

**SUMMONS**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2016 – 7:30 PM**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, DACORUM CIVIC CENTRE, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD**

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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 26 October 2016 at 7.30 pm to transact the business set out in the attached Agenda.



**SALLY MARSHALL  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

## **HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE BOROUGH MAX WHITLOCK**

To consider the following motion to be moved by Councillor Neil Harden and seconded by Councillor Andrew Williams.

“That the Council in pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by statute admit to being an honorary Freeman of the Borough of Dacorum (the most honourable distinction which it is their privilege to bestow)

### **Max Whitlock**

In appreciation and acknowledgement of his continuing sporting achievements: winner of Gold medals in the Commonwealth Games, European and World Championships and culminating in his most recent success, two Gold Medals at the Games of the XXXI Olympiad, Rio 2016; and in recognition of the very significant contribution he has made to sport and the wider community; for the tremendous inspiration he provides and the example set to the young people 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.”

## BACKGROUND

- (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) Max Whitlock will become the twelfth Honorary Freeman of the Borough; 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, Derek Townsend the eighth in 2011, Heather Allen, David Furnell and Daniel Zammit, the ninth, tenth and eleventh in 2014.