**MEETING OF THE MARGATE CHARTER TRUSTEES**

**HELD 11TH JULY 2022 7.15PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Heather Keen, Cllr Rob Yates, Cllr Harry Scobie, Cllr David Wallin,

Cllr Horace Shrubb, Cllr Ash Ashbee, Cllr Mick Tomlinson.

Also present: Mrs Iris Johnston, Burgess of Margate

Ingrid Spencer, Clerk to the Charter Trustees

**MINUTE 8 APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from: Cllr Alan Currie, Cllr Pauline Farrance, Cllr Candy Gregory, Cllr Helen whitehead.

Cllrs Towning and Leys had to leave after earlier special meeting.

**No Apologies Received:** Cllr Ruth Duckworth, Cllr John Dennis, Cllr Linda Potts,

Cllr Kerry Boyd.

**MINUTE 9** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None Received

**MINUTE 10 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13TH APRIL 2022 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Two deputy mayors had been proposed at the meeting of 13th April however this was not possible. A further meeting was held on 3rd May to elect one Deputy Mayor with Cllr Rob Yates being duly elected.

Alan Squirrel Trust to be approached – removal of a Charter Trustee from the Board as surplus to requirements but on-going support to be expressed.

The Mayor stated that she would not be available for the Charter Trustee meeting scheduled for 28th November – to be re-scheduled.

Proposed acceptance of minutes: Cllr Harry Scobie

Seconded: Cllr David Wallin

Passed nem con

**MINUTE 11 MAYOR’S REPORT**

The Mayor was pleased at the attendance of many member of the public and representatives of local organisations at the Annual General Meeting held 16th May.

2nd June saw the Beacon Lighting at Fort Hill and after a nail-biting wait, the beacon finally caught light. Once again, there was a good turnout from members of the public. The firework display on 3rd June was spectacular and enjoyed by all there; letter of thanks had been sent to all organisations who had made the two events so successful.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended the opening of the newly re-furbished Salvation Army premises that now offered much enhanced facilities for clients.

It is traditional that the Mayor should have a ‘Mayor’s Cadet’ and the Air cades were pleased to propose that Cadet Perkins to act for the Mayor.

The Mayor had accepted an invitation from Rotary Thanet to take part in a re-cycling launch on 15th July at the sundeck and would be taking part in the Race For Life on Sunday 17th July.

Town Council: So far some 2110 signatures had been received via e-petition and paper petition. The Mayor reported that feedback on the street stalls had been largely positive. The Mayor would not be able to manage a stall on the 23rd July and Cllrs Shrubb and Tomlinson agreed to provide cover at Morrisons. The Oval Bandstand had offered a site for a stall. The Mayor asked for someone to take over management of our Instagram and Twitter accounts and Cllr Rob Yates offered his services.

The grey area regarding the percentage of eligible signatures required for a successful petition has still not been resolved. Approaches have been made to Sir Roger Gale MP who had forwarded our question to Kemi Badenoch MP and this had been followed up by a letter on 1st June from the office to Ms Badenoch, Minister for Levelling Up communities. No reply has yet been received. NALC states the percentage is 7.5% and the Association of Charter Towns also state it should be 7.5%. A screen shot of the Legislative Act of 2015 had been sent to TDC but they are still referring to the earlier 2010 document on Community Governance Reviews. Cllr Ashbee said she would raise the matter with Nick Hughes at TDC.

Old Town Hall & Implications

The Mayor explained that as from 1st July, the OTH had been put on the market and a tenant was being sought for a 24 year lease at a rent of £65-75000 per annum. The CT’s had been informed that the locks were being changed on the OTH and we no longer had access to the vault. Cllr Ashbee stated that items could be stored at TDC’s premises and would be covered by TDC’s insurance. No reply had been received from TDC to the Mayor’s email regarding extra time/access.

Fund-Raising A visit to Margate Caves and a cream tea has been organised for Monday 8th August 1-4pm. The Mayor asked for support from the CT’s and a request for raffle prizes.

The Mayor would like to take fund-raising out to the wards and hold events in each ward. Events need not be large – quiz nights are always popular. Cllr Shrubb stated Morrisons would donate a hamper and he has a contact in Keel Toys who may donate toys. It would cost £85 to hire St Philips Church Hall in Cliftonville. The Mayor suggested the crazy golf in Westbrook. Cllr Ashbee would like to see an event held in the Sunken Gardens in Westbrook. Cllr Ashbee went on to state that she had persuaded Wilderness to Wonderland to take on the rockery at the other end of the promenade at St Mildreds. She has also match- funded the upgrade to 3 shelters – 2 in Westbrook and 1 at Palm Bay. Cllr Yates stated that the shelter in Margate requires work and is more pressing and of importance than the Westbrook shelters.

Cllr Shrubb reported that a Carol service at Lesters has been arranged for 20.12.22

Media Presence

The Mayor would like the media profile of the Charter Trustees enhanced and raised.

Cllr Ashbee left the meeting at 8.15pm

**MINUTE 12 OFFICE AND FINANCE REPORT**

1. Cash Book previously circulated. There were no matters arising.

Proposed acceptance: Cllr Rob Yates

Seconded: Cllr David Wallin

Passed nem con

1. The Final Audit report had been received and circulated

Proposed acceptance: Cllr Mick Tomlinson

Seconded: Cllr Horace Shrubb

Passed nem con

1. Updated on the successful Jubilee event; Cllr Yates proposed holding a public poll on whether the red/white/blue sturgeon lights should be kept on the white bulbs returned. It was noted that the lights are the property of TDC and any decision would ultimately be made by TDC. It was agreed to leave the lights as they are until the bulbs expire. EJ Saunders to be advised.

The catenary wires, obtained from the film company, would be stored by Cllr Rob Yates.

1. It was noted that the lights in the Committee room had been replaced with LED- no more flickering and less heat.
2. An update on the green canopy was given – waiting for TDC to come back with approval of sites and trees.
3. A new contractor had been sought following the retirement of NE Signs as our Traffic Management provider. There being no other contractor in Thanet, it was necessary to look further afield and TMS based in Larkfield had agreed to provide the TMP and operatives necessary. It was accepted that the cost would of necessity rise and a figure of £780 for each of the Blessing of the Seas and Remembrance Sunday events had been quoted and agreed.

**MINUTE 13 APPLICATIONS TO THE MAYOR’S FUND**

The balance in the Mayor’s Fund is currently £859.32 with the receipt of £302.50 awaited. 8 applications had been received. The Charter Trustees had received all the applications and supporting documents and after careful consideration agreed the following:

1. Samuel Woodward – costs re charity football match at Hartsdown in aid of Crohn’s and Colitis UK - £160.00 sought Agreed

1. Shakespeare on the Beach- No
2. Wilderness to Wonderland. In this instance the CT’s were unable to support the application but would welcome future applications

No

1. Arts Education Exchange- the CT’s would like to hear more about this project and the work of ArtsEx- to be invited to meet the CT’s

The CT’s agreed a grant of £250.00 towards this project Agreed

1. Oliver Perry-Taylor requested support towards Scouting Trip

The CT’s agreed a grant of £150.00 Agreed

1. Thanet Lions No
2. Margate School Community Garden No
3. Margate School Festival of Design No

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.15pm.