

HONORARY FREEDOM OF SOUTH STOKE

1. The Freedom of South Stoke

The Freedom of South Stoke (“the Freedom”) is intended to honour a resident, past or present, living or dead, who has given outstanding service to the Parish of South Stoke in respect of enhancing the quality and /or diversity of village life.

2. Legislation

5.1. Section 249 (5) of Local Government Act 1972, as amended by Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009, allows the Council of a relevant authority (including a Parish Council) to admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority:

- a. Persons of distinction, and
- b. Persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent service to that place or area.

5.2. A resolution must be passed:

- a. At a meeting of the Parish Council that has been convened and where notice of the object of the meeting has been given; and
- b. By unanimous decision of the members of the Council who vote on it.

3. Criteria

When considering candidates for the Freedom, the following should be considered:

- a. Candidates should have a strong and continuing connection with and commitment to South Stoke or have made a major contribution to village life and in doing so have enhanced the reputation of the village
- b. Awards should not be for a job well done or because someone has reached a particular level. They should be awarded because an individual has ‘gone the extra mile’ in the contribution they have made or stand out ‘head and shoulders’ above others in what has been achieved.
- c. To be considered, the nominee should meet at least two of the following criteria:
 - i. delivered in a way that has brought distinction to Parish life and enhanced the Parish’s reputation in the area or activity concerned
 - ii. contributed in a way to improve the lives of those less able to help themselves
 - iii. demonstrated innovation and entrepreneurship which is delivering results in the Parish
- d. Candidates should have made a substantial contribution to the Parish in any area of activity, which could include but is not limited to:
 - iv. Artistic and Cultural endeavours
 - v. Business, economic growth and prosperity
 - vi. Charitable work
 - vii. Improvement to the built and natural environment
 - viii. Religious and spiritual life

- e. Candidates should be considered from all walks of life. The honour should not be considered exclusive to a particular endeavour or activity.
- f. Candidates should be considered from all parts of the Parish or to those outside of the village but have made a significant contribution to the village over a great number of years.

4. Nomination

- a. A nomination for the Freedom shall, in the first instance, be initiated by the clerk having received a nomination signed by not fewer than ten individuals listed in the current electoral roll for South Stoke or by any individual member of the Parish Council
- b. A nomination shall be made using the nomination form [Appendix A] including a written summary setting out the reasons for the nomination.

5. Approval

The nomination will be approved provided it has the unanimous support of the councillors, as indicated by either their signatures on the nomination form or their votes cast at the meeting at which the nomination is decided or a combination of both.

6. Confidentiality

The approval process must be conducted in the strictest confidence until such time as the nominee approved by the council has confirmed his or her willingness to accept the Freedom and the appropriate public announcement is made by the council.

7. Notice

All who have been awarded the Freedom will be noted on a plaque or similarly appropriate permanent notice and will be displayed in an appropriate public location.

8. Review

The Freedom will be reviewed by the council at least once during its four year term to ensure that the award and the roll of its living holders remain appropriate to the conditions at that time.

9. Review of the Policy

This policy was accepted by the Parish Council at its meeting on 21 October 2019 and will be reviewed annually.

Signed:

B Urbick



FREEDOM OF SOUTH STOKE NOMINATION FORM

Nominee _____

Nomination form received by the Clerk _____ on _____

The nominee meets the following criteria (tick all which apply)

When completing this part of the form, consider:

- Candidates should have a strong and continuing connection with and commitment to South Stoke or have made a major contribution to village life and in doing so have enhanced the reputation of the village
- Awards should not be for a job well done or because someone has reached a particular level. They should be awarded because an individual has 'gone the extra mile' in the contribution they have made or stand out 'head and shoulders' above others in what has been achieved.
- Candidates should be considered from all walks of life. The honour should not be considered exclusive to a particular endeavour or activity.
- Candidates should be considered from all parts of the Parish or to those outside of the village but have made a significant contribution to the village over a great number of years.

The nominee should meet at least two of the following criteria:	
Delivered in a way that has brought distinction to Parish life and enhanced the Parish's reputation in the area or activity concerned	
Contributed in a way to improve the lives of those less able to help themselves	
Demonstrated innovation and entrepreneurship which is delivering results in the Parish	
Candidates should have made a substantial contribution to the Parish in any area of activity, which could include but is not limited to:	
Artistic and Cultural endeavours	
Business, economic growth and prosperity	
Charitable work	
Improvement to the built and natural environment	
Religious and spiritual life	
Other, please state	

Nominators

	Name	Elector #	Signature
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			



FREEDOM OF SOUTH STOKE NOMINATION FORM

Reasons for Nomination