

GRESHAM (CITY SIDE) COMMITTEE

Friday, 1 March 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Gresham (City Side) Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 1 March 2019 at 10.15 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Dr Giles Shilson (Chairman)	Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Christopher Hayward (Deputy Chairman)	Wendy Mead
Nicholas Bensted-Smith	John Scott (Chief Commoner)
Simon Duckworth	
Deputy Tom Hoffman	

In Attendance

Officers:

Gregory Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Sacha Than	- Town Clerk's Department
Steven Reynolds	- Chamberlain's Department
Kirpal Kaur	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's Department
Tom Leathart	- City Surveyor's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy John Bennett, the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor Alderman Peter Estlin, Deputy Edward Lord, and Alderman Ian Luder.

The Chairman thanked Alderman Mainelli in advance for agreeing to take the chair at the Joint Grand Gresham Committee to be held later that day, in the absence of Alderman Luder.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on Friday 30 November 2018 be approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

The Chamberlain provided an update in respect of the Gresham Almshouses Refurbishment Works. Members were advised that the costs for the works due to be carried out were higher than anticipated and, as a result, there was a shortfall in the budget. This shortfall amounted to £150,000; however, the relevant works had previously been budgeted for and, over the past three

years, £70,000 of the allotted budget had not been spent. As a consequence, taking this underspend in to account, the shortfall amounted to £80,000.

The Chamberlain advised that he and officers within the Department of Community and Children's Services had been working together to investigate the reasons behind the increased costs. This information had now been obtained and, if Members of this Committee were content, a request could be put before the Finance Committee for their approval.

The Committee agreed that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Gresham (City Side) Committee should be apprised of the necessary information and their initial approval sought before the request was made to the Finance Committee. It was agreed this decision should be taken under delegated powers.

RESOLVED – That authority be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Gresham (City Side) Committee, to approve the request in relation to costs of the Gresham Almshouses refurbishment works, for onward approval to the Finance Committee.

4. **ALMSHOUSES UPDATE**

The Town Clerk provided the Committee with an oral update in respect of the Gresham Almshouses.

The annual Christmas hamper delivery had taken place on Friday 7 December 2018 and the Town Clerk passed on the thanks of the residents. The Chairman encouraged Members of the Committee to attend the December 2019 visit and asked that a "save the date" be circulated in good time to Members. The Town Clerk agreed to obtain and circulate this information.

Members were also advised that a consultation on a proposed Pets Policy would commence shortly. The consultation would consider whether residents of the Almshouses could be allowed to own cats. At a previous meeting of the Gresham (City Side) Committee, Members had asked that the Policy be revisited due to the therapeutic effect that cats could provide. An update on the outcome of this consultation would be given to Members at a future Committee meeting.

5. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

6. **ANY BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

There was no other business.

7. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That, under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds

that the involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item Nos.
9-14

Exempt Paragraph(s)
3

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2019 be approved as a correct record, subject to one minor amendment.

9. **GRESHAM COLLEGE CONSULTANT UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk which provided an update in relation to Gresham College.

10. **GRESHAM COLLEGE FUNDING UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk which provided an update in relation to funding for Gresham College.

11. **STRATEGIC MEETING OF THE JGGC**

The Town Clerk provided an update on the Strategic Meeting due to take place later in the year.

12. **JOINT GRAND GRESHAM COMMITTEE MATTERS - CITY SIDE CONSIDERATION**

The Committee considered the various items on the agenda for the meeting of the Joint Grand Gresham Committee that day.

13. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

14. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was one item of business.

The meeting ended at 10.44 am

Chairman

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