***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 2022-2023:*** | ***Cllr. Arif Hussain*** |  | ***Email: Arif.Hussain@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*** |

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHARTER TRUSTEES**

**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE WYCOMBE AREA OFFICE**

**ON 7 MARCH 2023**

**The meeting began at 6.02 pm**

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| **Present**  Cllrs: Arif Hussain, Steven Barrett, Karen Bates, Andrea Baughan, Lesley Clarke OBE, Tony Green, Darren Hayday, Orsolya Hayday, Imran Hussain, Mahboob Hussain JP, Majid Hussain, Mazamal Hussain, Matthew Knight, Sarfaraz Raja, Nabeela Rana, Melanie Smith, Nathan Thomas, Paul Turner, Julia Wassell and Katrina Wood.  Joe Bradshaw (Town Clerk) and Sarah Martin (Mayor’s Secretary) were also in attendance. | |
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| 1. | The Mayor opened the meeting and asked for prayers to be read. |
| 2. | **Apologies**  The Town Clerk reported that apologies had been received from:  Arman Allam and Steve Guy |
| 3. | **Minutes of the last Charter Trustees Meeting held on 17 January 2023**  The Mayor asked Charter Trustees if they had any comments regarding the accuracy of the minutes that had been presented following the last meeting and also for their approval.  It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2023 were a true and accurate record of the meeting. |
| 4. | **Matters arising from the last meeting.**  The Mayor reported that there is still work to be done on Agenda item 6 – Review of the Charter Trustees Handbook. He reminded Charter Trustees that at the last meeting that the Chairman of the Standing Sub-Committee asked Charter Trustees to email her with suggested changes to the amendments that had been distributed. Given that she did not receive anything he asked that all Charter Trustees to contact her so that they can be considered at the next meeting of the Standing Sub-Committee. Lesley Clarke advised that she had been working with the Town Clerk on the issue of a revised handbook. It was hoped that a final draft could be presented to Charter Trustees at the next full meeting of CTs. |
| 5. | **Mayor’s Communications.**  The Mayor gave a brief overview on the events that he had attended since the last meeting.  switch on ceremony. The Mayor also outlined his plans for the remainder of his Mayoral Year. |
| 6. | **Selection of the Town Mayor of High Wycombe for 2023/24 Mayoral Year.**  The Mayor advised that there have been 2 nominations for the Town Mayor for the 2023/24 Mayoral Year:   1. Charter Trustee Imran Hussain 2. Charter Trustee Paul Turner   Prior to the meeting lots were drawn to determine which order the candidates would speak. The Mayor confirmed that Paul Turner would speak first and Imran Hussain would speak second.  Charter Trustee Andrea Baughan nominated Paul Turner as her nomination and spoke about her candidate and then Charter Trustee Lesley Clarke seconded the nomination.  Charter Trustee Melanie Smith nominated Imran Hussain as her nomination and spoke about her candidate and then Charter Trustee Majid Hussain seconded the nomination.  The Mayor thanked all 4 Charter Trustees for taking the time to nominate/second their respective nominations.  The Mayor asked the Town Clerk to escort both Charter Trustee Imran Hussain and Charter Trustee Paul Turner out of the Council Chamber. The Mayor advised the remaining Charter Trustees that they had listened to the nomination and seconder briefings for both nominees. He further advised that before he asked them to return in turn he would like to remind that they will each be permitted to speak for a maximum time of between 3 and 5 minutes. At the end of each of their respective presentations he advised the he would allow Charter Trustees to ask questions to each of the candidates. He reminded Charter Trustees that the maximum amount of time that he would allow for questions would be 5 minutes.  The Mayor requested the Town Clerk to invite Charter Trustee Paul Turner to return to the Council Chamber. Charter Trustee gave a presentation to Charter Trustees which was followed by a question period by fellow Charter Trustees which were answered by Paul Turner. Following the question period the Town Clerk escorted Charter Trustee Paul Turner out of the Council Chamber.  The Mayor requested the Town Clerk to invite Charter Trustee Imran Hussain to return to the Council Chamber. Charter Trustee gave a presentation to Charter Trustees which was followed by a question period by fellow Charter Trustees which were answered by Imran Hussain. Following the question period the Town Clerk escorted Charter Trustee Imran Hussain out of the Council Chamber.  The Mayor advised Charter Trustees that having listened to the presentations by both candidates along with the briefings provided by the proposer and seconder for both of them. Before Charter Trustees cast their votes for their preferred candidate he advised that he would like to open the floor for a full and frank discussion under Chatham House rules to establish which of the 2 nominations would be best suited to the role.  During the lengthy discussions concerns were raised by a number of Charter Trustees which concluded with Charter Trustee Melanie Smith and Charter Trustee Majid Hussain regrettably having to withdraw their nomination for Charter Trustee Imran Hussain. The Mayor sought the agreement of the Charter Trustees and it was resolved unanimously that the nomination for Charter Trustee Imran Hussain to be Town Mayor of High Wycombe for the 2023/24 Mayoral Year be withdrawn.  The Mayor invited the Town Clerk and Charter Trustees Melanie Smith and Majid Hussain to leave the Council Chamber to advise Charter Trustee Imran Hussain that his nomination for Mayor had been withdrawn.  The Town Clerk invited Charter Trustee Paul Turner and Charter Trustee Imran Hussain to return to the Council Chamber along with Charter Trustee Melanie Smith and Charter Trustee Majid Hussain.  They Mayor asked those Charter Trustees who had been present to hear the proposal, seconding and candidate address to vote on election and advised that there would be no proxies as only those Charter Trustees who were physically present for the whole process were entitled to vote. The Mayor asked for a show of hands from those who wish to support the proposal that Charter Trustee Paul Turner be elected as Town Mayor of High Wycombe for the coming 2023/24 Mayoral Year. Following a unanimous show of hands the Mayor requested that the result of the election be recorded by the Town Clerk and the winners of the election shall be Charter Trustee Paul Turner - Mayor Elect and Charter Trustee Nathan Thomas - Deputy Mayor Elect for the next Mayoral Year. He further advised that the names of the Mayor Elect and Deputy Mayor Elect shall not be published or disclosed until 6 May 2023 which is 2 weeks before the annual Mayor Making Ceremony on Saturday 20 May 2023. The Town Clerk agreed to publish the names of the Mayor Elect and Deputy Mayor Elect and the Mayor request that these details remain confidential until the announcement date. |
| 7. | **Update on plans for the Coronation Weekend**  The Mayor, Chairman of the Standing Sub-Committee and Town Clerk gave a short outline of the plans for the Coronation Weekend which included a Church Service at All Saints Parish Church on Sunday 7 May 2023 and a full range of activities in the town centre. The Mayor had already accepted invitations to events around the town.  . |
| 8. | **Date of next meeting**  The next meeting of the Charter Trustees of High Wycombe is currently scheduled for Tuesday 6 June 2023 at 6pm. |
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| **The meeting closed at 7.35 pm** | |