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TO	Council
DATE	10 December 2020
EXECUTIVE MEMBER	The Leader of the Council

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	No
WARDS AFFECTED	Chipstead, Kingswood & Woodmansterne Nork

SUBJECT	Posthumous Recognition of Former Councillors
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RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the walkway along Waterhouse Lane toward Kingswood Village Hall be so named 'Spiers Walk' in posthumous recognition of former Councillor Joan Spiers. (ii) That the outdoor gym and refurbished playground in Nork Park be named in posthumous recognition of former Councillor Brian Stead.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS
To confer posthumous recognition to former Councillors Joan Spiers and Brian Stead in recognition of their contribution to the Borough of Reigate and Banstead.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
At the Council meeting of 24 September 2020, it was resolved that the Council, in posthumous recognition of the contribution of former Councillors Joan Spiers and Brian Stead, do so agree that a suitable form of appreciation and acknowledgment be reported to the next Ordinary meeting of the Council. Consequently, during October, the views of all

Members were sought on the form of appreciation. The outcome of which was reported to the meeting of Group Leaders on 18 November. Group Leaders endorsed the recommendations set out in this report.

The above recommendations may be approved by Full Council.

STATUTORY POWERS

1. Council Procedure Rule 2.8.2 (13) provides for an Ordinary meeting of Council to receive any business specified on the agenda.

BACKGROUND

2. Former Councillor Joan Spiers had served as a Councillor for Kingswood and Burgh Heath for 32 years. Councillor Spiers would be remembered for her dedication and hard work for the residents of the Borough. Councillor Spiers served as Leader of the Council from 2003-2014 and as Mayor in 2015-16. She had also served on many Committees, including as Chair of the Community Services Committee. As Mayor, she officiated the opening of Tadworth Leisure Centre, introduced the concept of “Mini-Mayor” and raised £40,000 for her chosen charities.
3. Former Councillor Stead had served as a Councillor for Nork for 24 years. He would be remembered for his time as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; he was courteous and spoke with passion and clarity as an unwavering advocate of his residents. He held roles on the Standards Committee and the former Finance, and the Policy and Resources Committees. He also served on Surrey County Council’s Local Committee for Reigate & Banstead. As Mayor for the Municipal Year 2011-12, he had raised a substantial amount of money for his chosen charities.

KEY INFORMATION

Former Councillor Spiers

4. Former Councillor Joan Spiers had been a very big part of Kingswood, having been a resident of the Village, the Chair of the Kingwood Residents Association (KRA), and a Ward Councillor for many years. She was fondly remembered by the Residents in maintaining and preserving the Residential Area of Special Character and the Conservation area. The KRA have recently applied for Community Infrastructure Levy funding to re-establish the walkway from the A217 along Waterhouse Lane to the Village Hall. This was originally a tree lined walkway, with the Village on one side and open grazing fields on the other. Over the years the Yew trees have died or fallen, and the remaining stumps overgrown with ivy.
5. The Kingswood Residents Association wish to regenerate this area and bring it back to its natural beauty. The walkway at present is not named and it could be named as ‘Spiers Walk’ in memory of former Councillor Spiers.

Former Councillor Stead

6. Former Councillor Brian Stead was a governor of Warren Mead Junior School for 25 years. He was the Council's representative on the Nork Community Association Committee, and was instrumental in fund raising for its roof refurbishment. Nork Park was a passion and he was a founding organiser of Nork Music in the Park, leading efforts to improve the park and introduce the trim trail and youth facilities. It is proposed that the new outdoor gym and refurbished children's playground in Nork Park are so named in his honour.

Dedication

7. Suitable ceremonies or events of dedication will be conducted by the Mayor's Office, at a later date, and with regard to government COVID-19 guidelines operating at that time.

OPTIONS

8. Council may consider three Options:
- i) to approve the recommendations set out
 - ii) to not approve the recommendations
 - ii) propose an amendment to the Motion

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The Local Authority has a General Power of Competence, provided by Part 1, 1 of the Localism Act 2011.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Recommendation i) will be funded within project costs for refurbishing the walkway which are subject to the application for Community Infrastructure Levy funds.
11. Recommendation ii) will be funded within existing service budgets.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

12. These recommendations support an increase in access to amenities.

COMMUNICATION IMPLICATIONS

13. Subject to the agreement of Council, the Mayor's Office will liaise with the Communications team in preparation for future dedication events.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

14. Strategic Risk 12 – *COVID 19: second wave/local lockdown* has material relevance with regard to recommendation ii) insofar as the outdoor gym is affected by national guidance.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

15. There are no material other implications.

CONSULTATION

16. Group Leaders were consulted on 16 September 2020.

17. The Council resolved to seek appropriate forms of recognition at its meeting on 24 September 2020. Subsequently, all Members, and Management Team were consulted by email by the Mayor's Office.

18. Group Leaders were consulted on the proposed forms of recognition on 18 November 2020, and endorsed the recommendations set out in this report.

POLICY FRAMEWORK

19. The recommendation set out in this report align to the *Clean and Green Spaces* objective of Reigate and Banstead 2025

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None