

OUTSIDE BODIES SUB (POLICY AND RESOURCES) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 11 October 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Outside Bodies Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee held at the Guildhall EC2 at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Simon Duckworth (Chairman)
Henry Colthurst
Deputy Tom Hoffman
Deputy Edward Lord
Jeremy Mayhew

Officers:

Angela Roach	- Principal Committee and Members Services Manager
Richard Holt	- Town Clerk's Office
Sadaf Anwar	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Anne Pietsch	- Chief Lawyer, Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Catherine McGuinness, Jeremy Simons and James Tumbridge.

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

Henry Colthurst declared an interest in item no. 7 as a Trustee of the City and Metropolitan Welfare Charity.

The Principal Committee and Members Services Manager advised that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee had nominated the Vice-Chairman, Simon Duckworth, by to serve as Chairman of the Sub-Committee. She undertook to look into whether the nomination needed to be ratified by the Committee itself. It was also noted that the appointment of a Deputy Chairman would be dealt with at the next meeting.

The Sub-Committee resolved that Mr Duckworth should take the Chair for the purposes of this meeting.

3. MINUTES

The public minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 2 February were approved.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk reminding the Sub-Committee of its terms of reference.

RESOLVED – That the terms of reference of the Sub-Committee be noted.

5. **OUTSIDE BODIES PROTOCOL**

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor setting out revisions to the Outside Bodies Protocol, both those which were approved at the last meeting of the Sub-Committee as well as additional amendments, including relating to the Members' Code of Conduct and mention of legal restrictions on eligibility to serve as a Director or Trustee.

Discussion ensued on the content of the Protocol. Amongst other things the following comments were made:-

- The Sub-Committee questioned the merits of the inclusion of a separate section for external nominees. It was suggested that the right of appointment and the right of nomination would benefit from further clarification;
- It was also suggested that it would be useful to establish a procedure on how appointments should be made in future. The Sub-Committee supported this and requested that officers look into this.
- Reference was made to the appointment of Governors on the Board of Governors of the Museum of London. It was noted that whilst the GLA appointed all its representatives directly, as part of its process the City Corporation considered nominations from London Councils and the Board itself to serve as its representatives. A Member advised of the history which he believed had led to this. He reminded Members that the government's appointees to the Board had been delegated to the GLA.
- Members noted that the Protocol was work in progress and that it would evolve with the inclusion of further information.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. the revisions made to the revisions to the Outside Bodies Protocol as set out in the report be approved and that it be further revised to accord with the above-mentioned comments; and
2. officers consider and prepare a draft procedure for the making of nominations and appointments by the City Corporation to be brought back to a future meeting for further consideration by Members.

6. **OUTSIDE BODIES SCHEDULE**

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk together with the schedule of outside bodies.

It was noted that the vacancies column of the Schedule needed to be updated and also suggested that, for ease, the schedule should give an indication of when it was last updated. The Principal Committee and Members Services Manager undertook to revise the schedule accordingly.

During further discussion, amongst other things, the following comments were made:-

- Mr Mayhew advised that he was no longer a company member of the City of London Academies Trust and that he was now a Governor on the Board of Governor of the Museum of London. He also queried whether the City Arts Trust Ltd had been wound up;
- Reference was made to Homerton University Hospital and whether its stated link to the City Corporation's strategic aims i.e. the reference to policing was correct;
- A Member questioned whether the representative on London Councils Pensions CIV Committee should be a representative of the Policy and Resources Committee rather than the Chairman of that Committee and it was noted that the City Corporation's current representative was the previous Policy and Resources Chairman who had also been elected Chairman of that body;
- It was pointed out that the City Corporation was currently represented on the School Governor One Stop Shop (SGOSS) by an officer and that it was proposed that this should be changed to an elected Member serving on the Education Board. Whilst Members expressed support for this, it was noted that SGOSS was a corporate body and therefore would take a view on this.
- It was noted that the work of SGOSS fell within the remit of Education Board and therefore Members were supportive of a report being submitted to that Board explaining the City's current relationship with SGOSS and the rationale for a change to the City Corporation's representation from an officer to an elected Member, to inform the exercise of the City's rights in this case.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. the Outside Bodies Schedule be revised as set out above; and
2. a report be submitted to the Education Board explaining the City's current relationship with SGOSS and the rationale for a change to the City Corporation's representation from an officer to an elected Member, to inform the exercise of the City's rights in this case.

