

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 22 March 2017 at 12.00 pm

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Durham, Councillor E Bell (in the Chair) and Councillors B Moir, D Bell, J Chaplow, P Conway, K Corrigan, N Foster, D Freeman, O Gunn, G Holland, A Hopgood, B Kellett, N Martin, M Nicholls, M Plews, P Taylor, J Turnbull and M Wilkes

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J Armstrong, J Blakey, A Bonner, R Ormerod and M Simmons.

2 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Update of the Clerk to the Charter Trustees

The Clerk advised that the company supplying the display cabinets for the Mayoral robes had provided CAD drawings for Trustees to view and negotiations were ongoing regarding the final price which would be within the agreed budget. He informed Trustees that the Town Hall Manager had previously worked at the DLI Museum and had contacts in the history department of Durham University who would be able to provide interpretive and historical text on the Mayoralty. The final designs and costs would be reported at the next Charter Trustee meeting.

Resolved:

That the update be noted.

The Clerk reminded Trustees of previous arrangements during an election year regarding an informal meeting between the Clerk and Trustees following the election to identify nominations for the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor in order for preparations to be made for the Annual meeting on the 7 June 2017.

Resolved:

That an informal meeting of the Charter Trustees be arranged between the 12 and 31 May 2017 to informally receive nominations to the positions of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2017/18, prior to the formal appointments at the Annual meeting. Arrangements would be made and Trustees notified in due course.

5 Proposed Closure of two former City of Durham Council Charities

Charter Trustees considered a report of the Legal Manager, Governance and Elections in relation to Trustees views on the proposal by Durham County Council to close two former City of Durham Council charities and donate the money held within those charities to organisations with similar objectives (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

- a) That Cabinet closing the Mayoress of Durham Fund and the Unknown Donors Fund be agreed;
- b) That Cabinet transfer the remaining balances of the two charities to Veterans at Ease and Durham Food Bank respectively.

In order to keep members informed, the next items of business were reported.

The Mayor formally reported the death of Mr Colin Beswick, former Mayor of the City of Durham and the retirement of Mr Francis Grant, member of the Mayor's Bodyguard.

The Mayor took the opportunity to thank Councillor Bill Moir for his outstanding dedication to the Mayoralty in his role as Deputy Mayor. He thanked Trustees for the honour of being Mayor of the City of Durham which had been the pinnacle of his political career and a time he would always treasure.