



General Purposes Committee of Aldermen

Date: TUESDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2021
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: HYBRID PUBLIC MEETING (ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY)
<https://youtu.be/Yo1w0-X11Js>

Members: Alderman Sir David Wootton (Chairman)
Alderman William Russell (Deputy Chairman)
The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alderman Vincent Thomas Keaveny
Alderman Ian Luder
Alderman Nick Anstee
Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow
Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley
Alderman Sir Charles Bowman
Alderman Sir Peter Estlin
Alderman & Sheriff Nicholas Lyons (SABTAC)
Alderman & Sheriff Alison Gowman
Alderman David Graves
Alderman John Garbutt
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Alderman Baroness Scotland
Alderman Robert Howard
Alderman Alastair King
Alderman Gregory Jones QC
Alderman Prem Goyal
Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney
Alderwoman Susan Langley
Alderman Bronek Masojada

Enquiries: Lorraine Brook
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Public access to the hybrid meeting

Members of the public can observe this hybrid public meeting at the below link:

<https://youtu.be/Yo1w0-X11Js>

A recording of the public element of the meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the meeting and will be accessible for up to one municipal year. Please note: on-line meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of a meeting: minutes are written and are accessible on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

**John Barradell
Town Clerk**

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public

1. APOLOGIES

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

3. MINUTES

To approve the public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 19th October 2021.

For Decision
(Pages 7 - 14)

4. PRESENTATION - HEART OF THE CITY

Maggie Berry OBE (Director, The Heart of the City) to be heard.

For Information

5. APPOINTMENT TO POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

To consider the appointment of Alderman and Sheriff Nicholas Lyons to serve on the Policy and Resources Committee.

For Decision

6. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN - EXTENSION TO WAIVER: LIVERY COMPANIES AND GUILDS

A report of the Town Clerk relative to action taken in accordance with the Court of Aldermen's urgency procedures since the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen on 19th October 2021.

For Information
(Pages 15 - 18)

7. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN: WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF DYERS - SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER

A report of the Town Clerk relative to action taken since the last meeting in respect of the Court of Aldermen's approval of a draft Supplemental Charter for the Worshipful Company of Dyers.

For Information
(Pages 19 - 20)

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

9. MAYORAL AND SHRIEVAL EXPENSES - APPOINTMENT OF THE ALDERMANIC DEPUTATION 2022-23

To appoint three Aldermen to serve on the Aldermanic Deputation (Mayoral and Shrieval Expenses) for 2022/23.

In 2021/2022 Aldermen Sir David Wootton, Sir Andrew Parmley and the late Sir Roger Gifford served on the Deputation.

For Decision

10. LIVERY CLOTH - AWARD OF ANNUAL GRANT

To award the annual Livery Cloth grant (£1,700).

For Decision

11. FUTURE MEETING MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Chairman to be heard.

For Decision

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

MOTION - That, in accordance with the Court of Aldermen's Disclosure Arrangement (Standing Order 25), the public shall be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen have determined, having had due regard to the Disclosure Arrangement, that disclosure should not be permitted.

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public

14. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

To approve the non-public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 19th October 2021.

For Decision
(Pages 21 - 24)

15. NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING ACTIONS LIST

To note the non-public outstanding actions in respect of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen's work programme.

For Information
(Pages 25 - 26)

16. REVIEW OF WAIVER: CONDUCT OF VIRTUAL BUSINESS BY LIVERY COMPANIES AND GUILDS

The Committee is asked to consider the guidance issued to Livery Companies and Guilds in April 2020 in response to Covid-19 and the conduct of business on a virtual basis.

For Decision

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

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

Confidential

19. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: PROPOSALS FOR THE ORGANISATIONAL DESIGN OF THE OFFICE OF THE LORD MAYOR AND MANSION HOUSE

A confidential report of the Executive Director, Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor relative to proposals for the organisational design of the Office of the Lord Mayor and Mansion House.

