



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL SUMMONS

and

AGENDA

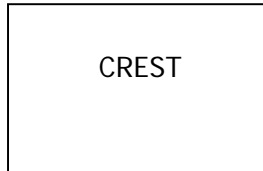
for

SPECIAL MEETING

22ND July 2010

St Edmundsbury Borough Council

JOY BOWES
Head of Legal and
Democratic Services



West Suffolk House
Western Way
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3YU

12 July 2010

To: All Members of the Council

You are hereby summoned to a Special Meeting of the Council to be held in the **Athenaeum**, Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds on Thursday, 22 July, 2010 at 2.00 pm, for the conferment of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough upon 3 Regiment Army Air Corps.

A handwritten signature in black ink, written in a cursive style. The signature appears to read "Joy Bowes".

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

**Special Meeting
of the
St Edmundsbury Borough Council**

22 July 2010
Athenaeum, Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds

ASSEMBLY AND PROCESSIONAL PROCEDURE

ASSEMBLY

Members are requested to assemble at the **Corn Exchange, Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds at 1.30 pm**. Their ladies/gentlemen should take their seats in the Athenaeum by not later than 1.45 pm. Past Mayors'/Chairmen's Badges may be worn.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

All Members are requested to sign, before the Meeting, the Attendance Register which will be placed **in the entrance foyer of the Corn Exchange**, Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds.

PROCESSION FROM CORN EXCHANGE TO ATHENAEUM

At 1.45 pm, all Members will be requested to start forming into processional order at the Corn Exchange, with a view to the formed procession moving off at approximately 1.50 pm.

PROCESSION INTO ATHENAEUM

All stand

At 2.00 pm the Members of the Council will enter the Athenaeum in procession, headed by the Sword and Mace Bearers; **they will stand** by their seats until the Sword and Maces have been placed in position and the meeting has been opened with Prayers by the Mayor's Chaplain.

PRAYERS

The Mayor will invite his Chaplain, the Reverend Jonathan Alderton-Ford of Christ Church, Bury St Edmunds, to open the meeting with prayers.

The Mayor will then invite **all to sit and the public to remain seated for the remainder of the meeting**.

**Special Meeting
of the
St Edmundsbury Borough Council**

22 July 2010

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence.**
2. **Conferment of Honorary Freedom of the Borough**

The Mayor will read the terms of the formal motion as follows:-

“That this Council, in recognition of the eminent services rendered to the Borough by

3 Regiment Army Air Corps

of Wattisham Airfield in the County of Suffolk, who have in a dedicated and professional manner served the nation valiantly in conflicts around the world, most notably, since making their home in Suffolk, during the second Gulf War, and in Iraq and Afghanistan, where they have fought to uphold the values of freedom and tolerance against forces who seek to supplant them with terror and repression; and in appreciation of the exemplary conduct they have shown in the provision of vital aviation capability in their missions at home and abroad;

Further, for their contribution to the peace and prosperity of the Borough through the economic and social benefits they have brought to the area; and

Do hereby, in pursuance of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 and in acknowledgement of the services aforesaid, confer upon the said **3 Regiment Army Air Corps** the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of St Edmundsbury; and

Do hereby admit the said **3 Regiment Army Air Corps** to be an Honorary Freeman of the Borough accordingly.”

Councillor J.H.M. Griffiths will move:-

That the Council confer upon 3 Regiment Army Air Corps of Wattisham Airfield, the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of St Edmundsbury in the terms of the formal motion now read by the Mayor and set out in the Agenda, and the Mayor present an illuminated copy of the resolution to Lieutenant Colonel Paul Tennant AAC, Commanding Officer, 3 Regiment Army Air Corps.

Councillor D. A. Ray will second the motion.

The Mayor will then put the motion to the vote, and upon its being declared carried will then ask all Members of the Council to rise and will invite Lieutenant Colonel Tennant to subscribe to the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the Borough on behalf of 3 Regiment Army Air Corps.

The Mayor will then present an illuminated copy of the resolution to Lieutenant Colonel Tennant.

Members of the Council and Lieutenant Colonel Tennant will resume their seats and the Mayor will invite Lieutenant Colonel Tennant to acknowledge the admission of the said 3 Regiment Army Air Corps.

The Mayor will then announce the conclusion of the formal business of the Council.

RECESSION FROM THE ATHENAEUM

The Sword Bearer will announce the recession from the Athenaeum and ask members of the public to stand.

All Members of the Council will **remain standing** in their places whilst the Sword and Mace Bearers take up the Sword and Maces. As soon as the Sword and Mace Bearers are ready, the Council, preceded by these Officers, will leave the Athenaeum to take their places on Angel Hill.

THE HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH

Until well into the 19th century, Freemen existed in many Boroughs as constituent parts of the Corporations and enjoyed special rights, dependent on local custom, such as rights of pasturage on corporate land and exemptions from certain tolls and dues.

