

Notice of Motion

That this Council supports and agrees to the declaration shown below which in many ways supports the declaration made by Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, as requested to be passed by us by The Pocahontas Project and delegates authority to the Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure to sign and send this below declaration on behalf of the Council to our friends in our Twin Town of Chesterfield in the United States of America, to The Pocahontas Project and His Excellency, the Honourable Joseph R. Biden Jr, the President of the United States of America.

Moved by: Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox

Seconded by: Cllr Jordan Meade

Declaration by the Gravesham Borough Council of the County of Kent, England and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

We the Gravesham Borough Council note and pay tribute to Pocahontas who is buried here in our Borough at St George's Church having also died here on the 21st March 1617.

We record and pay tribute to her well documented history from helping the English settlers at Jamestown in many ways throughout her lifetime, to adopting the Christian faith becoming Rebecca Rolfe, helping to bring Peace between the English settlers and Powhatan tribes, and therefore Pocahontas is recognised as a woman of great significance and influence in early American History, and British history.

The Council further acknowledges the importance of nurturing, strengthening and developing our common historical connection and recognises again, due to this shared history, the town twinning relationship established between Gravesham Borough Council and Chesterfield County, Virginia, in July 2005, promoting international friendship through education and tourism opportunities and the common purpose that also brought together for the first time in 2007 all Powhatan tribes here in Gravesend to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement of the United States of America.

Gravesham Borough Council and Chesterfield County have continued this relationship through numerous visits since establishing the connection, and

Therefore it is agreed that Gravesham Borough Council, this 21st day of June 2022, publicly acknowledges the many contributions of Pocahontas and of those that seek to remember her and endorses efforts by our friends in the United States of America to pursue a Presidential Proclamation by His Excellency, the Honourable Joseph R. Biden Jr. The President of the United States of America declaring each 21st day of March, the anniversary of her passing here in Gravesend as a national Day of Honour in recognising the legacy of Pocahontas as an example of peace, goodwill and cross-cultural understanding.