

## **GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE**

ABERDEEN, 5 December 2022. Minute of Meeting of the GUILDRY AND MORTIFICATION FUNDS COMMITTEE. PRESENT:- Lord Provost David Cameron, Master of Mortifications, Convener; Depute Provost, Councillor Delaney; and Sylvia Halkerston, Lord Dean of Guild.

Also Present: Aileen Duncan, Robert Gilmour, Steven Inglis, Martyn Orchard and Gogo Okafor (Aberdeen City Council).

### **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

1. The Convener welcomed all to the meeting and informed that Mrs Sylvia Halkerston had replaced Colin Taylor as the Lord Dean of Guild earlier in the year.

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor Bonsell.

#### **The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) to welcome Sylvia Halkerston as the new Lord Dean of Guild; and
- (ii) to note the apologies from Councillor Bonsell.

### **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 20 DECEMBER 2021 - FOR APPROVAL**

2. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 20 December 2021 for approval.

#### **The Committee resolved:-**

to approve the minute.

### **GUILDRY FUND - REVIEW OF ALLOWANCES**

3. The Committee had before it a paper by the Chief Officer - Finance which (a) provided information concerning (1) the amount of allowances paid from Guildry fund to Burgesses of Guild, widows and widowers of Burgesses and children of Burgesses from 2007 to 2021; and (2) the number of people receiving allowances for the same period; and (b) proposed that the allowances be increased either by 2% or 5% rounded up to the nearest £1.

Ms Aileen Duncan, Finance Development officer, highlighted that no allowances were currently being paid as the most recent recipients had passed away, however it was prudent to consider increasing the allowance for the current year as other people may be eligible.

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### **The Committee resolved:-**

to recommend to Council that the following increase (5%) in annual allowances be approved backdated from 1 May 2022:-

Gildry Fund Allowance	Present Allowance	Proposed Allowance
Burgesses	£2, 575	£2,704
Widows/ Widowers of Burgesses	£2, 575	£2,704
Children of Burgesses	£2,387	£2,506

### **REVISED CONSTITUTION**

4. The Committee had before it a report by the Chief Officer – Governance which consulted on a proposal for a revised constitution for the City of Aberdeen Council Guildry and Mortification Funds (charity number SC011857).

### **The report recommended: -**

that the Committee: -

- (a) note and approve, as a consultee, the proposed revised constitution for the City of Aberdeen Council Guildry & Mortification Funds (charity number SC011857) (“the charity”) in Appendix A;
- (b) note that the Chief Officer - Governance would submit a proposed revised constitution for the charity to a meeting of Council (as sole trustee of the charity) for its approval and thereafter submit it to the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) for its approval.

Mr Steven Inglis, Legal Services, spoke to the report highlighting the key elements, and advised that it was the intention for the report to be referred to the full council on 14 December 2021.

### **The Committee resolved: -**

to approve the recommendations.

### **LORD DEAN OF GUILD REPORT- VERBAL**

5. The Committee received a verbal update from Lord Dean of Guild on the following-

- that she had assumed office in May 2022;
- that more reports would be provided at future meetings;
- that she had approached the Incorporated Trades regarding the growth of the city; and

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- that she had sought for the Burgess register to be cleared with assistance and support from Finance and Legal teams of Aberdeen City Council.

**The Committee resolved: -**

to note the verbal update provided.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

6. The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be held in 2023 as and when required.

- **David Cameron, The Lord Provost, Master of Mortifications, Convener.**