For Decision

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GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF ALDERMEN
Tuesday, 19 October 2021

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held
in Committee Rooms 3 and 4, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on
Tuesday, 19 October 2021 at 10.45 am

Present

Members:

Alderman Sir David Wootton (Chairman)
Alderman Ian Luder
Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley
Alderman Sir Charles Bowman
Alderman Sir Peter Estlin
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Alderman & Sheriff Alison Gowman
Alderman John Garbutt
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Alderman Robert Howard
Alderman Alastair King
Alderman Gregory Jones QC
Alderman & Sheriff Nicholas Lyons
Alderman Prem Goyal
Alderman Professor Emma Edhem
Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney
Alderwoman Susan Langley
Alderman Bronek Masojada

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Lorraine Brook	- Town Clerk's department
Rhiannon Leary	- Town Clerk's department
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Paul Double	- City Remembrancer
Sonia Virdee	- Chamberlain's department
Aqib Hussain	- Chamberlain's department
Caroline Jack	- Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor and Executive Director of Mansion House

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from The Rt. Hon the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, Alderman Nicholas Anstee, Alderman David Graves, Alderman Timothy Hailes, Alderman Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC and Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow.

At this point in the proceedings, the Chairman congratulated Alderman Vincent Keaveny upon his recent election as the Lord Mayor for 2021/22. He also extended the Committee's congratulations to Aldermen Alison Gowman and Nicholas Lyons upon them taking office as the Sheriffs for the year ensuing. The Chairman then commented on Aldermen Michael Mainelli and Alastair's King involvement, on behalf of the Government, with a trade mission to Djibouti; and Alderman Michael Mainelli's role on the Board of the Livery Companies Apprenticeship Scheme.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The Committee considered the public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 14 September 2021.

Alderman Goyal referred to his previous enquiry about access to the papers/minutes related to meetings of the Competitiveness Advisory Board notes and the Chairman advised that the matter would be raised, on his behalf, with the Chair of the Board.

With regards to item 3: Election Engagement Activities Update, the Chairman advised that the Policy and Resources Committee had been advised, last week, that the number of voters registering and the number of businesses registering to appoint voters were not as hoped. Work was underway to address this, but all Common Councillors and Aldermen were also encouraged to support the final push on registration, noting that the deadline for registration was 16 December 2021.

In response to a query about when a further update on registration data in individual Wards would be provided so Aldermen could support registration activities, the Town Clerk confirmed that he had asked that an update be provided to Members sooner rather than later. As to whether it would be possible to see a draft provisional Ward List before November, the Town Clerk undertook to take this back to the Electoral Services Team and confirmation be provided as soon as possible. It was acknowledged that whilst consideration of statutory requirements was important, there was a necessity to provide data to existing Common Councillors and Aldermen in good time ahead of the registration deadline.

In response to a query about GDPR, it was noted that a paper on the use of data provided for electoral services purposes had been drafted by the Elections Campaign Manager. The Town Clerk undertook to circulate this following the meeting.

RESOLVED: - That the public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 14 September 2021 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

Aldermanic Impact Report

The Chairman advised that following the discussion at the last meeting, the Aldermanic Impact Report would not be progressed at this stage, but it was noted that there was a need to draft a document that provided clarity about the role of Aldermen and the collective impact of the Court of Aldermen, including the work undertaken by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs. Members agreed that there was a need to explain the roles and the level of commitment from Aldermen, Sheriffs and the Lord Mayor in order to provide transparency internally and externally.

Legal Work Commissioned by the Court of Aldermen (cost implications)

It was noted that this matter would be addressed under item 14 of the non-public agenda.

4. REVIEWED AND UPDATED WARDMOTE BOOK

The Committee received a joint report of the Town Clerk and Chief Executive and the Comptroller and City Solicitor relative to the reviewed and updated Wardmote Book: the technical manual for Ward elections.

