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To: Councillor Reynolds, Master of Mortifications; Councillor Crockett, the Lord Provost; Councillor Mason; and Mr Colin G Taylor, Lord Dean of Guild.

Town House,  
ABERDEEN 21 August 2017

## **GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE**

The Members of the **GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in **Committee Room 5 - Town House** on **TUESDAY, 29 AUGUST 2017 at 11.00 am.**

FRASER BELL  
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

### **B U S I N E S S**

- 1 Minute of Previous Meeting of 1 March 2017 - for approval (Pages 1 - 4)
- 2 Lord Dean of Guild Report (Pages 5 - 6)
- 3 Review of Allowances (Pages 7 - 8)
- 4 Date of Next Meeting  
Wednesday, 14 March 2018 at 11.00am

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## **GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE**

ABERDEEN, 1 March 2017. Minute of Meeting of the GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS SUB COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Finlayson, Master of Mortifications, Chairperson; and Councillor George Adam, the Lord Provost; Councillor Noble and Mr Colin G Taylor, Lord Dean of Guild.

**The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be found at:**

<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=419&MIId=4431&Ver=4>

**Please note that if any changes are made to this minute at the point of approval, these will be outlined in the subsequent minute and this document will not be retrospectively altered.**

### **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. The Sub Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 1 September 2016.

#### **The Sub Committee resolved:**

to approve the minute.

### **LORD DEAN OF GUILD REPORT**

2. The Sub Committee had before it a paper by the Lord Dean which updated the Sub Committee on various ongoing projects.

The Lord Dean advised that the Press and Journal newspaper had reported on the possible Robert the Bruce celebrations in 2019 which would mark the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the granting of the freedom lands to the Burgesses of Aberdeen.

With reference to the Burgess Awards (article 4 of the minute of 21 April 2016 refers), the Lord Dean advised that the scheme would be relaunched as the 'Guildry Awards' with a civic function due to be held on 6 March 2017 and provided details of key guests from various organisations within the city who would be involved in publicising the awards to students to encourage uptake. The Lord Dean advised that applications for funding would be submitted to Mr Ciaran Monaghan, Head of Service, Office of Chief Executive, Aberdeen City Council and it was likely that applications would be reviewed by Mr Monaghan, Mr Fred Dalgarno, former Dean of Guild and the current Lord Dean.

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Mr James Hashmi, Reporting and Monitoring Manager advised that there was no overall maximum grant figure stated within the Guildry records but generally funding of up to £10,000 had been available in previous years with the average award to an individual being in the region of £2,000.

**The Sub Committee resolved:**

to note the paper and updates provided.

**GOVERNANCE REVIEW - GUILDRY TRUST DEED - CG/17/018**

3. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Interim Director of Corporate Governance which provided an update on the ongoing work to finalise a revised constitution for the Guildry and Mortifications Fund for approval by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

**The report recommended:**

That the Sub Committee –

- (a) note the proposed plans on how funding would be granted in accordance with the revised Charitable purposes; and
- (b) instruct the Council's Head of Finance and Head of Legal and Democratic Services to jointly develop a process for applying for, and awarding funding which would be in compliance with OSCR requirements.

Ms Kundai Phute, Solicitor, advised that following advice and further consideration of the matter, it was recommended that the report be referred to Council for approval of the following revised recommendations:

**To recommend that:**

- (a) the Council notes the proposed plans for how funding would be awarded by the Guildry and Mortifications Trust in accordance with the Trust's revised Charitable trust purposes;
- (b) the Council instructs the Head of Finance and Head of Legal and Democratic Services jointly, and in consultation with the Convenor of the Sub Committee, to develop a process for applying for and awarding such funding, which process would be in compliance with OSCR requirements;
- (c) The Council amends the Terms of Reference of the Sub Committee to delegate power to it to consider, assess and approve or decline any applications for such funding made to it;
- (d) the Council instructs the Head of Finance and Head of Legal and Democratic Services to work in collaboration with Aberdeen Council of Voluntary

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Organisations (ACVO) and the Guildry of Aberdeen to raise awareness of the revised Charitable trust purposes and the above process;

- (e) The Council instructs the Sub Committee to report back to it annually on the administration of the Trust, including any such funding awards; and
- (f) the Council instructs the Head of Finance and Head of Legal and Democratic Services jointly, and in consultation with the Convenor of the Sub Committee, to take such other actions as may be necessary or expedient in order to progress and finalise the reorganisation of the Trust.

Ms Phute spoke to the report and advised members that the revised scope of the Guildry and Mortifications Trust Fund would be broadened whilst retaining the 'spirit of the Trust' to enable funds to be awarded to any student residing or studying within the city but not restricted to those students who may be invited to join the Burgesses in the future.

Ms Phute further advised that OSCR were particularly interested in how people could access funds held by the Trust. In this regard, Ms Phute advised that the three main beneficiaries would be students; the Burgesses of the Guild and their family members; and charities and organisations based in the city which aimed to assist elderly people, those with ill health or disability and those suffering from financial hardship, as outlined in Appendix B to the report.

