

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Lagan Valley Island on Thursday, 16 April 2026 at 12.30 pm

PRESENT IN CHAMBER:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Alderman A Grehan

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE and A McIntyre

Councillors S Burns, P Catney, A P Ewing, A Givan,
B Higginson, G Hynds, S Lowry, U Mackin, A Martin,
C McCready and R McLernon

PRESENT REMOTELY:

Councillor M McKeever

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Finance & Corporate Services
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Director of Organisation Development and Innovation
Director of Regeneration and Growth
Head of Governance & Communications
Member Services Officers (FA & EW)

Purpose of Meeting

The Special Meeting of Council had been convened in order to bestow the honour of the Freedom of the City of Lisburn and Castlereagh to Mr Tommy Doherty.

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, welcomed those present to the Special meeting of Council, which was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, stated that, whilst the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor welcomed everyone, once again, to the meeting, particularly the families and friends of the worthy recipient of the Freedom of the City, Mr Tommy Doherty. The Right Worshipful the Mayor welcomed Archdeacon P Dundas to the meeting and invited him to open the meeting in prayer.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the Special Meeting on behalf of the Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge, Aldermen O Gawith, M Gregg, S P Porter, S Skillen and J Tinsley and Councillors J Bamford, D Bassett, R T Beckett, R Carlin, D J Craig, K Dickson, J Gallen, A Gowan, J Harpur, C Kemp, J Lavery, D Lynch, B Magee, G McCleave, T Mitchell, N Parker, G Thompson and N Trimble.

2. Election and Admission of Mr Tommy Doherty as Honorary Burgess of the City of Lisburn and Castlereagh

At the request of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, Alderman A McIntyre read the following Resolution of the Council, which had been adopted at a meeting of Council held on 27 January 2026:

"That Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council resolves to confer the Freedom of the City upon Mr Tommy Doherty, in recognition of his distinguished wartime service, lifelong connection to the Lisburn area, and his contribution to the collective memory and heritage of our community."

The above Resolution was proposed by Alderman A McIntyre, seconded by Councillor U Mackin and agreed.

After Alderman A McIntyre, Councillor U Mackin and The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, had addressed the Council and paid tribute to Mr Doherty, the recipient of the Freedom of the City was invited to sign the Book of Honorary Freemen and was presented with a Certificate of Grant of the Honorary Freedom of the City of Lisburn and Castlereagh.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, thanked those present for their attendance and the meeting was terminated at 12.50 pm.

Mayor