The Chairman advised Members that the report had been received by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 14 October 2021 and the following points had been made:-

- whilst the report had been presented to Members as an information item, Members felt that it was important that there were on-going opportunities for Members of the Court to debate the Wardmote Book.
- three substantive policy points were raised, these being:-
 - (i) in respect of page 5 of the Wardmote Book, at the Committee's request Counsel's opinion would shortly be requested by the Comptroller and City Solicitor on the issue of licenses and serviced offices;
 - (ii) on the issue of eligibility to stand for Aldermanic elections, an Act of Common Council was now being progressed by the Comptroller and City Solicitor;
 - (iii) as an Act of Common Council to address the issue of Aldermanic qualifications was to be progressed, it had been agreed that the issue of Representative Lord Mayors and their role at Wardmotes, as a mechanism to avoid conflicts of interest, also be dealt with in the Act of Common Council.

The Comptroller and City Solicitor confirmed that the Court of Aldermen would be sighted on the drafting of the proposed Act of Common Council in due course. He also invited any further comments in respect of the drafting of the Wardmote Book.

With regards to the issue of "workforce" and how this was determined, Members were advised that this point had been clarified in the Wardmote Book

but that there may need to be an evolutionary process to this aspect going forward.

With regards to the use of RLM's at Wardmotes, Members welcomed the flexibility that would be introduced through the Act of Common Council, widening things out in terms of both the Common Council and Aldermanic elections. In view of the Ward elections in March 2022 and the Aldermanic elections that were anticipated, it was agreed that the changes must be in place before March 2022.

With reference to page 16 (paragraph 8) of the Wardmote Book, the Chairman advised that an important drafting point had been raised ahead of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee by Alderman Howard and this had been passed to the Comptroller and City Solicitor for action.

With regards to use of "British Subject" in the Wardmote Book, the City Remembrancer confirmed that this was a convoluted topic. The meaning of "British Subject" depended on the Act to which it was referable, hence the confusion of application before and after 1981, as the term had changed over time. It was noted that the proposed Act of Common Council would allow for the correct terminology to be clarified as on-going references to different clauses ultimately caused confusion. Members were advised that where clarity about the terminology was required in the Wardmote Book, this would be provided.

In response to a query the Chairman confirmed that the issue of residency for Aldermanic candidates would be addressed.

Alderman Hughes-Penney referred to the requirement for new Aldermen to take the Oath of Allegiance to the Sovereign and the apparent contradiction if the qualification criteria were extended to all Commonwealth countries and the Republic of Ireland. Members discussed the issue, in the context of the global City; considerations around "Britishness", and the implications of making the qualification to being as wide as possible, whilst having due regard to other relevant constraints and constitutional sensitivities. The Remembrancer advised that the qualification aligned with other Offices of State and the request to sign the Accession document would be determined by the Sovereign.

In closing, the Chairman thanked the Comptroller and City Solicitor and the City Remembrancer for the work undertaken to update the Wardmote Book and to progress the actions arising from this meeting and the recent meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

Resolved:- That the updates to the City Corporation's Wardmote Book be noted.

5. **ALDERMANIC MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS 2022**

The Committee was due to consider a report of the Town Clerk and Chief Executive relative to the proposed schedule of Aldermanic elections and a revised programme of Aldermanic meetings in 2022. The Chairman advised Members that the way forward in terms of the elections timetable was still being

reviewed in order to maximise choices for the electorate and opportunities to enhance diversity amongst candidates. Consequently, the report would be considered at a future meeting.

6. **SHRIEVAL PLAN 2021/2022**

The Committee received the Shrieval Plan 2021/2022 which would be championed by Sheriff and Alderman Alison Gowman and Sheriff and Alderman Nicholas Lyons in 2021/2022. It was noted that the Plan outlined how the Sheriffs would support the Lord Mayor of the City of London, uphold the rule of law as custodians of the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey) and advance the City's engagement and influence across the three pillars of Community, Charity, and Commerce during their term of Office.

