



## HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE TOWN POLICY

By virtue of section 249 (5) and (6) of the 1972 Act, as amended in 2010, the Town Council can award a 'Title of Dignity' to a person in recognition of significant contributions being made to the local community. Calne Town Council may award an Honorary Freeman of the Town or Honorary Freewoman of the Town.

Nominations, by motion, must be made by a serving Town Councillor but the honour is open to anyone who has served the Town and meets the following nomination criteria:

- The nominee has been or is a Town Councillor or Officer
- The nominee has made an outstanding contribution, or rendered eminent service to the Council during their term of office
- The nominee has made an exceptional and outstanding contribution to the local community in many ways over a period of 30 years
- If a serving Councillor is to be honoured, the end of the current serving term may be used in calculating the 30 years of service

There is no limit to the number of nominations or holders of the title, but the nature of the nomination criteria means it is unlikely that the honour will be frequently awarded and will therefore remain distinctive.

Once a nomination has been received it must be considered at a <sup>1</sup>Special Meeting of the Full Council. Members may conduct inquiries to verify the merits of a nomination. A resolution must be passed by not less than <sup>2</sup>two-thirds of the members of the relevant who vote on it.

Following a resolution by Full Council that an award is fully justified the title of 'Honorary Freeman of the Town will be granted by the Town Mayor and the title holder presented with a scroll citing the grounds for the award. The presentation of a scroll would be made by the Mayor at a suitable event.

Approved by Policy and Resources on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

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<sup>1</sup> *Local Government Act 1972 s249 (8) (a)*

<sup>2</sup> *Local Government Act 1972 s249 (8) (b)*