**MINUTES OF THE MARGATE CHARTER TRUSTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON 25TH JANUARY 2021**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Mick Tomlinson (Chair) Cllr Heather Keen, Cllr Kerry Boyd, Cllr Pauline Farrance,

 Cllr Rob Yates, Cllr Helen whitehead, Cllr Linda Potts, Cllr Ash Ashbee, Cllr Alan Currie

 Cllr Horace Shrubb, Cllr Harry Scobie

 Also in attendance Ingrid Spencer, Clerk to the Charter Trustees

**MINUTE 15** **APOLOGIES:**

 Cllr Gary Taylor, Cllr Candy Gregory

 **NO APOLOGIES:**

 Cllr Leslie Game., Cllr Cedric Towning., Cllr Ruth Duckworth.,

 Cllr John Dennis

**MINUTE 16** **Minutes of meeting held 30th November 2020 and Matters Arising**

 There were no matters arising from the previous minutes. The minutes were

 Accepted as a true record.

 Proposed: Cllr Horace Shrubb

 Seconded: Cllr Helen Whitehead

 Passed nem con

**MINUTE 17 MAYOR’S REPORT**

The Mayor reported on the efforts made to hold a covid-safe Blessing of the Seas which eventually had to be cancelled, with the hope that 2022 will go ahead .

The replacement Olive Tree due to be planted with a small ceremony in December 2020 also had to be cancelled. However, as Young’s had already dug the hole and covered it with ply, it had been agreed that the tree be planted on health and safety grounds with perhaps a small belated ceremony sometime in 2021.

Winter plantings of the troughs had been approved.

The Mayor updated CT’s on a letter he had sent to Sir Roger Gale MP regarding the formation of a Town Council for Margate. The Mayor stated that the intention would be for a Town Council for the CT9 postcode, including Salmestone, that encompassed all of the Old Borough of Margate wards.

Cllr Currie asked whether Mr Tim Howes had left TDC but no information was available.

The Mayor briefly touched on the Media Centre lease and the ongoing problems and a very helpful zoom meeting held with Estelle Culligan of TDC.

**MINUTE 18** **OFFICE & FINANCE REPORT**

1. Cash Book (previously circulated)

No matters arose from the Cash Book, acceptance approved.

Proposed: Cllr Linda Potts

Seconded: Cllr Rob Yates

Passed: nem con

1. Variances and Anticipated Outrun (previously circulated)

The clerk explained that due to covid, a number of anticipated costs in 2020-21 had not been made which impacted on the anticipated outrun. For the same reason, there would be a number of ring-fenced items carried forward into 2021-22 eg repairs to the mayoress’s chain.

**MINUTE 19 BUDGET 2021-22**

The draft budget (previously circulated) with attached notes was discussed. The Clerk suggested that £25,000 could safely be utilised to offset against the budget without having a detrimental impact on the Reserves.

Cllr Linda Potts was unhappy with the reduction in the Deputy Mayor’s allowance to £1000 from £2000 (previous years £6000) and was of the opinion the duties of the Deputy Mayor could not be carried out for this figure. It was again pointed out that Town Councils did not award the Deputy Mayor an allowance; Margate was the exception rather than the norm.

Cllr Heather Keen asked about the employment settlement figure. This has been received and forms part of the reserves. The employment dispute is now ended.

Proposed accepting the budget together with the utilisation of £25,000 offset:

Proposed: Cllr Horace Shrubb

Seconded: Cllr Linda Potts

Passed: nem con

**MINUTE 20** **REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS & FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The Charter Trustees had been asked over the past three months to review Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and raise any items thought to require amendment/alteration. None were raised so the existing SO’s and Financial Regulations (based on the National Association of Local Officers model regulations) were deemed adequate.

Proposed: Cllr Rob Yates

Seconded: Cllr Horace Shrubb

Passed: nem con

**MINUTE 21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – MAYOR’S FUND**

1. An application from GRASS Cliftonville towards the renovation of the Bandstand. Cllr Alan Currie endorsed this funding and was supported by a number of Charter Trustees. £500 being the agreed amount from the Mayor’s Fund.

Proposed: Cllr Horace Shrubb

Seconded: Cllr Heather Keen

Passed: nem con

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7.05pm