

CHARTER TRUSTEES FOR THE CITY OF DURHAM

At the **Meeting** of the **Charter Trustees for the City of Durham** held in the Committee Room 1B, County Hall, Durham, on Wednesday 3 December 2014 at 1.00 pm

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Durham, Councillor J Robinson (in the Chair) and Councillors P Conway, J Armstrong, J Blakey, J Buckham, J Chaplow, N Foster, D Freeman, G Holland, A Hopgood, N Martin, M Nicholls, M Plews, J Turnbull and M Wilkes

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Bell, K Corrigan, D Hall, B Moir, R Ormerod, M Simmons, D Stoker, P Taylor and M Williams.

2 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on the 29 October 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 2015/16 Budget Setting Process

Charter Trustees considered a report of the Treasurer which sought agreement on the timetable and process for setting the budget and council tax requirement for the Charter Trustees for 2015/16 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Treasurer informed Trustees that a pay award for employees had been agreed at 2.2% with effect from 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2016 which would be reported to Cabinet in December 2014.

Due to no major changes to the budget, Trustees decided that a working group would not be necessary as Trustees agreed at the meeting held on the 8 January 2014 to utilise the reserves to maintain Band D Council Tax at £1.90 for a five year period (2014/15 to 2018/19).

Resolved:

- (i) That the budget requirement for 2015/16 be approved.
- (ii) That the basic level of council tax of £1.90 be approved.

5 Award of Past Mayor and Consort Jewels

Charter Trustees considered a report of the Clerk informing of the posthumous award of past Mayor's Jewels as a mark of recognition of past service to the Past Mayor and consort (for copy see file of minutes).

Unfortunately due to the illness and untimely death of Councillor Pauline Charlton, her daughter Susan decided to personally collect the Jewels and it was her wish not to have a presentation ceremony.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

6 Any other business

The Clerk informed Charter Trustees that the working group had met on the 27 November 2014 to seek agreement on transfer of historic property and to revisit the Register of Assets. A draft report had been produced which would be presented at the meeting in January after the wording had been agreed.

7 Exclusion of the public

Resolved:

That under Section 100 A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act

8 Secretarial Support to the Mayor

Charter Trustees considered a report of the Clerk advising of the arrangements for secretarial support to be provided to the Mayor of the City of Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted.