



SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2019

Table of Adoptions

No	Item	Summary of key Adoptions
1.	To consider Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Callan, seconded by Alderman Fielding	<i>Amendment carried</i> <i>That Council award the Freedom of the Borough to Royal Portrush Golf Club, in recognition of its successful hosting of the 148th Open this year.</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2019 AT 7:15 PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor Bateson

Members Present : Alderman Boyle, Fielding, Finlay, McKeown, Robinson

Councillors Beattie, Callan, Dallat O'Driscoll, Holmes,
Knight-McQuillan, Lavery, McAuley, McCaw, McGurk, MA
McKillop, McLaughlin, McLean, McQuillan, McShane,
Nicholl, Quigley, Schenning, Scott

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive
S Duggan, Civic Support & Committee & Member Services Officer

In Attendance : Press (1)

**1. TO CONSIDER NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR
CALLAN, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN FIELDING**

Citation previously circulated.

"That this Council award the Freedom of the Borough to Darren Clarke OBE, Graeme McDowell MBE and Rory McIlroy MBE in recognition of their work as Ambassadors of Northern Ireland and our Causeway Coast and Glens Borough'.

Councillor Callan proposed an amendment to his Notice of Motion, in light of the very positive public comments surrounding the hosting of the 148th Open.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Callan

Seconded by Alderman Fielding and

AGREED - That Council award the Freedom of the Borough to Royal Portrush Golf Club, in recognition of its successful hosting of the 148th Open this year.

Councillor McKillop stated her Party supported the amendment, paid tribute to Royal Portrush Golf Club, the R&A and Translink, the hundreds of

workers and volunteers who made the event such a success. Councillor McKillop advised it was fitting as the Motion would include the three players who were Honorary Members of Royal Portrush Golf Club.

Councillor Holmes stated his support for the amendment, which recognised the huge success of The 148th Open and the Golfers involved, Pádraig Harrington, Darren Clarke, Rory McIlroy, Graeme McDowell and Shane Lowry. Councillor Holmes advised in recognising Royal Portrush Golf Club, it recognised all those who worked hard on the ground and beyond the Golf Club, Arlene Foster, the late Martin McGuinness and Tourism NI.

Councillor Nicholl on behalf of Sinn Féin stated support for the amended Notice of Motion in recognition of all the Golfers, the current winner Shane Lowry, Pádraig Harrington, Graeme McDowell, Rory McIlroy and Darren Clarke and stated it was a fitting recognition for a great Tournament, to include the R&A, the late Martin McGuinness and Arlene Foster who had brought it to fruition, the ground work being done in 2007/2008, to Council and all those involved in delivering The 148th Open.

Councillor McCaw stated his support, the amended Notice of Motion recognised the staff at Royal Portrush Golf Club, its Members and by wider association, Arlene Foster, the late Martin McGuinness and others whom worked very hard to bring The 148th Open to Portrush. Councillor McCaw stated it was an honour to represent the area and looked forward to seeing the long term Legacy of the event.

Councillor Lavery stated his support for the amended Notice of Motion.

Councillor McQuillan supported the amended Notice of Motion, however, urged caution, drawing reference to recent Council financial figures. Councillor McQuillan put forward questions regarding hospitality.

Alderman Boyle stated support for the amended Notice of Motion, whilst thanking Council staff and appreciating the work of the Chief Executive, the Director of Leisure and Development, The Open Project Officer and all the Teams involved within Tourism, Events, Environmental Health, Emergency Planning, Estates, Car Parking, Economic Development and PR.

Councillor Quigley supported the amended Notice of Motion, however, was concerned with the frequency of Freedom of the Borough requests and associated cost and suggested Council look at developing criteria for future requests.

Councillor Callan summarised, The 148th Open at Royal Portrush was the most successful Open outside of Scotland in recent history, with 237,500

visitors coming to the area. Councillor Callan thanked the volunteers, agencies, staff and all stakeholders. Councillor Callan recognised Wilma Erskine, a pivotal figure in ensuring The 148th Open was the success that it was, that Royal Portrush was a home grown success story to be very proud of.

The Mayor concluded, that to see The 148th Open, an Irish winner on home soil was a fantastic experience, the amended Notice of Motion would include all parties who contributed to bringing The 148th Open to Portrush and showcased Causeway Coast and Glens area in the most positive light possible.

The Chief Executive clarified the next step was to correspond with Royal Portrush Golf Club Captain.

There being no further business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 7.26PM.

Chair