MATTER FOR DECISION

To consider nominations received for the appointment of a Town Mayor of Lowestoft and for a Deputy Mayor for 2015/16.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATIONS HELD

None. The Constitution for the Lowestoft Charter Trustees (LCT) dictates that nominations for the position of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft must be received from members of the Lowestoft Charter Trustees only.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Under the Lowestoft Charter Trustees’ Constitution nominations can be considered each year for the appointment of a Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft, although the Lowestoft Charter Trustees do not have to appoint either a Mayor or Deputy Mayor. However, as the town of Lowestoft is unparished and given the population and size of Lowestoft, the local community can identify with and benefit from the appointment of a specific civic figurehead for Lowestoft, similar to that in place for Town Councils across Waveney.

BACKGROUND

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report outlines the circumstances under which the Lowestoft Charter Trustees can elect a Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft.

1.2 The Lowestoft Charter Trustees are constituted as a body corporate by Section 246 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the appropriate statutory order provides that the first items of business at the Annual Meeting shall be the election of a Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft. The Charter Trustees may decide not to elect anyone to these offices if they so wish.
1.3 The LCT Constitution provides that any candidate for the offices of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft must be nominated in writing signed by a proposer and seconder and two other Charter Trustees and such nominations must be served on the Chief Executive as Clerk to the Trustees, at least 24 hours before the election takes place.

1.4 Nomination papers have been sent out to all Lowestoft Charter Trustee Members and any nominations received will be reported at the Lowestoft Charter Trustee meeting on 8 June 2015.

1.5 Any newly appointed Mayor of Lowestoft will act as the Chairman of the Lowestoft Charter Trustees at its meetings. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will preside. In the absence of both a Mayor and Deputy Mayor, the Lowestoft Charter Trustees will appoint a Chairman from the Lowestoft Charter Trustee membership present for that meeting.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

To ensure that due process is followed for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft in accordance with the Lowestoft Charter Trustees Constitution and good governance principles.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Lowestoft Charter Trustees consider any nominations received for the following civic positions for 2015/16:

(a) The Mayor of Lowestoft
(b) The Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>Nomination Forms received for the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Lowestoft for 2015/16</td>
<td>Democratic Services</td>
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