

**Minutes of: COUNCIL**

**Date of Meeting:** 26 January 2026

**Present:** The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Bayley, in the Chair)  
Councillors A Arif, S Arif, R Bernstein, A Booth, R Brown, C Cummins, N Frith, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, J Hook, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Marsden, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh and Y Wright

**Apologies for Absence** D Berry, C Birchmore, C Boles, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald and A Quinn

## **C. 51 HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH AWARDS**

It was moved by Councillor L Smith and seconded by Councillor L McBriar and:-

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

That the Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, admit Mr and Mrs Keith and Helen Atkinson, to the Honorary Freedom of the Metropolitan Borough in of their thirty year fostering career looking after vulnerable looked after children, teenagers and unaccompanied minors seeking asylum. For their dedication to championing foster care within Bury through being ambassadors for Foster with Bury, and their work to recruit and train new foster carers throughout the borough.

**The worshipful the Mayor asked Mr and Mrs Keith and Helen Atkinson to sign the Freeman's Declaration and presented them with an illuminated Scroll and Medallion.**

It was moved by Councillor R Bernstein and seconded by Councillor T Rafiq and:-

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

That the Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, admit Mrs Joan Grimshaw, to the Honorary Freedom of the Metropolitan Borough in recognition of her eminent, valuable and devoted services which she has rendered to the Bury Metropolitan Borough as a member of the Council for 24 years. For her dedication to community work including as a supporter of Bury's Carers Forum, patron of Bury Blind Society and champion of her local community in a range of different groups.

**The worshipful the Mayor asked Mrs Grimshaw to sign the Freeman's Declaration and presented her with an illuminated Scroll and Medallion.**

**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR**