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COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2019

VERBATIM

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LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Held on

Wednesday 4th December 2019

At

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
CIVIC HALL,
LEEDS

In the Chair:

THE LORD MAYOR
(COUNCILLOR E TAYLOR)

VERBATIM OF PROCEEDINGS

VERBATIM REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF LEEDS CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2019

THE LORD MAYOR: Good afternoon distinguished guests and members of the public. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the Revie group of legends and their family who have joined us here today for a special occasion. It is wonderful to see so many of you present as I know that some of you have travelled a very long distance to be here with us, thank you for coming. Before we start the programme could I remind members to switch their phones off and also that this programme will be webcast. So can I call on Councillor Blake to open.

COUNCILLOR BLAKE: Thank you Lord Mayor. I would like to echo your comments in welcoming our very distinguished guests here today. Can I ask you all to stand and show your appreciation of these wonderful people.

(Applause)

I am extremely proud and emotional to stand here before you today as a very proud lifelong supporter myself of Leeds United, it's just, if you'd have said to my nine or ten year old self that I would be in this position today with so many of my heroes here in the same space and being able to say such an enormous thank you to you I would never have believed it and I know I speak for many people in this chamber who just regard you as our absolute heroes.

So today this is a very special day for Leeds City Council and I believe for the city of Leeds. We're particularly delighted that so many of you as the Lord Mayor has said have been able to come and join us today. Members of the first team from the Revie era as well as coaching and backroom staff, club staff and relatives and of course relatives of those who are sadly no longer with us. What we have learnt over many years is the club's success was dependent on it being a family, a family affair with so many people and their contribution making the success on the pitch possible and it is with that spirit in mind that we welcome you here today.

I have so many personal stories and I've bored some of you here already with them of my ability to survive watching matches in the scratching shed which was quite an experience as a young child, I think it was very character forming I have to say.

(Laughter)

But also you won't know this but the many hours that myself and others in the Chamber will have spent queuing, waiting at the side of the training ground just to see you, to talk to you and to get your autographs. It was always a very proud moment to get another addition to our collection.

So this award is historic in more ways than one it's the first time Leeds has ever bestowed the Freedom of the City on a group of people. The award recognises both the elite skill and determination of the players as well as the exceptional coaching and unwavering support network that helped them bring honour and distinction to the city through their outstanding sporting achievements. As well as this being the first time a group has received the Freedom of the City the success and achievements of the club between 1967 and 1974 were also unprecedented and of course we had an incredible moment on the 17th October as we gathered together across the city for the centenary celebrations of our fantastic club. We all took time to reflect on all of the joy, the emotional highs and of course lows that the club has given this city it has been an emotional rollercoaster as many of us know. But what we most reflected on was the monumental impact that the team has had on the lives of hundreds of thousands if not millions of people. We remembered how generations of families from across Leeds, Yorkshire and much further afield have and continue to live through all of those ups and downs. The club for a long time has been and continues to be the first introduction to professional sport for many children and young people in Leeds. So many of our young people have been inspired and encouraged to take part in sport as a result of the success of the club. It was the achievements of the Revie era that was really the catalyst for such a huge impact. Under Don Revie the club set the standards that are continually aspired to still this day and of course under Andrea and Angus with Marcelo Bielsa's great leadership we hope to see those standards reached again very soon. But you know it was in the late 60's and early 70's that the successes of the club started to raise the profile of Leeds as a city on the European and global stage.

Under Don Revie from the 67/68 season onwards the club won one League Cup Final, two Inter Cities Fairs Cups, two League Championships and the FA Cup. Leeds was placed firmly on the sporting map and still to this day the club remains one of the most recognisable features of the city to people around the world. Any country you go to you can always meet someone who knows of Leeds because of Leeds United. We know the phenomenal impact the club at that time had on the football world but we should never forget the impact it had on the progress and development as Leeds as a city and we continue to move forward under the banner One City, One Club.

I would also at this point like to recognise the important work undertaken by Leeds United Foundation and the support they enable and to give to so many young people in our communities across Leeds.

The Freedom of the City is the highest civic honour available to us as a Council to give on behalf of the city we represent. By receiving this honour you join a very select group of people who have accomplished truly extraordinary feats and who are displayed on the Freedom of the City Wall of Honour. Such people include Winston Churchill, Nelson Mandela, Alan Bennett, Jane Tomlinson, Jimi Heselden and Beryl Burton.

(Applause)

That is the esteem with which we hold you and of course how fitting it is that the award is bestowed during the club's centenary year and thank you for my Centenary badge which I will wear with great pride and honour. We really do believe it is fitting that the achievements of the Revie team are properly recognised by the city in this way and as I have said before and want to emphasise again the award is for the players, the management and all of the club's staff associated with Don Revie's team and that includes of course those who played a huge part and are sadly no longer with us and we welcome the relatives of so many who have managed to join us today.

So as a city we remain eternally grateful for everything the club gave us during the Revie years, their achievements and legacy will truly never be forgotten. They instilled an unbelievable amount of pride and honour in our city and have provided a lasting legacy to the football club and to sport in Leeds. It is my great pleasure and such a privilege to formally move that Leeds United Football Club 1967 to 1974 be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Leeds. Thank you.

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor Cohen.

COUNCILLOR COHEN: Thank you Lord Mayor. It is a huge honour to be able to second today's motion that this legendary Leeds United team should be awarded the Freedom of the City of Leeds. During the period 1967 to 1974 Leeds United went through the most successful spell in its history and in this club's centenary year it's fitting that Leeds should honour and recognise the achievements of this great team and its most high profile sports club, Leeds United. Or as they were known through this period, simply Super Leeds.

To many residents, former residents and indeed some who just have the mildest of links to our city but want to bathe in our reflected glory, Leeds United is an institution. Thousands of fans travel up and down the country on away days and many thousands to Elland Road to support them at home. In communities throughout the city, throughout the Yorkshire region, the wider country and indeed across the world. Between August and May Saturdays are about one thing, Leeds United.

The national and international profile of our club is largely as a result of the great achievements of the teams managed by Don Revie between 67 and 74 because of their football, because of their many achievements. Their are fan club's throughout the world from Johannesburg to Gibraltar and who can blame them at the time Leeds were irresistible. They provided so many cherished moments, moments that are ingrained on families and communities right across the world. Eddie Gray's masterful goals against Burnley in 1970, the passage of play in the 7-0 drubbing of Southampton in 1972 and great to see so many of the players involved in that here today. With the Elland Road faithful chanting 'ole' at every pass. Alan Clarke's brilliant header to win the FA Cup in 1972 at which point my father through the dog into the air in excitement. I could go on there are so many iconic moments from this brilliant team.

I come from a family of Leeds United supporters indeed from a whole community of Leeds United supporters, the community of former chairman Manny Cussins, of Leslie Silver and indeed sponsor's Burtons. In fact when my dad was growing up on a Saturday morning of a Leeds United home game the rabbi was in no doubt if he did not get a move on in that service for the last part he would be playing to an empty room

(Laughter)

But on a personal level this team has always been the cause of something of a family fallout because in May 1972 my father had to watch the FA Cup Final on TV and was unable to attend Wembley to watch his beloved team win the FA Cup as my mum was heavily pregnant, with me.

(Laughter)

Fourty seven and a half years later dad still hasn't actually forgiven me for this, as if somehow it was my fault. Then next year he was able to go and well runner up was still quite good.

The achievements of this team are significant and Councillor Blake has touched on them but to list them again because today of all days if we can't tell football glories when can we. Two Fairs Cups, now the Europa League, in 68 and 71, two League Championships in 69 and 74, the FA Cup in 72 and the League Cup in 68. They've also competed and challenged across three fronts, Europe the League and domestic cups during this period and had it not been for fixture congestion and some very controversial refereeing decisions it's fair to say that this great team could have won even more trophies.

In short my Lord Mayor they dominated English football over this period and in terms of reputation they helped put Leeds on the map as a major UK and a major European city, the city it continues to be to this day.

(Applause)

Whilst this period in history, in the club's history, is rightly lauded as a golden age for the club it also coincided with a golden period for our city, Leeds. The motorway city as it was dubbed, with Yorkshire TV studios recently opened and with a growing reputation for commerce and business, a growing powerhouse of the North. The success of Leeds United in this period played no small part in that and it is therefore intertwined with the success of our city. It is truly such a pleasure to see so many of the players and their families from that period today people who my father has talked to me at length and length and length about how you are his heroes and my grandfather's heroes and while I was growing up my heroes too and it's clear from the public reaction to this Freedom event that the Revie years remain a huge source of pride for our city. While so many stars are here today it's important to note some of those who sadly are not able to be here, not least the captain for much of this period the late great Billy Bremner, Mr Paul Madeley, Gary Sprake, Albert Johansson one of the first high profile black men of any nationality to play top flight football in England and of course Mr Don Revie himself.

The impacts of this great period in the club's history is still felt today. Indeed the club would not be what it is without those golden years as the Leader said looking to the future we all hope, all of us daily, that the club can scale those heights again under Mr Bielsa but it's clear that this was truly a great time in the history of Leeds United when so much was achieved with so many great players gracing Elland Road. My Lord Mayor it is only right that the Freedom of the City is confirmed on this team and we fully support this honour and hope that all of the players and their families here today enjoy a truly special night in the history of Leeds and the history of our great club, Leeds United.

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor Downes.

COUNCILLOR DOWNES: Thank you Lord Mayor and it is an absolute honour and privilege to be able to speak on behalf of my group today and as Councillor Blake said who would have thought that we would be here today to be able to do this. You might be able to tell from my accent I'm not naturally from Leeds and so I'd like to take you back to a seven year old boy that was born and raised in Kent whose mother supported Tottenham, whose sister supported Chelsea and whose best friend supported Arsenal. My father wasn't really into football but his father did play briefly for Northampton so that's where his allegiances were. So who should I support and I decided whoever won the 1972 FA Cup Final will be my team and as we've already heard it was a cross by Mick Jones headed in by Alan 'sniffer' Clarke that set the foundation for my football allegiance and what an amazing team they were as we have already heard from colleagues, from Dan and from Judith how awesome this team was, one of the best teams that history

has ever seen within this country and it was shortly after that FA Cup final that I bought a white shirt or had a white shirt bought for me with a number 8 sewn on to the back of it in honour of my favourite player, Alan Clarke, who I watched for many many years as he scored an absolute mountain of goals and also one of my favourite players at that time was Peter Lorrimer and I used to marvel at the power behind his shots and perhaps later he can confirm or deny the rumour that I seem to remember reading in a football magazine that he once hit the ball so hard that it dislodged a piece of the Berlin wall. Now whether that's rumour or fact I'd love to know but I was always brought up with that story.

I so loved Leeds back in those days that my first ever goldfish I called Leeds.

(Laughter)

Well I was only seven and it was just I'd never seen a game of football and I pestered my father to take me to a match bearing in mind we're down in Kent, it's a long way to go, so eventually he succumbed and drove me all the way to Elland Road to see a match against Ipswich Town ...

(Councillor Lay cheered)

(Laughter)

And my colleague behind me who is an Ipswich fan will be delighted that I will remind him that the result was, I believe it was 3-2 and it was the penultimate game of the penultimate game, sorry the season that they won the League under Don Revie just before he went on to other things and so I have managed to see this Leeds team play during the Don Revie era at Elland Road and that was my first ever match and it was a match that I will never forget and in fact I wrote about it for my O level English. One of the topics was voices so I did the voices of the crowd, memories of those days back in the terraces listening to, I was actually near the away fans that had come up and was listening to the voices as the goals went in from one side to the other and the cheers from the home fans erupting, well I think Leeds has always been a very well supported club and if you go there when they score a goal it was deafening, it was actually quite almost quite frightening that the sound and the energy and so I think it's absolutely right that we as a city recognise the efforts of the whole squad. I'd just go back to that Cup Final that led me to support Leeds it was actually the hundredth year of FA Cup Finals and it was the ninety first Cup Final because they didn't play during the war but it is the hundredth year and we're in the hundredth year of Leeds United so there's a nice symmetry there a nice bringing round and well as I say fantastic times, it's awesome to see so many of my childhood heroes and many of them still looking like they could probably fit into the team today and that we've moved on because in those days I remember another favourite Terry Yorath, I remember seeing that he was on the sub's bench, you only listed one sub in those days, number twelve was Terry Yorath

