

Minutes of a special meeting of **COUNCIL** on Wednesday 17 July 2019



Council members present:

Councillor Simmons (Lord Mayor)	Councillor Goddard (Sheriff)
Councillor Arshad	Councillor Azad
Councillor Bely-Summers	Councillor Chapman
Councillor Clarkson	Councillor Corais
Councillor Curran	Councillor Djafari-Marbini
Councillor Gant	Councillor Garden
Councillor Gotch	Councillor Harris
Councillor Hayes	Councillor Henwood
Councillor Hollingsworth	Councillor Howlett
Councillor Humberstone	Councillor Munkonge
Councillor Pressel	Councillor Rowley
Councillor Rush	Councillor Linda Smith
Councillor Tanner	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Upton	Councillor Wolff

Apologies:

Councillors Altaf-Khan, Aziz, Brown, Cook, Donnelly, Fry, Iley-Williamson, Kennedy, Lloyd-Shogbesan, Lygo, Malik, Simm, Tarver, Tidball and Turner sent apologies.

10. Welcome by the Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Simmons, welcomed guests to the meeting.

11. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations.

12. Proposal of Motion

The Lord Mayor proposed the motion that Council confer the Honorary Freedom of the City on Benny Wenda in recognition of his contributions to Oxford and to the West Papuan community in the city, and on the international stage including tireless campaigning from his Oxford headquarters.

13. Second and Support of Motion

Councillor Howlett gave a speech seconding the proposal.

14. Council to Vote on Motion

The motion having been proposed and seconded, the Lord Mayor put this to the vote.

With all councillors present voting for the motion and none voting against, the motion was agreed unanimously, thereby meeting the requirements of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 that *the resolution be passed by not less than two-thirds of the members voting thereon.*

Council resolved, in accordance with Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City of Oxford on Benny Wenda.

15. Speeches

Invited speakers Ambassador John Licht, Annalise Dodds MP, and George Monbiot (journalist) addressed Councillors and guests.

Councillor Djafari-Marbini read selected messages of congratulation from those unable to attend.

16. Presentation of Scroll and closing speech

The Lord Mayor presented the Scroll of Admission to Benny Wenda.

Benny Wenda then gave an acceptance speech to Councillors and guests.

The Lord Mayor closed the meeting.

Note: Councillor Hollingsworth arrived at the close of the meeting.

The meeting started at 5.00 pm and ended at 5.45 pm

Chair

Date: Monday 22 July 2019