**MINUTES OF THE MARGATE CHARTER TRUSTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2016**

**AUSTEN ROOM T.D.C**

**Present:** Cllr Robin Edwards, (RE), Cllr John Dennis (JD),

Cllr Rosamund Dixon (RD), Cllr Iris Johnston (IJ), Cllr Mick Tomlinson (MT)

Cllr Edwards Jaye-Jones (JJ), Cllr Julie Dellar, Cllr Linda Potts (LP)

Cllr Gary Taylor (GT) Cllr Ash Ashbee (AA)

**MINUTE 7. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Jonathan Curran., Cllr Lesley Game., Cllr Peter Evans

**MINUTE 8 UPDATE BY TDC OFFICERS RER; OLD TOWN HALL**

Officers had given their apologies but could not attend; the matter was deferred to a future date.

**MINUTE 9. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS, 20th June 2016, AND MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Johnston gave her apologies for not having given her apologies for the previous General CT meeting.

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

Cllr Potts proposed acceptance; seconded by Cllr Taylor, passed nem con.

**MINUTE 10 MAYOR’S REPORT**

1. Insurance. A meeting had been held with Zurich and a new 5 year quote obtained at almost £2000 less than in previous years. The quote was upgraded to include All Risks, and Key Worker cover as well as increasing the indemnity to £20 million. Cllr Johnston wanted assurance the enhancements and All Risks cover were in writing.
2. Westgate On Sea Town Council has finally accepted the £50,643.21, in full and final settlement and had asked for the return of the two Westgate cups.

The Mayor asked that the Charter Trustees approve the return of the regalia to Westgate. Cllr Johnston proposed, seconded by Cllr Jay-Jones, passed nem con.

Cllr Tomlinson reported that the putting green shed which is in Westbrook ward, had been ‘given’ to Westgate On Sea for £1, and when TDC officers had been questioned regarding this, their response was ‘most unhelpful’. TDC officers would not confirm to the Westbrook Councillors whether this agreement with Westgate included the Westbrook tennis courts. Cllr Johnston suggested officers should be asked to clarify a) the length of the lease, b) who negotiated it and c) who signed off.

1. Margate Carnival. The feed-back regarding the Carnival was mainly negative. However, the organisers are now taking advice in respect of next years’ carnival and hope to improve matters. In order to ensure traders and bills were paid, the Mayor had agreed the balance of the £2000 grant should be released. Cllr Johnston asked how many towns the float had been taken to as this was a condition of the grant.

Jack Packman (Chair Carnival Committee) has consulted MT regarding future involvement and IJ would be happy to go on the Carnival Committee. (AGM in November) Cllr Dixon suggested the designs for the float should be submitted to the Charter Trustees prior to Carnival. Cllr Ashbee queried whether the float had actually ‘enhanced the mayoralty’ as this was also a stipulation of the grant. The Mayoral party should not be entertained on the balcony of Sands Hotel as this cost came out of the receipts of the Carnival Group and this was not what grants were intended for.

1. Twinning. Letters had been sent to all three twinning towns and friendly replies received from Idar Oberstein and Yalta. Ramsgate’s twinning is quite successful with exchange visits.
2. Forthcoming events. The Mayor listed the forthcoming civic events, as well as the St Michaelmas Day Dinner at Quex scheduled for 29th September

There is a shortage of tricorn hats resulting in hats not being worn on occasions when they ought. More need to be ordered.

The Armistice Day observation will take place outside the Old Town Hall.

The Mayor’s Ball will be held on Friday 18th November. JJ raised how difficult disabled access is to the Winter Gardens.

Vi The Mayor welcomed Denis Spencer to the meeting who will, on completion of a satisfactory three-month trial and agreement of both parties, be the new Town Sergeant.

Clifford East had been presented with a Margate Silver Spoon and a £75 gift voucher.

**MINUTE 11 OFFICE/FINANCE REPORT**

Charter Trustees had all received copies of the accounts and budget to date. Queries were raised re. payments to K. Hauxwell (Relief Driver) B.N. Carthew (valuation of silverware) and World of Flags (for Nayland Rock flagpole).

Cllr Johnston proposed acceptance of the accounts, seconded by Cllr Potts, passed nem con.

A new Margate flag is needed, and the flagpole was paid for by the Charter Trustees and the responsibility of the CT’s.

1. The Clerk had experienced considerable difficulty changing accounts to Natwest. Lloyds would be approached if necessary.
2. MRIN. A letter had been sent to Dr Peete’s regarding the transfer of funds. A reply was still awaited from the Charity Commissioners to a letter sent in July.
3. Mayor’s Fund. No response had been received from the external Trustees.
4. Events Income. The Cream Tea afternoon held at Salmestone was very successful and raised £537.70, for the Mayor’s Fund.
5. Media Centre. The conditions in the Media Centre are giving cause for concern. Basic but essential repairs were not being undertaken and the condition/general cleanliness of the communal areas were deteriorating.

The Charter Trustees were extremely concerned regarding some of the health and safety issues and advised the Clerk not to work from the building until repairs had been carried out as they (the CT’s) had a duty of care to their employees. Cllr Johnston proposed staff *not* work from the office whilst these issues remain, seconded by Cllr Jaye-Jones. Passed nem con.

1. Christmas/Town Team. An approach had been made by the MTT as well as the Turner Contemporary asking what the Mayor’s office intended doing in the town for Christmas this year. Further information had been requested from MTT.

**MINUTE 12** **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

In the light of the non-attendance by TDC officers, it was agreed an EGM would be called. The date was set at Thursday 22nd September. 6.30p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30p.m.