7. **VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS**

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the vacancies on three charities. It also dealt with a request for the City Corporation to consider reducing its number of appointees on the City & Metropolitan Welfare Charity and proposed changes to the pool from which members of Gresham College Council could be drawn.

It was noted that the City Corporation's current appointees on the City & Metropolitan Welfare Charity were Mr Colthurst and Mr Wheatley and not Mr Fletcher as stated in the report.

The Sub-Committee proceeded to consider each recommendation in turn.

St Luke's Parochial Trust (207497) - Members supported filling the vacancy on this Charity.

The Mitchell City of London Charity (207342) and Mitchell City of London Educational Foundation (312499) – Members supported filling the vacancies on these Charities.

Museum of London (1139250) - Members noted that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee had met with the Board's nominee, Sonita Alleyne, and that the Chairman had confirmed that she was content to support Ms Alleyne's nomination for appointment as a City Corporation Governor on the Board.

City & Metropolitan Welfare Charity (205943) (CMWC) – Members noted that a request had been received from the Clerk to the Trustees of the CMWC asking the City Corporation to consider reducing its number of appointees on this body from two to one or to consider relinquishing its appointment rights altogether. A Member, who was also a Trustee, explained that the request had been made as the Charity wished to widen its engagement with the Livery. Going forward, the Charity aim was to refocus its objectives primarily on the welfare of prisoners.

The Chairman stated that whilst he understood the Charity's wish to broaden the pool from which its members could be drawn, he did not support the City Corporation relinquishing its appointment rights altogether. Members supported his sentiments and questioned whether any of the other bodies with appointment rights had been asked to reduce their numbers also. It was suggested that the City Corporation should only consider a reduction if the other bodies with appointment rights had been asked to do the same. The Sub-Committee supported this and agreed that no change be made to the City Corporation's appointment rights at this stage and that this be conveyed to the Clerk to the Trustees of the CMWC accordingly.

Gresham College (1039962) – Members discussed the merits of the City Corporation's appointments on the Gresham College Council being drawn from the wider membership of the Court of Common Council (excluding those

Members already serving on the Gresham (City Side) Committee). The Chairman, who was also the Deputy Chairman of the City Side Committee, explained the Committee's desire to separate the roles of City elected Members for the City Corporation as the funder of the college and as directors responsible for the governance of the College to avoid any possible conflict. A Member, who was also a member of the Council, expressed his concern that such a change would place the City Corporation in a different position to the Mercers Company and advised that the Council had also expressed concern about this. A number of arguments were advanced for and against the proposal. It was pointed out that the Gresham (City Side) Committee had also suggested that thought should be given to allowing external people with a close connection to the City to also apply to serve on the Council. A Member stated that his understanding was that whilst expressions of interest would be sought from the Court of Common Council, the intention was that appointments would be made by the Gresham (City Side) Committee itself.

After further discussion the Sub-Committee concluded that further information was required in order to make an informed decision. It was therefore agreed that the matter should be referred back to the Gresham (City Side) Committee to clarify exactly what it envisaged.

RESOLVED – that Sonita Alleyne be appointed as a City Corporation Governor on the Board of Governors of the Museum of London, as nominated by the Board and supported by the Chairman of the Grand Committee and that it be recommended to the Policy and Resources Committee that:-

1. approval be given to filling the vacancy on each of the following outside bodies and to those vacancies being advertised to the Court of Common Council in the usual manner:-
 - St Luke's Parochial Trust in the room of the late John Barker
 - The Mitchell City of London Charity and Mitchell City of London Educational Foundation in the room of Deputy Joyce Nash
2. the City & Metropolitan Welfare Charity be advised that its request for the City Corporation to reduce its number of appointees on the Charity from two to one or, if willing, to relinquish appointment rights altogether was not supported at this stage. The City Corporation would however be willing to consider reducing to one representative if the other bodies with appointment rights were being asked to do the same; and
3. the proposal for future appointments to Gresham College Council to be drawn from the wider membership of the Court of Common Council (with Members of the Gresham (City Side) Committee being exempt from serving) be referred back to the Gresham City Side Committee to clarify exactly what it envisaged.

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

There were no questions.

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

There was no other business.

10. **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 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item

11 - 12

Paragraph

3

Part 2 – Non-Public Agenda

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 2 February were approved.

12. **SPITALFIELDS MARKET COMMUNITY TRUST**

The Sub-Committee considered and agreed a report of the Comptroller and City Solicitor concerning a proposal to restore the Spitalfields Market Community Trust.

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

There were no questions.

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

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 3.15pm

Chairman

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