Since 1885, Borough Councils have been able to confer Honorary Freedoms upon persons of distinction and persons or organisations who have rendered eminent services to the Borough or have served the community in a very distinguished way, but there are no defined criteria. It is solely at the discretion of a Borough Council, and is the highest tribute that a Borough can bestow. The fact that the honour has been bestowed by the former Borough of Bury St Edmunds and the present reorganised and larger Borough of St Edmundsbury on only 33 occasions in total since 1885 (see Page 5) is testament to its rarity.

It is honorary only, confers no legal rights and places no obligation on the holder, but Honorary Freemen are invariably invited to take part in important ceremonial occasions in the Borough. For units of the armed services it confers the historic right to "exercise the Freedom", i.e. to march through the Borough with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed.

Admissions to the Honorary Freedom of the Borough
subsequent to the Honorary Freedom of the Boroughs Act, 1885
and Section 249 of the Local Government Act, 1972

Former Borough of Bury St Edmunds

***Date of
Conferment***

The Right Honourable Sir William Purdie Treloar, Lord Mayor of London	1907
Edward William Lake, J.P.	1909
George Gery Milner-Gibson-Cullum, M.A., F.S.A., D.L., J.P.	1911
Owen Aly Clark, Alderman of the former Borough	1919
Field Marshal Viscount Allenby, K.C.B., G.C.M.B., C. in C. of the British Army in Egypt and Palestine	1920
Lt. Col. the Honourable Walter Edward Guinness, D.S.O., M.P., Under-Secretary of State for War	1923
John Ridley Hooper, J.P.	1934
Joseph Maitland Wilson, C.B.E., J.P.	1934
Edward Lancelot Dewe Lake, T.D., J.P.	1937
The Most Honourable Rear Admiral Frederick William Fane, Fourth Marquis of Bristol, M.V.O.	1943
The Suffolk Regiment	1944
Miss Muriel Dewe Lake	1946
Field Marshal the Lord Wilson of Libya and Stowlangtoft G.C.B., G.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C.	1947
Ernest Stork, D.S.O., M.B., J.P., Borough Medical Officer of Health	1948
358 (Suffolk Yeomanry) Medium Regiment R.A.T.A.	1953
1st East Anglian Regiment (now the 1st [Royal Norfolk and Suffolk] Bn., Royal Anglian Regiment)	1963
The Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry (as reorganised April 1967)	1967
Robert Arthur Cecil Olle, Alderman of the former Borough	1968
George Henry Pemberton, Alderman of the former Borough	1968
Ernest William Steward, M.B.E., J.P., Alderman of the former Borough	1968
Frederick George Banks, Alderman of the former Borough	1970
Royal Air Force Honington	1972

St Edmundsbury Borough Council

Lt. Gen. Sir Richard Goodwin, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.	1978
John William Henry Knight, O.B.E., Councillor of the Borough	1991
Eric George Steele, O.B.E., J.P., Councillor of the Borough	1993
The Lady Miriam Hubbard	1995
James Ronald Hartley, Councillor of the Borough	1999
Third Air Force, United States of America	2000
Normandy Veterans Association (1944), Bury St Edmunds & District Branch No. 35	2004
All residents of the Borough of St Edmundsbury who served in the armed forces of the Allied Powers during the Second World War	2005
677 (Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry) Squadron Army Air Corps (Volunteers)	2006
Sheila Kathleen Wormleighton, M.B.E.	2007
Sir Eldon Wylie Griffiths, M.A. (Cantab), M.A. (Yale)	2007

Local Government Act 1972 Section 249 Honorary Freedom of the Borough: 3 Regiment Army Air Corps, Wattisham:

3 Regiment Army Air Corps is one of the UK's 2 Attack Helicopter Regiments, equipped with the AH64 (Apache) Attack Helicopter. It is based at Wattisham Airfield and has been in the Attack Role since 2005. However, the Regiment's history is traced back to 1878.

The Army's first flights took place officially in 1878 when the first gas-filled man-carrying tethered observation balloons were purchased by the War Office. These were used operationally for the first time during the Boer War. The Royal Flying Corps of the Army fought throughout the First World War before being amalgamated into the newly formed RAF in 1918. During the Second World War, Army pilots flew gliders into battle as the Glider Pilot Regiment and directed artillery fire on the battlefield with the Air Observation Post Squadrons. Post war, the emergence of the helicopter, as a potent battlefield weapon, shaped the modern Army Air Corps we see today from its formation on 1 September 1957.

The 3rd Division Aviation Regiment was formed on 24 October 1969. The Regiment was stationed at Airfield Camp Netheravon and was equipped with Sioux and Scout helicopters. The Regiment provided direct support for not only 3 Division, but also 5 Airborne Brigade, 24 Airmobile Brigade, and 16 Parachute Brigade.

On 1 October 1973 the Corps changed its formation, and the identity of all units changed from Aviation to Army Air Corps. It was also during this period that the Sioux helicopters were replaced by Gazelles. In 1977 a further major change occurred to the re-named 3 Regiment Army Air Corps. The demise of both 24 and 5 Airborne Brigades resulted in the Regiment being re-established in Soest, West Germany, in support of 3 Armoured Division.

