Title of Report: Representation on Outside Bodies and Appointment to Lowestoft Charter Trustees Working Group and Grants Committee

Meeting Date: Monday 15 December 2014

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Is the report Open or Exempt?: Open

MATTER FOR DECISION

To consider re-appointments of Lowestoft Charter Trustee (LCT) representatives onto Outside Bodies and LCT Committees.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATIONS HELD

Consultation with relevant Outside Bodies as required.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

It is good practice for the LCT to regularly review the scope and principles for making appointments to Outside Bodies. When a vacancy occurs mid office, consultation is undertaken with the Mayor of Lowestoft and if appropriate political Group Leaders in order to seek replacement representation. Such appointments are then ratified at the next formal LCT meeting.

Re-appointments to the LCT Working Group and Grants Committee is needed to ensure that the membership of these bodies is up-to-date.

BACKGROUND

1 Appointment of Outside Bodies

1.1 The Lowestoft Charter Trustees (LCT) has in the past nominated representatives to sit on a number of Outside Bodies at the Annual LCT Meeting in June each year.

Lowestoft in Bloom

1.2 The aims of Lowestoft in Bloom are to:

- Promotes floral displays, roundabouts, gardens and hanging baskets with help from Waveney District Council and the private sector.
- Develops community partnerships with the local authority in providing floral displays by business, public and private areas
- Addresses environmental issues and encourages public pride in Lowestoft.

1.3 At the Annual LCT Meeting held on 9 June 2014, Councillor Janet Craig was appointed as one of two representatives to sit on Lowestoft in Bloom on behalf of the LCT. However, since that time, Councillor Craig has been appointed to the Citizens Advice Bureau as a Suffolk County Council representative and unfortunately the meeting dates for these two organisations clash.

1.4 Councillor Craig has therefore tendered her resignation as a LCT representative on Lowestoft in Bloom and so a replacement Member appointment is sought to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the current municipal year.

Oulton Poor’s Land Charity

1.5 Oulton Poor’s Land Charity distributes income from the Marshes (which is land owned by the charity) to people in need in the village of Oulton.

1.6 The charity is comprised of 6 trustees, including the Rector of the Parish, who is the ex-officio Chairman. Two of the trustees must represent the Parish Council and the District Council. Meetings are held 3 times a year and any decision needs unanimous agreement.

1.7 The LCT representative on Oulton Poor’s Land Charity since 3 June 2010 was Mr G Hawes. However, having recently clarified membership with the Secretary for the Oulton Poor’s Land Charity, it is now apparent that Mr Hawes is a trustee of the charity by virtue of his membership of Oulton Parish Council (not the District Council or the Lowestoft Charter Trustees).

1.8 Since the above information came to light and following consultation with the then Mayor of Lowestoft (Councillor R Bellham), Councillor Len Jacklin has been attending meetings of the Oulton Poor’s Land Charity as one of two Elected Members for the Oulton Ward. Councillor Peter Collecott, the other Ward Member for Oulton is already a trustee for the Oulton Poor’s Land Charity by virtue of his membership on Oulton Parish Council.

1.8 Approval is sought to ratify the informal arrangement for Councillor Len Jacklin to represent the LCT on the Oulton Poor’s Land Charity for the remainder of his current term of office.

2. Appointment to LCT Working Group and LCT Grants Committee

Lowestoft Chartered Trustees Working Group

2.1 At the LCT Annual Meeting held on 9 June 2014, a LCT Working Group was established with a remit to explore costed options for the provision of future support for the Mayor of Lowestoft and report back to a future meeting. The Working Group was also requested to consider the future provision of an honours board for recording the terms of office for past Mayors of Lowestoft.

2.2 The membership of the LCT Working Group at that time was the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft (Councillors R Bellham and M Cherry respectively) and Councillors Barker, Byatt, Collecott and S Webb.

2.3 Following the recent sad passing of Councillor Bellham, it is necessary to re-appoint to this Working Group, dependent upon the outcome of the appointment of a new Mayor of Lowestoft for the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year, which will be considered as Agenda Item 3.

2.4 In addition, Councillor Peter Byatt is not currently able to participate as part of the Working Group given his on-going health issues and so following consultation with the Labour Group Leader, it is proposed that Councillor Byatt be replaced on this Working Group by Councillor Len Jacklin for the remainder of his current term of office.
Lowestoft Charter Trustees Grants Committee

2.5 A LCT Grants Committee was established on 13 February 2013 and re-appointed to at the LCT Annual Meeting held on 9 June 2014.

2.6 The Grants Committee needs to be comprised of the Lowestoft Town Mayor and six other LCT Trustees and has delegated authority to administer the allocation of funds within the approved budget set aside each year for grant assistance to local organisations.

2.7 Membership of the LCT Grants Committee for 2014/15, as agreed at the LCT Annual Meeting was:

The Mayor of Lowestoft (Councillor R Bellham) and Councillors S Ardley, D Coulam, I Graham, F Mortimer, T Sullivan and S Webb.

2.8 The newly appointed Mayor of Lowestoft needs to sit on the Grants Committee and so approval is sought for revised representation on this body, pending the appointment of a new Mayor of Lowestoft for the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To ensure that Lowestoft Charter Trustee representation on Outside Bodies and LCT Working Groups and Committees is up-to-date.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That ONE representative be appointed to Lowestoft in Bloom for the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year.

2. That Councillor L Jacklin be appointed to Oulton Poor’s Land Charity for the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year.

3. That the following Members be appointed / re-appointed to the LCT Working Group the remainder of the 2014/15 municipal year:

New Mayor of Lowestoft
Deputy Mayor – Councillor M Cherry
Councillors S Barker, P Collecott, L Jacklin and S Webb

4. That the following Members be appointed / re-appointed to the LCT Grants Committee for the remainder of 2014/15:

New Lowestoft of Mayor

BACKGROUND PAPERS - None