Alderman Gowman referred to the Shrieval priorities as set out in the report and which would be brought together through three key pillars that would form the focus of Shrieval activity, building on the experience and expertise of the Sheriffs in order to contribute to a flourishing society, shape outstanding environments and support a thriving economy.

With reference to the Old Bailey Lunches, Alderman Gowman advised that the lunches would resume this week and other events were being planned, including a themed lunch (property orientated) on 18 November 2021. It was noted that the Sheriffs would work closely with the Lord Mayor to ensure that Covid-recovery activities were prioritised in collaboration with the Lord Mayor. Increasing use of the Old Bailey as an event space would also be progressed.

With regards to the number of Old Bailey lunches that would be held, Members were advised that the number would vary between three to four lunches per week to ensure that the Judges' needs were taken into account and the lunches achieved maximum impact. This would result in a mixture of informal and formal luncheon arrangements so a broader range of guests, particularly younger guests, could best be accommodated.

The Chairman commended the Sheriffs and Officers in the formulation of the Shrieval Plan and, on behalf of the Committee, wished them every success for the coming year.

Resolved:- That the Shrieval Plan 2021-2022 be received.

7. **PRIVILEGED STATUS FOR 256 (CITY OF LONDON) FIELD HOSPITAL**

The Committee considered a report of the City Remembrancer setting out a case for conferring the status of a Privileged Corps of the City of London on 256 (City of London) Field Hospital.

The Lord-Mayor Elect advised that (City of London) Field Hospital would be providing the Guard of Honour at the Lord Mayor's Show 2021.

Resolved:- That –

- (i) The report be noted; and

- (ii) the Court of Aldermen be invited to endorse the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen's recommendation that the status of a Privileged Corps of the City of London be conferred upon 256 (City of London) Field Hospital.

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

There were no questions.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

With the Chairman's consent, the Committee considered the following items of urgent business:

Amendments to the Magistracy and Livery Sub-Committee's Terms of Reference

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk relative to amendments to the Magistracy and Livery Sub-Committee's terms of reference. Members were advised that following changes to the meeting management/ access to meetings arrangements of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen, the Sub-Committee's terms of reference had to be updated to make it clear that rights of access did not exist in respect of meetings of the Sub-Committee.

After considering of the proposed changes, an updated version of the Magistracy and Livery Sub-Committee's terms of reference was **AGREED**.

Resolved:- That the Magistracy and Livery Sub-committee's terms of reference be updated.

Global Investment Summit Dinner

Members took the opportunity to comment on the recent Global Investment summit dinner, which had well organised and a great success.

10. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That, in accordance with the Court of Aldermen's Disclosure Arrangement (Standing Order 25), the public shall be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen have determined, having had due regard to the Disclosure Arrangement, that disclosure should not be permitted.

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The Committee considered the non- public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 14 September 2021.

RESOLVED: - That the non-public minutes of the last meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen held on 14 September 2021 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

12. **NON-PUBLIC OUTSTANDING ACTIONS LIST**

The Committee considered the Non-Public Outstanding Actions List which had been updated since the last meeting on 14 September 2021.

Resolved: - That –

1. the Non-Public Outstanding Actions List be noted; and
2. completed items be removed from the list.

13. **MINUTES - MAGISTRACY AND LIVERY SUB (GENERAL PURPOSES) COMMITTEE**

The Committee received the draft non-public minutes of the last meeting of the Magistracy and Livery Sub (General Purposes) Committee which took place on 22 September 2021.

Resolved:- That the draft non-public minutes of the last meeting of the Magistracy and Livery Sub (General Purposes) Committee, which took place on 22 September 2021, be noted.

14. **LEGAL WORK COMMISSIONED BY THE COURT OF ALDERMEN (COST IMPLICATIONS)**

The Comptroller and City Solicitor provided an oral update for the Committee.

