Council direct that the Common Seal of the Dacorum Borough Council be affixed to a framed copy of this Resolution and presented to her.”

AGENDA ITEM 3

HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE BOROUGH DAVID FURNELL

To consider the following motion to be moved by Councillor Nick Tiley and seconded by Councillor Mrs Carol Green.

“That the Council in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by statute admit to being an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Dacorum (the most honourable distinction which it is their privilege to bestow), **DAVID FURNELL** in appreciation and acknowledgement of the outstanding public service he has rendered over many years as a citizen of Hemel Hempstead, especially his leadership and enthusiastic involvement with the business community, bringing prosperity to the Borough, its industry, residents and visitors; and in recognition also of his considerable involvement with the voluntary sector of the local community benefiting the inhabitants of the Borough of Dacorum

That the Council direct that the Common Seal of the Dacorum Borough Council be affixed to a framed copy of this Resolution and presented to him.”

AGENDA ITEM 4

HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE BOROUGH DANIEL ZAMMIT

To consider the following motion to be moved by Councillor Andrew Williams and seconded by Councillor Denise Rance

“That the Council in pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by statute admit to being an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Dacorum (the most honourable distinction which it is their privilege to bestow), **DANIEL ZAMMIT** In appreciation and acknowledgement of the eminent public service he has rendered as Chief Executive from 2004 - 2013, especially in his leadership, dedication and hard work on behalf of all members of the community

That the Council direct that the Common Seal of the Dacorum Borough Council be affixed to a framed copy of this Resolution and presented to him.”

BACKGROUND TO ITEMS 2, 3 and 4

- (i) The origin of the Freedom of a Borough goes back to medieval times when, with the growth of towns, there emerged a class of citizen known as freemen who enjoyed important privileges in the government of their town and in the matter of corporate property, as against the rest of the inhabitants and strangers. Each Borough admitted freemen according to its own particular charter or custom, the right to be admitted generally depending upon birth, servitude, marriage, gift or purchase.
- (ii) The Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council of a Borough may admit to be Honorary Freemen of the Borough persons of distinction and any persons who have rendered eminent services to the Borough. The Act, however expressly provides that admission to the Honorary Freeman does not confer the right of sharing in the benefit of any corporate property, nor does it confer any financial advantages whatsoever.
- (iii) Honorary Freeman is the highest honour which the Borough Council can confer; and it is because of this that admissions are few.
- (iv) Heather Allen will become the ninth Honorary Freeman of the Borough; David Furnell will become the tenth and Daniel Zammit will become the eleventh. Bob Davis being the first in 1990, Mary King the second in 1991, Zena Bullmore the third in 1995, June Street OBE the fourth in 1999, Keith Hunt the fifth in 2004, Bob Parsons the sixth in 2006, Julian Taunton the seventh in 2008 and Derek Townsend the eighth in 2011.