With reference to the revised recommendations, it was proposed that a meeting between the Lord Dean, Finance and Legal and Democratic Services be arranged to prepare a report which would be considered at a special meeting of the Sub Committee before submission to full Council for approval.

### **The Sub Committee resolved:**

- (i) to refer the report and the revised recommendations to Council for approval; and
- (ii) to arrange a meeting with the Lord Dean and key officers to prepare a report in line with recommendations for consideration at a special meeting of the Sub Committee prior to submission to full Council for approval.

### **AOCB**

#### **4. A Rickart's Tomb Restoration**

Mr Hashmi advised that restoration of the Rickart's Tomb (article 3 of the minute of meeting of 1 March 2016 refers) was progressing with paint and stone samples currently awaiting approval by Scottish Heritage.

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**B Hamilton Monument Repair**

Mr Hashmi advised that following the award of £2,000 from the Graveyards Mortification Fund towards restoration of the Hamilton Monument within St Nicholas Kirkyard (article 3 of the minute of meeting of 21 January 2015 refers) invitations to tender for the work would be issued shortly.

**The Sub Committee resolved:**

to note the updates provided.

**VALEDICTORY**

5. The Chairperson acknowledged that it was the last scheduled meeting of the Sub Committee before the forthcoming local elections, and expressed his thanks to officers for their support and for the servicing of the Sub Committee, and members for their diligence during their membership on the Sub Committee and advised that he had found the work of the Sub Committee interesting and educational.

The Lord Dean thanked the Chairperson for his support and leadership during his time as Chair.

**The Sub Committee resolved:**

to concur with the remarks of the Lord Dean.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

6. The Sub Committee noted that it was hoped that an additional meeting would be held during early April to consider the report regarding the Deed of Trust and that the next scheduled meeting of the Sub Committee would be on 1 September 2017 at 11.00am.

- **Andrew Finlayson, Master of Mortifications, Chairperson.**



## Report to Guildry & Mortifications Funds Committee 29/08/2017

The committee will recall the relaunch of the 'Burgess Awards' in partnership with Aberdeen City Council. The guidelines allow for grants of up to £10,000 to support anyone resident in Aberdeen who wishes to further their scope of education or chosen career and who may be a person fit to be appointed as a Burgess in due course. We have received three applications and a panel chaired by Past Dean Fred Dalgarno will shortly consider these.

With regard to the Constitution of the Burgesses, Officers of the Council have been working with us and by the date of this meeting I hope that Council will have approved the proposals which can then be submitted to OSCR.

Finally, with regard to Burgess regalia, there is a shortage of scarves for ladies, also possibly a need for there to be a new style of gentlemen's tie, and in the past when new stocks of these were ordered they were funded by the Council with repayment in instalments in line with sales and presentations. I will definitely revert with figures in due course, meanwhile I will appreciate the committee's **approval in principle** to continue previous practice ?

**Colin G. Taylor**  
Aberdeen

**Lord Dean of Guild of the City and Royal Burgh of**

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**ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL**  
**GUILDRY FUNDS - REVIEW OF ALLOWANCES - May 2017**

**History of Allowances**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>MAY</u>		<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Burgesses	1350	1400	1470	1520	1600	1680	1765	1855	1950	2050
Widows of Burgesses	1350	1400	1470	1520	1600	1680	1765	1855	1950	2050
Daughters of Burgesses	1250	1300	1370	1410	1480	1560	1640	1725	1815	1905
Number of persons receiving allowances										
Burgesses	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Widows of Burgesses	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2
Daughters of Burgesses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Assuming a 3% increase in the allowances rounded

Burgesses	0	2115	£0
Widows/Widowers of Burgesses	2	2115	£4,230
Daughters/Sons of Burgess	<u>0</u>	1965	<u>£0</u>
	<u>2</u>		<u>£4,230</u>

or continue at 5% increase rounded

Burgesses	0	2155	£0
Widows/Widowers of Burgesses	2	2155	£4,310
Daughters/Sons of Burgess	<u>0</u>	2000	<u>£0</u>
	<u>2</u>		<u>£4,310</u>

**Basic Retirement Pension**

Rates From -	<u>Single</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Increase</u>
	<u>Person</u>		<u>Couple</u>	
April 2007	87.30	4%	139.60	4%
April 2008	90.7	4%	145.05	4%
April 2009	95.25	5%	152.30	5%
April 2010	97.65	3%	156.15	3%
April 2011	102.15	5%	163.35	5%
April 2012	107.45	5%	171.85	5%
April 2013	110.15	3%	176.15	3%
April 2014	113.10	3%	180.90	3%
April 2015	115.95	3%	185.45	3%
April 2016	119.30	3%	190.80	3%
April 2017	122.30	3%	195.60	3%

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