for a particular match and when you looked at the first eleven they were all internationals, they were playing for England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland and what an absolutely fantastic team that Leeds could field an international in every single position and they were all English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh. Fantastic that we've got multi-national teams now but going back to those days that made that team something really really special and supporting Leeds down south amongst Arsenal, Chelsea and Tottenham fans was a challenge but I saw it through and very fantastic memories of those days and I'd like to thank every one of them for being a part of my childhood and to be able to be here now to see you all is just unbelievable. Thank you very much for all the entertainment and enjoyment you've brought to me and the fans over the years. Thank you.

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor Kidger.

COUNCILLOR KIDGER: Thank you My Lord Mayor. As a supporter of Leeds United for over forty years I have spent many happy hours watching the legendary Leeds United especially the fabulous team to be awarded the Freedom of the City here in our superb Council Chamber today. With my late husband, Neville, who was a season ticket holder for many years I have followed Leeds and I can remember shaking the hand of Billy Bremner when he brought the Fairs Cup home back in 1968 as though it was yesterday. To think that Mick Jones came to Leeds for a hundred thousand pounds in 1967 is nothing compared to the millions of pounds that players are paid today.

The legends will live on in our hearts for many years and to come to be invited to be part and witness this wonderful ceremony is awesome. I feel sure my fellow councillors of the Morley Borough Independents Group will join me in congratulating the legends of Leeds United on this amazing achievement. My fellow Councillor, Robert Finnigan, I feel is in awe of the presence of the Leeds United legend even though he's a Huddersfield Town supporter.

Once again thank you my Lord Mayor for bestowing the Freedom of the City to the legends of Leeds United and I feel proud to be saying these words. Thank you.

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor Dobson.

COUNCILLOR DOBSON: Thank you Lord Mayor. On behalf of the Garforth and Swillington Independents I would like to say how honoured and delighted I am to be able to speak on this motion today to accept the football club, Leeds United, from that golden era of 67-74 as Freemen of the City but just going back a little bit further in time and a little bit more forward after the 74 era.

I was a Christmas Day a baby and I looked at the fixture the day after I was born and I bet some of you guys played in this match 1-1 with Sunderland, you drew but you went up that season 63/64 and that was the springboard for an incredible era in not just the sporting life but the cultural life of this city because I think the two things go hand in hand. What the club did and it's been alluded to today to put Leeds on a national and international footing was an incredible achievement and rightly the city is honouring you in this way today and I'll go a little bit beyond 74 because it was actually Don Revie's team that went to Paris and contested the European Cup Final when again dodgy refereeing decisions did for us but I remember there was a Civic reception and I'm sure some of you gentlemen will have been there and afterwards you went outside and you stood on the steps of the Civic Hall and I remember two emotions, I remember thinking, we're honouring these great guys we should have brought that home and we really should have done that year but there was an enormous feeling of Civic pride and pride for the team and what had been achieved in that golden era and the other thing I remember thinking as thirteen year old kid was is I wonder what goes on in that white building at the back of there, well I know now don't I.

Moving on then to the team. I think what's often forgotten about that particular Leeds team is the incredible amount of skill, the skill that those players had. Yes they sweat blood for Leeds for ninety minutes every single game but there was an enormous amount of skilful players and I'm going to pay tribute to one individual player who I saw play in his prime and he's here today. This man was awesome with a ball at his feet, Eddie Gray. I've seen George Best at the latter end of his career play and I'm going to upset the red half of Manchester now so job done really. But that guy were better with a football and I don't mind saying that, the best player pound for pound I think I've seen in an enormously talented team in every department and the thing that really impresses me about that particular era is how few signings were actually made. Yes key people came into the side like Alan Clarke who added that extra dimension in front of goal but most of that team stuck with Leeds through thick and thin and even players who did come in in the latter part of that golden era. Now they are perceived as one club men and they were one club men. Leeds United is in these guys DNA and that of course is in no small part to Don Revie, an inspirational man manager but you know we look at modern football managers now and I remember when Arsene Wenger came into the English game and revolutionised training, diet and exercise and attention to detail about what other teams were doing. Don Revie did that decades before. He was a visionary, he was ahead of his time.

