***High Wycombe Charter Trustees***

***Mayor’s Parlour, Wycombe Area Office, High Wycombe HP11 1BB***

*Town Clerk: Tel: 01494 421367 Secretary: Tel: 01494 475792*

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| ***Mayor 2023-2024:*** | ***Cllr. Paul Turner*** |  | ***Email:***  ***Paul.Turner@buckinghamshire.gov.uk*** |
| ***Town Clerk & Treasurer:*** | ***Mr Joe Bradshaw MVO*** |  | ***Email: Joe.Bradshaw1@buckinghamshire.gov.uk*** |
| ***Mayor's Secretary:*** | ***Miss. Sarah Martin*** |  | ***Email: Sarah.Martin@buckinghamshire.gov.uk*** |

**NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEE**

**HELD IN THE MAYOR’S PARLOUR**

**ON THURSDAY 9 MAY 2024**

**The meeting opened at 5pm.**

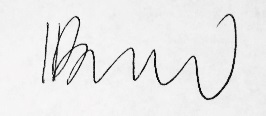
**Present:**

Cllrs: Lesley Clarke OBE (Chairman) and Paul Turner (Mayor).

Mr Joe Bradshaw MVO was also present

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| **Min**  **Ref** | **Discussion** | **Actions** |
|  | The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those present for attending. |  |
| 1. | **NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING**  The notes of the last meeting were recorded as a true record. |  |
| 2. | **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**  Cllr Paul Turner reported that agenda item 5 (50th anniversary of Charter Trustees event) had to be cancelled due to a number of issues. It is planned to reschedule the event for 9 September 2024 in conjunction with activities organised by BIDCO. |  |
| 3. | **APOLOGIES**  The Town Clerk reported that he had received apologies from:  Cllr Arman Allam  Cllr Andrea Baughan  Cllr Mazamal Hussain  Cllr Nathan Thomas. |  |
| 4. | **NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY FREEMAN AND MAYOR’s MEDALS**  Cllr Lesley Clarke advised that she had received a nomination for a Mayor’s Medal for Mr Mike Dewey. However given that there were only 2 members of the Standing Sub-Committee present at the meeting it was not possible for a vote to be taken on whether the nomination should be recommended for final approval by the Charter Trustees. The wording of the citation reads:  *Mike Dewey was a long time Chairman of the Local History Group and his work for them included massive amounts of research on local history including WWI and WWII. He is still a volunteer at Flackwell library and I believe is still involved with Wycombe library including making donations from his talk gifts. He has for many years and still does do history presentations for local groups and communities. He is a long time supporter of Wycombe Wanderers and Manchester United. The BFP Nostalgia page was originally known as the Goodearl Days when Mike took over and it was later renamed the Dewey Eyed Years. He has never been paid by the BFP for this work and as a volunteer only received small gratuities. His work for SWOP has been long lasting and exceptional including gathering pictures from many sources and providing enhanced images for those that request them. With his Colleague Harvey he was responsible for taking on SWOP after the Wycombe Government/Council declined to carry on with it.*  *He produced two book collections of SWOP pictures named Bucks In Time which I assume you have got. He did a regular slot on Wycombe Sound radio.*  **John Gurney**  *I would strongly recommend Mike Dewey for a mayor's medal due to the years of unstinting and selfless service he has given to the High Wycombe community, first initiated through his project Sharing Wycombe's Old Photographs.*  When I first met Mike many years ago, I was editor of the Bucks Free Press and was facing a significant difficulty in trying to preserve the heritage of High Wycombe.  **Steve Cohen** | Town Clerk to circulate nomination to all members of SsC for their views. |
| 5. | **DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2024/25 MAYORAL YEAR**  The Town Clerk asked for guidance on the announcement of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as he was required to publish details to the local media on 11 May that Councillor Nathan Thomas was to be appointed as Town Mayor of High Wycombe on 25 May 24 and that Councillor Sarfaraz Raja would be the Deputy Mayor which was agreed at the meeting of Charter Trustees held on 11 March 2024. The Town Clerk was advised that the Mayor elect might need to change his Deputy Mayor but this could not be done until after the Buckinghamshire Council Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 15 May so he should defer the announcement until Thursday 16 May. | Town Clerk to defer announcement of Mayor/Deputy Mayor until  16 May |
| 6. | **DISCUSSIONS ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR SELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2025/26 MAYORAL YEAR**  The Town Clerk advised that he was concerned that there was a much stronger chance that the selection of the Mayor for the 2025/26 Mayoral Year could become a headache given that 2025 is election year for Buckinghamshire Council and that the number of Charter Trustees would be reduced from 24 to 16. It was agreed that an emergency meeting of the newly elected Charter Trustees be held on the day after the Buckinghamshire Council Annual General meeting in May 2025 to endorse the selection of the Mayor prior to the Charter Trustees Annual General Meeting which is required to be held within 3 weeks of the parent authority AGM; in the event that the Mayor elect is not selected as a Buckinghamshire Council an urgent request for nominations will be held at that meeting. This matter will be further discussed at a future Standing Sub-Committee meeting.. | Town Clerk to add issue to a future SsC meeting. |
| 7. | **RECRUITMENT OF NEW TOWN CLERK – TIMESCALES**  The Town Clerk confirmed that he had held a meeting with the applicant for the role of Town Clerk who had attended an informal interview in March and advised him that the Standing Sub-Committee would like him to return for a formal interview once the outcome of the High Wycombe Town Council CGR had been announced. It was agreed that it would be foolish of the Charter Trustees to allow the current Town Clerk to leave the post early because of the possibility of the setting up a Town Council in April 2025 as this could leave the new inexperienced incumbent with the burden of handing over the administrative and financial activities to the Shadow Town Council and there would be no guarantee that they would offer them the full-time role. It was also agreed that if there are no immediate plans for a Town Council that the interviews for the role should take place in early 2025 with a view to a 2-month handover period commencing on 1 April 2025 to allow the new incumbent to be involved in the annual Mayor Making preparations. |  |
| 8. | **ANY OTHER BUSINEES**  There were no other matters to discuss. |  |
| 9. | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  It was agreed that a further meeting of the Standing Sub-Committee would be held in September 2024 to review nominations for Honorary Aldermen and Mayor’s Medal candidates and also review arrangements for Mayoral selection for 2025/26 Mayoral Year.. | Town Clerk to liaise with Mayor and Chairman of SSC to agree date. |

**The meeting closed at 6pm.**



**Joe Bradshaw**

**Clerk and Treasurer**

**to the High Wycombe Charter Trustees**

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