

FREEDOM APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Thursday, 8 February 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Freedom Applications Committee held at Committee Room 4 - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 8 February 2018 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Alderman Sir David Wootton (Chairman)
Simon Duckworth
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Ex-Officio Member) - *until item 2*
Wendy Mead (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)

Munsur Ali (observer) - *until item 12*
Ruby Sayed (observer) - *until item 12*

Officers:

John Barradell	-	The Town Clerk - <i>until item 2</i>
Bob Roberts	-	Town Clerk's Department – <i>items 1 and 11 only</i>
Edward Gilbert	-	Town Clerk's Department
Andrew Buckingham	-	Town Clerk's Department - <i>until item 2</i>
Peter Kane	-	The Chamberlain
Murray Craig	-	Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court
Michael Cogher	-	Comptroller and City Solicitor
Bruce Hunt	-	City Remembrancer

The Chairman stated that an urgent matter should be discussed in private session under 'Any Other Business' before the other items on the agenda, and moved that the public be excluded for the discussion of the item.

RESOLVED - That under section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the discussion would likely lead to the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

1. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

In accordance with Standing Order 32 of the Court of Common Council (Access to Meetings), a resolution was passed to exclude the public from the discussion of this item as the information considered related to exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Following discussion of this item, the Chairman of Policy, the Town Clerk, the Director of Communications, the Executive Director of Mansion House and the Central Criminal Court, and the Media Officer left the meeting.

At this point of the agenda the Chairman moved that the public be re-admitted to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Sir Mark Boleat.

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

None were declared.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the public minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2017 be agreed as a correct record.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee considered a report which laid out its terms of reference future meeting dates.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the terms of reference be agreed for the 2018-19 Municipal Year;
- b) That the 2018-19 dates for the Committee's meetings be noted.

6. LETTER: MAGISTRACY AND LIVERY SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee noted a letter sent to the Livery regarding the role of the Magistracy and Livery Sub-Committee in December 2017. The Committee noted that there was a reference to the Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court's role in carrying out a vetting process to all candidates who apply for the Freedom in the letter.

RECEIVED.

7. DRAFT LETTER TO ACADEMIES - EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The Committee considered a letter to be sent to local academies which aimed to increase diversity and inclusion in respect to the Freedom of the City. The letter was considered following a report presented at the 9th June 2017 meeting of the Committee, where it was agreed that City of London Academies and family schools, as well as cadets organisations, should be written to by the

Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court to encourage them to apply for the Freedom of the City.

Members noted that the appended letter (which is written as if addressed to an academy) would, if agreed, be used as a template, and therefore will be tailored to the intended recipient as relevant.

In considering the letter, the Committee agreed that 'or recent past students' be added after 'The only proviso is that the candidates must be 18'.

RESOLVED – That the content of the letter (with the amendment made) be circulated to City academies and family schools, and cadets organisations.

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

There were none.

9. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That under section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

10. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

11. **UPDATE: HONORARY FREEDOM (TO FOLLOW)**

The Director of Communications returned to the meeting for the discussion of this item only.

The Committee considered a report of The Remembrancer, which provided an update on an Honorary Freedom.

RECEIVED.

Common Councilmen Ruby Sayed and Munsur Ali left the meeting following discussion of the item.

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

There were none.

13. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

14. LIST OF HEADS OF MISSIONS

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk regarding a list of Heads of Missions.

RECEIVED.

15. PROCESS FOR NOMINATING DIPLOMATIC/SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL FIGURES FOR THE FREEDOM

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk which set out a process for nominating diplomatic/significant political figures for the Freedom of the City.

RECEIVED.

16. FREEDOM BY SPECIAL NOMINATION - COMPOSITE LIST OF POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain which set out a composite list of recipients of the Freedom by Special Nomination and the progress of existing candidates.

RECEIVED.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was none.

The meeting ended at 15:10

Chairman

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