

**Chairman**, Friends & colleagues, lavishing honorary Aldermanship's upon these fine Councillors in recognition of their commitment, dedication and passion to this council, will not enable them to go **Tar Barrel Burning** down Blandford High Street, **nor graze their sheep on the Mildown** but maybe it should.....

Because. These five outstanding Councillors deserve our recognition for their collective 88 years of loyal service they have given to North Dorset District Council.

Three of the Councillors are also known as the Class of 1999.

Prior to their election there was only one Conservative Councillor on the District Council.

The title of honorary Alderman is not about party Politics, it is about service to the community. Public service, .....Duty, and a job well done:

**Before we go on to talk individually about "the famous five"**

**I would just say: "That Carlsberg don't make Councillors", but if they did..... these five would probably be the best.....!**

#### **David Milsted:**

The First Alderman being honoured today. David was a true public servant to this Council & his Ward in Gillingham, which he represented diligently during his 16-year term in office.

David stood down in May 2017

As leader of the opposition & Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny David always acted in the best interests of this Council. Working cross party for the good of our residents.

David sent me a fitting tribute to the Council with his thanks and appreciation, at being Alderized... If there is such a word!

Regrettably with the technology available we are unable to upload his clip. His best wishes go to the other members being recognised and honoured today

#### **Cllr: Bill Batty-Smith.**

Bill is the reason I'm here on the Council, well, it was his late wife Anne actually who told Bill to tell me to stand for Council in 2003!

As I said, Bill is one of the class of 99. He has been the

Vice Chairman, Housing Policy Committee May – November 1999

Vice Chairman, Standards Committee May 2000 – May 2001

Vice Chairman, Overview & Scrutiny Committee 2007 – May 2011

Twice Bill has been Chairman of the Standards Committee May 2001 – May 2003

And September 2012 until Committee disbanded in 2014

Bill is probably best known to us as an outstanding Chairman, of Development Management Committee from May 2003 to date he's still in the chair!. 15 years later, so if residents do complain about development anywhere, they can all blame Bill!

Our third councillor becoming an Alderman today is: **Deborah Croney**,

Deborah is a dedicated public servant. First Elected to Hill Forts Ward in 2007  
Deborah served as Chairman of Planning Policy Panel from May 2008 – May 2012

After time spent on both Planning and Scrutiny Committee. Deborah joined the cabinet where she held the Portfolio for Economy and served two years as Deputy to Peter Webb, before becoming the Leader of this Council in 2012 – until 2016

Deborah was commended by central Government for her work in reforming local government, and of course she was instrumental in developing the Dorset Councils Partnership, the first Tri- council partnership in the UK.

Deborah has served as a member of the Local Government Association's Environment, Housing and Transport Board and She has also been a member of the Rural Commission and was elected to the Rural Policy Review Group and the LGA's Councillor's Forum.

I'd like to thank Deborah for putting her faith in me to serve as her deputy, a role I enjoyed immensely, because it's a darn sight easier than being leader!

Our next honorary Alderman is: **Victor Fox**,

Vic is another member from the class of 99 Elected to the Stour Valley Ward as one of the two members.

Victor served as Vice Chairman, DSO Board, and Vic I still can't think for the life of me what that is,

Vic has been Chairman of the Sport & Recreation Policy Committee

Vice Chairman, Development Control Committee

Chairman, Service Review Committee May 2007 – May 2012

Vice Chairman of Council May 2013 – May 2015

I know that Victor was extremely proud and honored to serve as Chairman of Council from May 2015 – May 2016

Victor and Liz have been wonderful ambassadors for this Council, a testament to their commitment to North Dorset and the chain gang.

***Last but by no means least:***

**Cllr: Michael Roake**, (affectionately known as Krusha.)

Michael is another 1999-er

Before joining the Cabinet, Michael was Chairman Planning Policy May 1999 – May 2001

Michael has been an absolute “brick”, rock solid and a loyal Cabinet member serving under Angus Campbell, David Whitehead, Peter Webb, Deborah Croney and myself.

Michael was also the Deputy Leader for 5 years

As Cabinet Member for the Environment and Leisure Michael has achieved a great deal including: the Town Centre Enhancements in, Blandford Shaftesbury and Sturminster Newton  
As well as being a leading role in our “Tough Choices” programme and the Restructuring of leisure provision, Michael was also Project Lead for 3 Rivers Leisure Centre in Gillingham.

He established the Parish Liaison Meetings with Great Dorset Steam Fair and the highly successful temporary traveller site.

Michael was a Lead and founder Member of the Stour Valley Poole and Dorset Waste Partnerships

As asset management lead Michael has overseen the Nordon project board and the Shaftesbury Cattle Market sale to their successful conclusions.

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