

# REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

## ADDITION OF J HOLBROOK TO MAYORAL CHAIN



<b>Report Reference</b>	C-21-18
<b>Meeting Date</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
<b>Agenda Item</b>	12
<b>Prepared by</b>	Town Clerk

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### 1.0 BACKGROUND

The mayoral chain was presented to the Urban District Council in December 1918. It comprises 26 gold shields 25 of which are inscribed with the names of the Knutsford Urban District Council Chairmen (1918-1973) and Town Mayors (1974-1984). Inscriptions are featured on both sides of the shields. The first shield bears the inscription of its presentation to the KUDC and its reverse is blank.

Three of the KUDC Chairmen do not feature on the chain, namely those who preceded the chairman of 1918<sup>1</sup>. Four of the shields were added c. 1970s/1980s and are made of yellow gold rather than rose gold; these shields bear the names of the Town Mayors from 1977-1984. In 1989 the Town Council discussed adding additional shields but concluded it would have a negative effect on the aesthetic of the chain and in 1991 it was agreed that Town Mayors would be presented with a Past Mayor's Medallion; awards were made to the Town Mayors from 1985 onwards who did not feature on the chain.

Miss Jennifer Holbrook was elected as a councillor in 1989 and stood down at the 2011 elections; she was the first, and only, person to serve as Town Mayor four times being elected to the position in 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2008. Notably Miss Holbrook served as Town Mayor for the celebrations of the Town's 700<sup>th</sup> Charter Year in 1992, when she welcomed HRH Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon to Knutsford, and at the turning of the millennium in 2000, when she instigated the Millennium Bursary and conceived the idea of the Knutsford Millennium Tapestry. In 2013 a bench was installed in the library garden dedicated to her service.

### 2.0 PROPOSAL

The Town Mayor has proposed the idea of dedicating the blank space on the chain to Miss Holbrook in recognition of her long years of service to the Town. The cost of the engraving would be c. £100.

### 3.0 DECISION REQUIRED

Council should consider the idea of utilising the empty space on the mayoral chain to add the inscription for Miss J K Holbrook, Town Mayor, 1992-93, 1996-97, 2000-01, 2008-09.

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<sup>1</sup> R Longridge (1895-1898), F Ashworth (1898-1902) and L Bentley (1902-1909). JP Cox served as chairman from 1909-1920 and is the first named on the chain.