Resolved:- That the update be noted.

15. **PLATINUM JUBILEE ARRANGEMENTS**

The City Remembrancer updated the Committee in respect of the Platinum Jubilee arrangements.

Resolved:- That the City Remembrancer's update be noted.

16. **LORD MAYOR'S SHOW - UPDATE**

The Chair of the Lord Mayor's show Ltd provided an update for the Committee in respect of the 2021 Lord Mayor's Show.

Resolved:- That the update be noted.

17. **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

The Committee received the lists of forthcoming events and hospitality to be managed by the Events Teams at Mansion House and Guildhall (Remembrancer's Department).

Resolved:- That the lists of forthcoming events and hospitality to be managed by the Events Teams at Mansion House and Guildhall (Remembrancer's Department) be noted.

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

There were no questions.

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

With the Chairman's consent, three items of urgent business were considered by the Committee.

The meeting ended at 12.15 pm

Chairman

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Committee(s) General Purposes Committee of Aldermen	Date(s): 11 May 2021
Subject: Report of Action Taken - Refreshed guidance for Liveries and Guilds	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 8, 9, 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
Report of: Town Clerk and Chief Executive	For Information
Report author: Lorraine Brook, Principal Committee and Member Services Manager, Town Clerk's Department	

Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen and the Chairman of the Court of Aldermen, in accordance with Standing Order No. 46 (Court of Aldermen), relative to an extension to the waiver previously issued by the Court of Aldermen to enable Livery Companies and Guilds to conduct their business on a virtual basis.

Recommendation:

- that Members note the report.

Main Report

Ordinarily, the general expectation of the Court of Aldermen, as outlined in the guidance issued on the formation of new guilds or companies, would be that all Guild or Livery Company business should be conducted within the City boundaries. However, following the outbreak of Covid-19, given the Government's advice on social distancing and the introduction of periods of national lock-down as of March 2020, refreshed guidance for the Livery and Guilds regarding the conduct of company business, including court meetings and the binding of apprentices, was agreed by the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen and the Court of Aldermen in late March 2020. That guidance confirmed that Livery and Guild business could be conducted virtually and would be valid. On 28 April 2021, the Court of Aldermen reviewed the position in light of ongoing government restrictions and uncertainty as to when "normal" business may resume, and it agreed an extension to the waiver which was granted in March 2020.

Current position

1. The matter was not reviewed by the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen in October but was, with the consent of the Town Clerk, considered under the Court of Aldermen's urgency procedures (Standing Order 42) in November on the basis that further clarification had been requested by the Livery about the Court of aldermen's expectations and the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen would not meet before 7 December 2021.

Decision taken

2. It was agreed on 8 November 2021, by the Town Clerk following consultation with the Chairmen of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen and the Court of Aldermen, that the guidance currently in place in relation to the conduct of Guild and Livery Company business be extended until 31 March 2022. Such an extension will allow for the Livery's business to be managed effectively until this date and will provide some longer-term clarity for the Livery and the Guilds in respect of the Court of Aldermen's expectations.
3. The decision taken in accordance with Standing Order 46 is:-

That the Court of Aldermen resolves that the following guidance be issued to the clerks of Guilds and Livery companies who enquire about the conduct of their business during the current extraordinary circumstances:

- a) That, insofar as the Ordinances or By-Laws of any Company with Livery, Company without Livery or Guild contain restrictive or prescriptive provisions as to the location and timing of any meeting, election, installation or admission of any members or officers, the Court of Aldermen agrees to allow any reasonable variation to such provisions, to be determined by the Guild or Livery company concerned and to be valid until 31 March 2022.
 - b) That, these arrangements will allow for Livery meetings to take place virtually and for business to be conducted effectively until 31 March 2022 before which time the arrangements will be reviewed by the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen and the Court of Aldermen.
 - c) That, in particular, procedures adopted on the occasion of the binding of apprentices may be conducted virtually, subject to the requirement for the indentures to be entered within six months of the decision being taken in the Books of the Chamberlain of London.
4. The General Purposes Committee of Aldermen will review the decision in due course and consider the future position in respect of the conduct of Guild and Livery Company business, noting that more flexible ways of working are now bedded into most business practices.