So when we come today to look at Leeds and that vast amount of individual talent again another childhood memory and like a lot of people in this room I remember been totally gutted when England didn't reach the World Cup in 74 but I also remember taking a real consolation that year because when you looked at the Scotland side I think, did Leeds, was there about seven, seven Leeds players in the squad so I sort of put my very English nature to one side and supported

Scotland through that campaign because basically you looked at half the players on the pitch they were Leeds United players, we did remarkable things. Every player international, as it's been mentioned including the people on the bench you know international players that standard it was an incredible era.

So just basically to wind up it's been a pleasure to be able to speak today. It's been an honour to be able to support this motion to invite the club to become Honorary Freeman of the City of Leeds, the city we all love and a city to which you gentlemen and the staff and those who sadly can't be with us today brought to this city a massive amount of honour and pride. Thank you so much gentleman.

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor David Blackburn.

COUNCILLOR D BLACKBURN: Thank you Lord Mayor. May I also say it's an honour to support this motion on behalf of the Green Group for Leeds United. A team that quite a lot of the time during the Revie era, I didn't go in the posh end like the Leader did I went on Kop and got wet through if it rained and most days I've got to say I was a bit disloyal when I got to the latter end of my teens when I only use to come to the matches on a Wednesday night because I was playing rugby on the Saturday but I'd much rather have liked playing football but I wasn't as good as you were, I was better at rugby.

But I go back to about three weeks before my eighteenth birthday and my mate Paul and myself went off on Wallace Arnolds bus to Liverpool and we went to the match at Anfield where we drew 0-0 and won the Championship. Well that's what, fifty one and a half years ago, so three weeks before I was eighteen. I never ever dreamt that I would be stood in this Chamber supporting a motion to give you Freedom of the City and you know I've got to say I would have thought you'd have got it before this time but it's a great honour for me to do that, to honour the people that as a young man I watched for many Saturdays and gave me the opportunity. I used to go up before, well beginning of the Revie era when they were in the Second Division and we won the Second Division Championship and got promoted and I thought oh great I can go see Bobby Charlton's and Dennis Law's of the world and I went to a match at Old Trafford when a guy called Rodney Johnson scored a goal and we won 1-0 and I thought something's gone wrong here and Matt Busby on the way back says this is the best team I have seen this season and I began to realise there was something special going on there and certainly that was right and I had great pleasure in doing that it allowed me as a teenager to go and see European players, not on a television, but live at Elland Road. Really great players and we were better than they were you know we were the best and had it not been for unfortunate circumstances like poor refereeing occasionally I am certain we should have had more trophies than we did get because it was super Leeds and if we can send a message to

the present Leeds team who if I'm up-to-date are top of the league aren't they I think. Aren't they, they're second now are they. When I last looked they were top of the League but if they believe in themselves like the Revie people did and work together they can do that again. So the first thing is get back into the Premiership then get into Europe and then win that and it's been done before and we can do it again but they've got to believe in themselves. But this team it was great, it was fantastic to go watch, an eye opener and certainly sometimes at that period it wasn't appreciated and in other parts of the country still that seems not appreciated the standard of football that you played because it was fantastic and as Councillor Dobson said Eddie Gray what a wonderful player, better than George Best, Alan Clarke fantastic, they were the greatest defensive in the League and you didn't get a goal at Elland Road.

I've got to say the unfortunate thing was though, it was brought home to me and this is probably being a Councillor from Leeds and having a famous football team sometimes you have a banana skin. Well I was down in Essex about two months ago chairing a meeting and I was reminded about a certain game in 1974 where we lost to Colchester. So sometimes it comes back and bites you but that team put this city on the map before that we were the city that had Test Matches, three Rugby League teams and to be fair a pretty mediocre football team. Over that period of Revie era we became known world wide and that helped to set the city as an international city not just as a northern normal place but something that was special and I think that still lives with this city from that.

I feel very very honoured to actually be able speak to some of my teenage heroes and I just wish I could still watch you play and looking at Eddie over there and he's smiling I just wish I could still see you playing in your hey day. Anyway as I say with that I give the support of the Green Group. Thank you.

