

Minutes

The City of Edinburgh Council (Special Meeting)

Edinburgh, Thursday 16 April 2021

Present:-

LORD PROVOST

The Right Honourable Frank Ross

COUNCILLORS

Robert C Aldridge
Scott Arthur
Gavin Barrie
Eleanor Bird
Chas Booth
Claire Bridgman
Mark A Brown
Graeme Bruce
Steve Burgess
Lezley Marion Cameron
Jim Campbell
Kate Campbell
Mary Campbell
Maureen M Child
Nick Cook
Gavin Corbett
Cammy Day
Alison Dickie
Denis C Dixon
Phil Duggart
Karen Doran
Scott Douglas
Catherine Fullerton
Neil Gardiner
Gillian Gloyer
George Gordon
Ashley Graczyk
Joan Griffiths
Ricky Henderson

Graham J Hutchison
Andrew Johnston
David Key
Callum Laidlaw
Lesley Macinnes
Melanie Main
John McLellan
Amy McNeese-Mechan
Adam McVey
Claire Miller
Max Mitchell
Joanna Mowat
Rob Munn
Gordon J Munro
Hal Osler
Ian Perry
Susan Rae
Cameron Rose
Neil Ross
Jason Rust
Stephanie Smith
Alex Staniforth
Mandy Watt
Susan Webber
Iain Whyte
Donald Wilson
Norman J Work
Ethan Yough
Louise Young

1. Death of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh – Motion by the Lord Provost

The Council observed a minute's silence in memory of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh who had died on 9 April 2021.

The following motion by the Lord Provost was submitted in terms of Standing Order 17:

“On behalf of this Council, and the citizens of Edinburgh, I want to offer my deep condolences to Her Majesty The Queen and Members of the Royal Family on news of the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Made Duke of Edinburgh on the day of his wedding to Princess Elizabeth in 1947, His Royal Highness has made an immense contribution to the civic life and international reputation of Edinburgh throughout an extraordinary life of public service.

He demonstrated great appreciation of and support for Scotland's Capital City and its citizens. Quite simply, he took the name of our Capital across the world and put Edinburgh on the map in so many ways.

Our strong relationship with the Duke was consolidated at a very early stage when he was presented with the Freedom of the City in March 1949, in recognition of his distinguished role and effort in supporting Edinburgh.

In 1953, the year of the Coronation, the Duke was appointed Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh and held this position for nearly 60 years until 2010.

His Royal Highness's great interest in the benefits of education and belief in opportunities to transform young people's lives was also reflected in the setting up of the inspirational Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme in 1956.

We know of course that The Duke himself had, following a life of public service, retired finally from his official Royal duties in 2017, aged 96.

It was particularly significant therefore that the Depute Lord Provost Councillor Joan Griffiths and I had the pleasure of welcoming both The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh to the Opening of the new Queensferry Crossing on the Edinburgh side of the new Bridge on 4 September 2017.

This was indeed the last time that the Duke undertook a formal engagement in the City and a highly significant one at that, enhancing transport links and economic development opportunities across the Firth of Forth and the East of Scotland.

His Royal Highness remained Patron, President or member of some 30 Edinburgh-based organisations and won a special place in the hearts of local people.

It has been my privilege and honour to serve as Lord Lieutenant for Edinburgh a city where Prince Philip's legacy will be outstanding and enduring.

This Council and this City are in mourning today.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the Royal Family at this very difficult time.”

- moved by the Lord Provost, seconded by Councillor Griffiths

The Lord Provost, Depute Convener Griffiths, Baillie Work, Baillie Lezley Marion Cameron, Baillie Rust, Baillie Rae and Baillie Aldridge paid tribute to the service and contributions made by His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh.

Decision

To approve the motion by the Lord Provost.