ASSEMBLY

24 February 2016

Title: Death of Honorary Alderman Fred Jones MBE

Report of the Chief Executive

Open Report For Information

Wards Affected: None Key Decision: No

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Accountable Divisional Director: Fiona Taylor, Director of Law and Governance

Accountable Director: Chris Naylor, Chief Executive

Summary:

The Assembly is asked to note with deep regret that former Councillor, Mayor, Freeman and Alderman of the Borough, Fred Jones, passed away on 19 January 2016.

Mr Jones had lived in the Borough for over 80 years. He was first elected to the Council in 1964 to represent Fanshawe ward, a position that he fulfilled up to May 2002 before being elected to represent Parsloes ward for four years. Mr Jones stood down from the Council in May 2006. During his 42 years on the Council, Mr Jones was chairman of the Libraries Committee, vice-chairman of the Education Committee and served on various other bodies, including General Purposes, Leisure and Amenities, Policy Advisory and the Dagenham Town Show committees.

In addition, Mr Jones served on many external organisations including the Barking Arts Council, Barking and Dagenham Voluntary Service Association, Barking and Dagenham Old Peoples Welfare, Barking and Gospel Oak Line Committee, Becontree Widows Club, Barking Operatic Society, Abbeyfield (Barking) Society, Cloud House (Abbeyfield Home) Management Committee and the Witten Association. He was also the president of Barking Music and Drama (MAD) for the past 23 years and was often part of the front-of-house teams, selling programmes and raffle tickets while meeting and greeting audiences.

Mr Jones was elected by his peers as Mayor of Barking and Dagenham in 1990/91 municipal year and he was awarded Freeman of the Borough in 1985. In 2006, he was bestowed with the highest award that a Borough can give by becoming an Honorary Alderman in recognition of his outstanding service to the Borough.

Mr Jones was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2012 for his services to the community in the Borough.

Recommendation

The Assembly is asked to stand for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.