

Special Meeting of the Council

2026

26 August

Award of Honorary Title of Freeman of the Borough to Jordan and Cian Adams

Relevant Portfolio Holder		Councillor Craig Warhurst – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Portfolio Holder Consulted		Yes
Relevant Assistant Director		Claire Felton
Report Author John Leach	Job Title: Chief Executive Contact email: john.leach@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk	
Wards Affected		All wards
Ward Councillor(s) consulted		Yes
Relevant Council Priority		N/A
Non-Key Decision		
If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting.		

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is asked to RESOLVE: -

- 1) to award the title of Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Redditch to Jordan Adams and to Cian Adams in recognition of their eminent service; and**
- 2) that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to an Honorary Freedom Scroll to be presented to Jordan Adams and Cian Adams.**

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The honorary title of Freeman or Freeman of the Borough is the highest award the Council can confer upon an individual or an organisation. It is an award which allows Members to formally recognise exceptional contributions made by residents of Redditch to public life.
- 2.2 The proposal before Members is that the title be awarded to Jordan Adams and Cian Adams in recognition of their unprecedented contribution to awareness raising into frontotemporal dementia (FTD) following their family's experience of the condition. Alongside awareness raising, Jordan and Cian have completed numerous athletic

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challenges to support fundraising for Alzheimer's Research UK in memory of their mother Geraldine.

- 2.3 For the reasons set out at paragraph 5.2, the award of the title can only be made by Members at a Special Meeting of the Council which has been arranged to take place on 26th August 2026 at the Palace Theatre, Redditch.

3. BACKGROUND AND KEY INFORMATION

- 3.1 At the meeting of the Council which took place on 29th June 2026, Members considered a motion proposed by Councillor Matt Dormer, and seconded by Councillor Nic Piloi, that Jordan Adams and Cian Adams be awarded the honorary title of Freeman of the Borough.

- 3.2 The motion referred to the many achievements of Jordan and Cian as set out in the extracts reproduced below: -

“Members will be aware of the extraordinary achievements of Redditch residents Jordan Adams and Cian Adams in undertaking and completing a series of endurance challenges to raise awareness of frontotemporal dementia (FTD).

Their efforts have attracted local, regional and national attention, bringing significant recognition to the Borough of Redditch whilst raising awareness of a devastating condition that has affected their own family and many others.

Jordan and Cian have through their efforts made an extraordinary contribution in terms of charitable fund raising. In addition, their campaign has raised awareness and had a positive impact in supporting individuals and families affected by dementia.

Jordan and Cian have provided inspiration to residents through their determination, resilience, selflessness and commitment to helping others. The recent homecoming celebrations and widespread community support demonstrated the pride and affection with which they have been received by the people of Redditch.”

- 3.3 The motion was fully supported by Members at the meeting and officers were instructed to make arrangements for a Special Meeting of the Council to take place to enable the award of the title to Jordan and Cian to be formally adopted.

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- 3.4 As discussed by Members at the meeting of Council on 29th June, the efforts of Jordan and Cian in promoting awareness of FTD and their exceptional contribution to charitable fundraising represent an outstanding achievement and one that residents of Redditch can be truly proud of.
- 3.5 Members will have an opportunity at the meeting to express their support for the contributions of Jordan and Cian and their considerable achievements in their own words, and a vote will then be taken on the recommendation to award the title of Honorary Freemen of the Borough of Redditch to Jordan Adams and to Cian Adams in recognition of their eminent service.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this decision. The costs associated with holding the Special Meeting and conferring the title(s) will be met from existing budgets.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The relevant law is set out in section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. Under sub-section (5) the Borough Council has the power to *“admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority persons of distinction, and persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent services to that place or area”*.
- 5.2 In order to confer the honorary title of Freemen of the Borough, Members of the Council must make the decision at a meeting specially convened for the purpose (“a Special Meeting”) and the resolution must be supported by at least two thirds of the Members present at the meeting.
- 5.3 Provision is made in paragraph 33 of the Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No.2) Regulations 2008 that where a former borough council becomes part of a unitary authority due to local government reorganisation then any appointments of honorary titles will transfer over to the new authority. The full text is reproduced below:

“Honorary freemen

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33.—(1) A person who, before the reorganisation date, has been admitted as an honorary freeman of a local government area that is abolished by a section 7 order (an “abolished area”) shall, on that date, be treated as having been admitted as an honorary freeman of the area described in paragraph (2), notwithstanding that the area so described is not on that date an area to which persons may be admitted as honorary freemen.

(2) The area is that which, on the reorganisation date, comprises or includes the abolished area, and for which, on and after that date, there is a single tier of local government.”

6. OTHER - IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Reorganisation

- 6.1 There are no implications for Local Government Reorganisation other than the point identified in paragraph 5.3 above that upon the formation of a new single tier authority any honorary titles will transfer across with the effect that any existing Freemen of the Borough will become Freemen of the new authority.

Relevant Council Priority

- 6.2 This report links to the following Council Organisational Priorities: -
- Supported Governance
 - Principles Driven
 - Community Focus

Climate Change Implications

- 6.3 Not applicable

Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 6.4 No Equality and Diversity implications have been identified by the subject matter of this report.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

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7.1 There are no risks associated with the award of the title(s).

8. APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no appendices.

9. REPORT SIGN OFF

Department	Name and Job Title	Date
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Craig Warhurst – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance	15/08/26
Lead Director / Assistant Director	Claire Felton - Assistant Director Legal Democratic and Procurement Services	17/08/26
Financial Services	James Walton – Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer	17/08/26
Legal Services	Sarah Sellers – Solicitor Governance and Regulatory	05/08/26