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: I now ask for a vote on the motion. *(A vote was taken).*
That's been CARRIED.

(Applause)

I now call on the Chief Exec to read the tribute.

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE: At a meeting of the Council of the City of Leeds held in the Council Chamber at the Civic Hall on the fourth day of December 2019 at a special Council convened for the said purpose chaired by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Eileen Taylor, it was resolved unanimously that under and in pursuance of the powers conferred by section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972 we accordingly admit the said Leeds United FC 1967 to 74 to be an Honorary Freeman of the City of Leeds in recognition and high appreciation of the honour and distinction brought to the city by the player's outstanding sporting achievements and for there and all the coaches and staff associated with the success in this period, lasting legacy to Leeds United Football Club and the city of Leeds.

(The Lord Mayor and Leeds United Football Club signed the Roll of Honorary Freeman of the City of Leeds)

(Applause)

THE LORD MAYOR: I would like to present Eddie with the Scroll.

(Applause)

EDDIE GRAY: Lord Mayor, Leader of Council, distinguished guests, guests. It's a pleasure to stand up here today in this special room to receive this award. I look back on my own career and my team mates and I think of Don Revie and Don's staff. I mean I first joined the club when I was fifteen and I always remember Don say's to us work hard and have a good ethic towards the game and he always says to us when we were younger think of the three C's when you play football. Concentration in everything you do and confidence in your ability and most importantly of all the courage to carry it out on a football field and I've played with so many players that did that.

A few players were mentioned that are absent I think it would be remiss of me today not to mention Big Jack Charlton who in view of circumstances can't be with us today. Jack was a great stalwart for this club,

(Applause)

And even before Jack, you know Jack had the pleasure in playing with the great John Charles who also helped to put the city of Leeds on the map long before my time. Unfortunately I never got to see John play and then Don came on the scene and one of the most important things Don did was sign a player called Bobby Collins and Bobby was a catalyst for the success we had. I mean Don had a vision and his vision was to make sure that Leeds United could compete with the best teams in England and the best teams in Europe and we did that a lot of the boys joined the club when we were young kids, we grew up together and we had that bond between us and it was all down to Don and his staff and I'm so pleased to see family members of Don's staff here today and I've got to mention the wives because if I didn't they'd give me a telling off.

(Laughter)

And the players wives are sitting here today as well and they were very much part of the family that Don built and while we were away a lot travelling and playing football and they looked after things at home and made sure when we got back we were fed well and we were looked after so we could perform to the best of our ability and that was a great thing.

I mean people talk about we should have won more trophies, probably should have done. But every year for twelve years, thirteen years we were competing for the highest honours in the game and I think that the legacy of Don and how he conducted himself in this city will live forever.

I must say that when I first came here the city of Leeds wasn't what it is now. I mean I've seen the club, the team and the city grow in tandem. We were doing well the city prospered and now as everybody knows Leeds is a great city but it's 50 years since we won the League Championship and made us the most formidable team in England and in this centenary year It'd be great for Andrea and Angus, Marcelo Bielsa and his staff and his players to take back Leeds to the Premiership and once again playing with the elite in English football and this is a wonderful day for me personally, for all my team mates and everybody in that era that was you know part of the club. I mean it was mentioned Don made us a family and we were like a family and that's how he wanted us to be and the bond that we had together was tremendous and I think that's why we were successful.

Hard work the great amount of talent that has been mentioned and for me personally to stand here today on behalf of Leeds United Football Club especially my fellow players to accept this tremendous accolade you know it will live with us for the rest of our lives.

A little bit, before I finish, a little bit of self indulgence. I would just like to say to my team mates who I played with for a long time, it was a pleasure and a privilege not only to play with you but to know you as individuals and that bond we formed all those years ago is still as strong today as it was then and thank you once again Lord Mayor, Council, the citizens of Leeds because we had the great support of Leeds and there's still a great support for the football club. But I think as Don would have said in the day I think I might finish in saying united we were, united we still are and bar a few aches and pains we'll keep on marching on together. Thank you.

(Applause and standing ovation)

THE LORD MAYOR: I now declare the meeting closed. Could Members of the Council and Aldermen could you please join me in the reception Hall. Thank you.

The meeting was closed.