



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 3 September 2020

GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE

The Members of the **GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in **Committee Room 2 - Town House** on **WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2020 at 10.30 am.**

PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU WISH TO JOIN ON MICROSOFT TEAMS

FRASER BELL
CHIEF OFFICER - GOVERNANCE

BUSINESS

1. Minute of Previous Meeting of 10 December 2019 – for approval
2. Guildry Funds – Review of Allowances
3. Lord Dean of Guild Report and Verbal Update
4. Date of Next Meeting – 23 February 2021, at 10.30am

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Emma Robertson, emmrobertson@aberdeencity.gov.uk or tel 01224 522499

GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 10 December 2019. Minute of Meeting of the GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Reynolds, Master of Mortifications, Convener; and Councillor Crockett, the Lord Provost, Councillor Houghton (as a substitute for Councillor Mason MSP) and Colin Taylor, Lord Dean of Guild.

Also Present: Robert Gilmour (Finance), Kundai Sinclair (Legal) and Emma Robertson (Clerk).

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 16 MAY 2019

1. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 16 May 2019 for approval.

The Committee resolved:-
to approve the minute.

LORD DEAN OF GUILD REPORT

2. The Committee had before it a paper from the Lord Dean which provided an update on recent activities and business. The Lord Dean reported that today was the 700th anniversary of the signing of the Stocket Charter by King Robert the Bruce. He advised that a talk from the City Archivist was taking place at the Cowdray Hall this evening launching a programme of events taking place throughout 2020.

The Committee noted that discussions were continuing between Aberdeen City Council Legal Services and OSCR regarding the wording of the Trust constitution.

The Committee resolved:-
(i) to note the update; and
(ii) to thank the Lord Dean for his endeavours.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3. The Committee noted that the next scheduled meeting date would be on 4 March 2020 at 2pm.

- **John Reynolds, Master of Mortifications, Convener.**

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**ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
GUILDRY FUNDS - REVIEW OF ALLOWANCES - May 2020**

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>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
					<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>							
Burgesses	1350	1400	1470	1520	1600	1680	1765	1855	1950	2050	2155	2220	2335
Widows of Burgesses	1350	1400	1470	1520	1600	1680	1765	1855	1950	2050	2155	2220	2335
Daughters of Burgesses	1250	1300	1370	1410	1480	1560	1640	1725	1815	1905	2000	2060	2165
Number of persons receiving allowances													
Burgesses	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Widows of Burgesses	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Daughters of Burgesses	0	0	0	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>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

A 3.9% increase in the allowances rounded

Burgesses	0	2426	£0
Widows/Widowers of Burgesses	2	2426	£4,852
Daughters/Sons of Burgess	0	2249	£0
	<u>2</u>	<u>4675</u>	<u>£4,852</u>

or at 5% increase rounded

Burgesses	0	2452	£0
Widows/Widowers of Burgesses	2	2452	£4,904
Daughters/Sons of Burgess	0	2273	£0
	<u>2</u>	<u>4725</u>	<u>£4,904</u>

In 19/20 a 5% increase was awarded

Basic Retirement Pension

Rates From -	<u>Single Person</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Married Couple</u>	<u>Increase</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%
April 2018	125.97	3%	201.47	3%
April 2019	129.20	3%	206.65	3%
April 2020	134.25	3.9%	214.7	3.9%

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Report to Guildry & Mortifications Funds Committee 23/04/2020 by Colin G. Taylor, Lord Dean of Guild of the City and Royal Burgh of Aberdeen

We continue to receive nominations which is pleasing, when these are assessed for recommendation to the Council for admission as a Burgess we strictly adhere to following criteria thus recognising and honouring those whom we consider are worthy because they have contributed or are actively contributing to the community, 'OUR CITY'. The criteria are noted here, above all we consider the final one to be most important

Each Proposer has to certify and attest that the Nominee:

- *is a resident of or has a business address in the City of Aberdeen*
- *is a person of good fame and character*
- *is at least 25 years of age*
- *has some years' experience in industry, commerce or the professions*
- *holds or has held a position of responsibility in his/her business or organisation*
- *has shown involvement in activities outwith his/her occupation which are of benefit to the community or City*

Other than our monthly programme of lunches and evening events, many Burgesses are active on a variety of projects each of which is linked to the Council and civic interests.

Recognising the 1313 and 1319 Charters by King Robert the Bruce (700th anniversary) to the City, often referred to as the Granting of the Freedom lands, projects include the intention to plant 700 trees, install decorated book benches featuring historic events (illustration of examples attached) nearby each or most of the city's schools, and to feature the 67 March Stones which are unique in Scotland and are a reminder of a very important and ancient part of Aberdeen's heritage. They are the property of the Council and belong to the Council forever, I believe they are category 'B' listed structures and so protected by law. It is felt that it is incumbent upon all of us in the early years of the 21st century to be aware of them and their historical significance. In 2007, the Burgesses initiated a scheme to promote awareness of the Freedom Lands and the March Stones, each Stone was allocated a 'Guardian' or 'Guardians' who would care for its safety and appearance. The list of Guardians has recently been updated and there is a full set. It has been known for some time that two Stones are missing, by the enthusiasm and dedication of individual Burgesses these are to be replaced: also, a broken Stone has been repaired. Another is thought to be at risk by plans to create the so-called 'Berryden Corridor' and we are 'on the case'.

Finally, the 'OSCR Saga' about which I have been reporting for some time. Some progress has been made, I together with the Past Dean and the Council's Head of Finance had what I believe was a constructive meeting with OSCR Executives at their Dundee office, we are now working together to re-draft Trust wordings which, we hope, will achieve a workable solution for the future.



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