In 1991 the Regiment detached some 40 personnel and numerous aircraft in support of its sister Regiment, 4 Regiment AAC, for its deployment to the Gulf to liberate Kuwait. The Regiment continued to support deployments worldwide throughout the 1990s as well as providing support to the newly-formed 6 Airborne Brigade.

On 31 July 1993, after 16 years in Germany, 3 Regiment AAC moved from Soest to its current home at Wattisham Airfield that was vacated by the RAF on the retirement of the F4 Phantom fleet of fast jets. The general drawdown of British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and the re-rolling of the Regiment from Divisional Anti Tank to Aviation Airborne as part of 24 Airborne Brigade were the driving forces behind the move. It was under the command of 24 Airborne Brigade that in 1995 the Regiment deployed on Op HAMDEN to Ploce, Croatia during the most intense period of the conflict in the Former Yugoslavia. 1999 not only saw 16 Air Assault Brigade succeed 24 Airborne, but also the deployment of 653 Squadron AAC on Op AGRICOLA in Kosovo. 3 Regiment AAC was then the first AAC Regiment to command and deploy an Aviation Battle Group to the British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS) in Canada, proving the concept of an Aviation unit commanding armoured tank elements, infantry and artillery in a war fighting role. This concept was to be proved in anger during the second Gulf War.

The Regiment deployed to Iraq on Op TELIC in 2003 in a war fighting capacity, providing the utility and anti-tank capability with Lynx and Gazelle to 16 Air Assault Brigade as part of the wider reaching US lead Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. It was engaged in heavy fighting in the south of Iraq with many members of the Regiment distinguishing themselves in the face of the enemy.

In 2005 the Regiment received the Apache AH 64 Longbow and began the long conversion process of the air and ground crews to an operationally deployable status. 653 Squadron concurrently deployed 5 Lynx helicopters and 80 personnel to Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of Op OCULUS. 662 Squadron was the first in the Regiment to convert to the AH, completing the process in May 2007. Since that time the Regiment has been heavily committed to operations in Afghanistan with a permanent presence. The UK Apaches provide vital capability in Afghanistan in a number of roles. The potent strike effect of the aircraft has been in constant use against the Taliban, Apaches provide protection for the more vulnerable support helicopters of the RAF and Royal Navy and also conduct essential reconnaissance missions. Over the last 12 months all 3 Squadrons of the Regiment have deployed to Afghanistan, with the last returning in May 2010. The Regiment has a brief respite before returning to Afghanistan in January 2011.

The Regiment has significant local ties with Suffolk and large numbers of its personnel have decided to settle permanently in the local area. It is extremely proud and pleased to be being considered for the Freedom of St Edmundsbury.

There is no doubt that this facility and the staff who have served there over the years have contributed and continue to contribute significantly to the peace and prosperity of the Borough.

THE CIVIC INSIGNIA OF THE BOROUGH

The Sword of State, the two Civic Maces and the Mayor's Chain of Office, are all termed Civic Insignia - the marks or signs of office, and are the symbols of civic authority, and more specific information about them is given below. The Sword and Maces also infer protection of the Mayor when in civic procession where he is preceded by the uniformed Sword Bearer and Mace Bearers.

Maces - The right to have Maces carried before the Mayor was granted for Bury St. Edmunds by Royal Charter in 1606. The Civic Maces are an evolution of the fighting mace which had a hitting end fitted with spikes for penetrating a helmet or armour. At the other end was a shaped hand-grip to ensure a firm grasp. It became customary for arms identifying the owner to be engraved on the shaped hand-grip, and as coats of arms became more elaborate, so the handle increased in importance. Consequently, on the Borough's silver gilt Maces, the shaped hand-grips are the heads with the Royal Arms, and the hitting ends are denoted by acorns. Although it is not known when the Borough Maces were provided, it is known that the Arms of Charles II replaced those of the Commonwealth on them in 1661. They have remained unaltered and in constant use since that date.

Sword of State - The rare right to a Sword of State was also granted for Bury St. Edmunds by Royal Charter in 1684 when the present Sword was a gift to the town, and it has been in constant use to this day. For visits by the Monarch it is carried 'reversed' - i.e. pointing downwards, as are the maces. The grip, cross-piece and mounts on the scabbard are all silver-gilt. The decorations include the Arms of the Stuart sovereigns, the Arms of the former Borough of Bury St. Edmunds, and the figures of Law and Justice.

Mayor's Chain of Office - This is a gold chain, of snaffle links, with fourteen medallions each with the head of St. Edmund, the King of East Anglia, from whom Bury St. Edmunds takes its name. From the Chain is suspended an oval gold Medallion with a bust of William IV on one side and the Arms of the former Borough of Bury St. Edmunds on the reverse. This Chain and Badge of Office was a gift to the town in 1805 from James Oakes, a prominent local banker.

Following the reorganisation of local government in 1974, these Borough status rights were continued by Royal Charter for the new Borough of St. Edmundsbury.