**MINUTES OF THE CHARTER TRUSTEE MEETING**

**HELD 20TH JANUARY 2020**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Mick Tomlinson (Chair) Cllr Linda Potts., Cllr Gary Taylor., Cllr Ash Ashbee.,

 Cllr Harry Scobie., Cllr Kerry Boyd., Cllr Cedric Towning., Cllr Heather Keen.,

 Cllr Alan Currie., Cllr Rob Yates., Cllr Horace Shrubb

 Also in attendance; Ms Ingrid Spencer, Clerk to the Margate Charter Trustees

**Apologies:** Cllr Helen Whitehead.

**No Apologies:** Cllr Lesley Game., Cllr John Dennis., Cllr Ruth Duckworth., Cllr Pauline Farrance.,

 Cllr Candy Gregory.,

**MINUTE 41** **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

 The Minutes of the meeting held 2nd December 2019 previously circulated, were

 approved.

 Proposed: Cllr L. Potts

 Seconded: Cllr Ash Ashbee

 Passed nem con

**MINUTE 42 Matters arising from the Minutes**

The Clerk reported that, under minute 39, references to ‘Council’ had been removed and replaced by ‘Charter Trustees’ in the auditor’s report.

**MINUTE 43 Mayor’s Report**

 The Mayor reported that the run-up to Christmas had been very busy with visits to

Care Homes, the Hospice and Hospital as well as attending a number of mayoral engagements.

The Blessing of the Seas had been a successful event attended by both the new Greek Archbishop and the new Bishop of Dover, both of whom delivered speeches.

The food and service at the Winter Gardens came in for praise and has improved considerably.

The Mayor was pleased to advise the Charter Trustees that following a very enjoyable Mayor’s Ball in November, a cheque for £3000.00 would be handed over to Age Uk (Thanet)Ltd.

The Mayor had had an exploratory meeting with the CEO of TDC and appraised the Charter Trustees of a possible way forward in respect of conducting a Community Government Review necessary for the formation of a Town Council. Possibly £25000 would need to be returned to TDC.

**MINUTE 44 Office and Finance Report**

 The Cash book had previously been circulated to Charter Trustees. There were no matters arising.

 Proposed acceptance: Cllr Linda Potts

 Seconded: Cllr Ash Ashbee

 Passed nem con

 Some of the office defects raised at the last meeting had been addressed but there were still outstanding issues. Two days before the w/end of the Blessing of the Seas the internet and telephone line went down. This was not the first occasion and could not have happened at a more inconvenient time.

The Mayor moved Exclusion of the Public under Section 12A of the LGA 1972

 Moved : Cllr Linda Potts

 Seconded: Cllr Horace Shrubb.

**MINUTE 45** See attached confidential minute

Mayor moved re-admittance of the public.

**MINUTE 46** The Clerk presented the draft proposed budget for 2020-2021 and explained the workings. Cllr Keen asked where in the current budget any anticipated figure under Minute 45 had been allowed and the Clerk explained.

 Cllr Potts queried the reduction in the Deputy Mayor allowance and it was pointed out that the allowance for the Margate Mayor and Deputy were considerably higher than the allowances provided by other towns and that under a Town Council, there would be no Deputy Mayor’s allowance.

 A discussion took place regarding the provision of hanging baskets and troughs in the Old Town. Cllr Ash Ashbee proposed a quote be sought from Thanet Community Forest School. The facilities department at TDC may also be interested in quoting.

 After discussion regarding the level of reserves held and the possibility of monies being returned to TDC, the Charter Trustees would like to propose to TDC that any such monies be ringfenced for the formation of a Margate Town Council Community Governance Review. The figure could be in the region of £25000.00.

 £3000 had been budgeted for the WW11 celebrations to take place in early May. Suggestions were sought for event ideas; Cllr Towning would like to see young people engaged. CT’s advised that paperwork for any outdoor events had to be in to TDC by the end of January to fit in with the required 14 week deadline.

 Cllr Alan Currie advised that Margate Museum were looking to arrange an event.

 The proposed budget of £152, 250 would result in a Band D precept of £11.61

 Proposed acceptance of the budget: Cllr Gary Taylor

 Seconded: Cllr Rob Yates

 Passed nem con

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.45p.m