

**COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 17TH JUNE 2021 AT TRAMORE
RACECOURSE
FREEDOM OF WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL**

Present

Cllr. Ger Barron	Cllr. Jim Griffin
Cllr. Donal Barry	Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Joanne Bailey	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness	Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr. David Daniels	Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Susan Gallagher	Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Cllr. Frank Quinlan
	Cllr. James Tobin

Apologies: Cllr. Declan Clune, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. John Hearne, Cllr. Eddie Mulligan, Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. Mary Roche, Cllr. Seamus Ryan and Cllr. Adam Wyse

Officials in Attendance

Mr. Michael Walsh, Chief Executive
 Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services, Corporate, Culture, HR & IS
 Mr. Ivan Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services
 Mr. Bernard Pollard, Head of Finance
 Ms. Honor Dunphy, Meetings Administrator
 Mr. Dave Mitchell, Corporate
 Mr. Conan Power, Communications
 Mr. Eamonn McEaney, Museum Director

1. FREEDOM CERMONY

The purpose of the special meeting of the Council was to complete in pursuance of the Council resolution dated 13th May 2021, the admittance (Honoris Causa) of Henry de Bromhead to the Freedom of the City and County of Waterford.

Present at Tramore Racecourse were Henry de Bromhead's family, Oireachtas members, representatives of the Racecourse management and the media.

The opening address was delivered by the Mayor, Cllr. Damien Geoghegan who welcomed everyone to the event and spoke of the unique sporting achievements of Mr. de Bromhead.

The motion to implement Council resolution of 13th May 2021 for Henry de Bromhead was proposed by Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. John O'Leary and adopted unanimously with acclamation.

Henry de Bromhead was presented by the Mayor with an inscribed pen with which he added his signature to the Freedom Roll. The Mayor then presented him with a silver freedom box and a signed and sealed hand illustrated scroll of his admittance to the Freedom Roll. During the signing the meetings administrator noted the details of the inscription in the Freedom Roll *'At the Tramore Racecourse by resolution of the Mayor and Members of the City and County Council, Henry de Bromhead is admitted to the Freedom of the City and County of Waterford, honoris causa on the seventeenth day of June 2021'*.

Mr. Eamonn McEneaney, Museum Director outlined the history of the Freedom of Waterford which he explained was a coveted privilege and honour since civic government replaced military governors back in 1195. Since the 18th Century, he explained, it became the custom to present the freedom in small circular handmade silver boxes and this is what has been done for today's ceremony He spoke about the freedom scrolls and the miniature certificates that were a medieval tradition and were made of calf skin vellum, as in the Book of Kell's, and that this has all been done to keep with the established tradition.

Mayor proceeded to present Heather de Bromhead with a bouquet of flowers.

Mayor invited members to comment on behalf of their groups, Cllr. O'Sullivan (FG), Cllr. O'Leary (FF), Cllr. Griffin (SF), Cllr. Power (GP), Cllr. Daniels (IND) and Cllr. Pratt (LAB) all congratulated Henry de Bromhead on receipt of the Freedom.

In his response Henry de Bromhead graciously accepted the honour as bestowed upon him. He was delighted to accept this extraordinary honour given to his family who have such strong roots in Waterford. He spoke about how his career in training racehorses developed working with the likes of Sir Mark Prescott in the UK before taking over at the yard in Knockeen from his father in 2000. The ceremony being held at Tramore Racecourse had a particular resonance for him as that is where he had his first winner. He finished by thanking everyone including his family, all the team at the stables in Knockeen for their support and Waterford City and County Council for the great honour.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____