Conclusion

5. Members are asked to note the report of action taken.

*Standing Order 46 states that: *“Where in the opinion of the Town Clerk, urgent matters arise which require a decision before the next meeting of the relevant committee or the Court, the Town Clerk shall refer the matter to the relevant Chairman, or in his/her absence the Deputy Chairman or in the Deputy Chairman’s absence the Senior Alderman, who shall decide whether it is necessary to call a special meeting or, alternatively, to authorise the officers to act.”*

Background papers

- *“Report of Action Taken - Refreshed guidance for Liveries and Guilds”*, General Purposes Committee of Aldermen on 5th July 2021

Contact

Lorraine Brook

Principal Committee and Member Services Manager

Town Clerk’s Department

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Committee(s) General Purposes Committee of Aldermen	Date(s): 7 December 2021
Subject: Report of Action Taken – Supplemental Charter for the Worshipful Company of Dyers	Public
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information
Report author: Rhiannon Leary, Town Clerk's Department	

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman of the Magistracy & Livery Sub-Committee, the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen, the senior Alderman (Alderman Luder) acting in place of the Deputy Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen and the Chairman of the Court of Aldermen, in accordance with Standing Order No. 46 (Court of Aldermen).

Recommendation:

- that members note the report.

Main Report

In July 2021 the Worshipful Company of Dyers presented a draft Supplemental Charter for approval to the Court of Aldermen via the Chamberlain's Court.

The draft Supplemental Charter sought to update elements of a Charter issued under Queen Anne in 1704, clarifying, among other matters, the name by which the Company is to be known, the composition of its membership and Court, the process of elections, the Company's objects and powers, and how its income and assets were to be applied. A schedule to the Supplemental Charter set out how the Wardens' accounts were to be audited, the oaths to be sworn by those joining the Company, and some disciplinary matters.

The Chair of the Magistracy and Livery Sub Committee and officers from the Chamberlain's Department and Remembrancer's Office made some initial observations to the Company in response to the draft, following which a revised draft was presented via the Chamberlain's Court in October 2021.

These observations were limited in scope and were largely confined to typographical changes and suggestions to aid clarity of meaning since the changes were otherwise acceptable and not controversial.

Current position

Due to imminent retirements at the Privy Council Office, it was noted that there would inevitably be delays to progressing this matter until such time that new staff were appointed and able to address outstanding work matters. The Magistracy & Livery Sub-Committee was not scheduled to meet until 16 December: any recommendation on the part of the Sub-Committee that the Court of Aldermen approve the Supplemental Charter would then have needed to go the next meeting of the Court of Aldermen, which at that stage would not take place until February 2021. In order to avoid delays therefore, it was agreed that it would be beneficial if the matter could be expedited by the City Corporation.

The decision taken in accordance with Standing Order 42 is:

that the Court of Aldermen agrees the Supplemental Charter and the Schedule to the Supplemental Charter for the Worshipful Company of Dyers.

Conclusion

Members are asked to note the report of action taken.

**Standing Order 46 states that: "Where in the opinion of the Town Clerk, urgent matters arise which require a decision before the next meeting of the relevant committee or the Court, the Town Clerk shall refer the matter to the relevant Chairman, or in his/her absence the Deputy Chairman or in the Deputy Chairman's absence the Senior Alderman, who shall decide whether it is necessary to call a special meeting or, alternatively, to authorise the officers to act."*

Rhiannon Leary

Executive Officer to the Court of Aldermen

Town Clerk's Department

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NB: Relevant background papers are available upon request.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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