

GRESHAM (CITY SIDE) COMMITTEE
Friday, 25 October 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Gresham (City Side) Committee held at Committee Room 2 - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 25 October 2024 at 10.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Charles Edward Lord (Chair)
Deputy Nighat Qureishi (Deputy Chair)
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Deputy Simon Duckworth OBE DL
Alderman Vincent Keaveny, CBE
Wendy Mead OBE
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Philip Woodhouse

Officers:

Gregory Moore	- Deputy Town Clerk
Benjamin Chen-Sverre	- Chamberlain's Department
Lochlan MacDonald	- Community and Children's Services Department
Liam Gillespie	- Community and Children's Services Department
Rebecca Southin	- Community and Children's Services Department
Joseph Anstee	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Alderman Michael Mainelli, Alderman Alexander Barr, Deputy Christopher Hayward and Deputy Henry Pollard.

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 19 July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

4. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk proposing review of the Committee's terms of reference. It was noted that no changes were proposed by officers.

RESOLVED – That the Committee approve the Terms of Reference for the Gresham Committee (City Side) for submission to the Court, as set out.

5. **REVENUE BUDGET 2024/25 AND ESTIMATE 2025/26**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain presents the annual submission of the revenue budgets, seeking approval for the 2024/25 latest revenue budget and the proposed revenue budget for 2025/26 for subsequent submission to the Finance Committee. The Chair introduced the item and noted that the agreement of funding for repair work for the Gresham Almshouses was subject to the Committee's consideration of the programme of proposed work later on the agenda.

In response to a question from a Member, the Town Clerk advised that whilst the proposed budget for 2025/26 did not explicitly cover the anticipated changes arising from the prospective Funding Agreement for Gresham College, the Chamberlain's Department were aware of the sums to be proposed and that these would be factored into the final budget for approval.

A Member highlighted the budget allocation to annual repair and maintenance, and queried whether this included itinerant matters such as asbestos inspection and arboriculture. The Town Clerk suggested that this be picked up as part of the Committee's deliberation of the future works at Item 11.

The Chair then drew the Committee's attention to the recommendations, which were agreed. The Committee also agreed to grant delegated authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to consider any amendments required to the budget for 2025/26 arising from the Gresham College Funding Agreement, should this be agreed by the Court of Common Council.

RESOLVED – That the Gresham (City Side) Committee:

- i) Note the final 2024/25 budget;
- ii) Agree that the proposed 2025/26 revenue budget reflects the Committee's objectives and approve the budget for submission to the Finance Committee;
- iii) Subject to approval of the proposed repair works to the Gresham Almshouses as set out at Item 11, agree the request to RASC to approve extra funding of £170,000 for repair works for the almshouses in 25/26; and
- iv) Delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, to consider any amendments required to the budget for 2025/26 arising from the Gresham College Funding Agreement, should this be agreed by the Court of Common Council.

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

There were no questions.

7. **ANY BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

There was no other business.

8. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below which relate to functions of the Court of Common Council not subject to the provisions of Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and which it is considered would not be in the best interests of the charity to disclose in a public meeting (engaging similar considerations as under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act).

9. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

10. **SIR THOMAS GRESHAM CHARITIES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023-24**

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain.

11. **GRESHAM ALMSHOUSES UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Community and Children's Services.

12. **FUTURE WORKS TO GRESHAM ALMSHOUSES**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Community and Children's Services.

13. **GRESHAM COLLECTION CONSERVATION: UPDATE ON RESTORATION ACTIVITY**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk.

14. **CHARITIES REVIEW UPDATE**

The Town Clerk provided an oral update on the corporate Charities Review.

15. **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk.

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

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

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

There were no questions.

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

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 11.25.

Chair

Contact Officer: zoe.lewis@cityoflondon.gov.uk