

By: Gary Cooke, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services
Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: Selection and Member Services Committee –22 May
2015

Subject: Appointment of Trustee to the Molyneux Almshouses,
Rusthall

Classification Unrestricted

FOR DECISION

Introduction

1. *The Molyneux Almshouses* is a Charity (Reg 213895) which provides amenity and unsupported housing for older residents living in Tunbridge Wells.
2. According to the Charity Commission Approved Scheme of 1986, the Body of Trustees consists of “nine competent persons” comprising 5 Co-optative Trustees and 4 Nominative Trustees. Of this latter category, one is to be appointed by Kent County Council.
3. The Clerk to the Trustees has recently corresponded with KCC to explain that there has been no KCC-appointed Trustee since Mr Peter Chambers (who was not a KCC Member) retired in 2011. Whilst recognising that KCC has been unable to fill this position from amongst its own Members, the Body of Trustees is very keen to re-establish its link with KCC and has asked if the County Council would agree to appoint someone suggested by the Trustees themselves. This would enable the Charity to retain its links with KCC until KCC was able to fill the position from within its ranks, whilst keeping the number of Trustees at a reasonable level without having to go through the laborious process of attempting to amend its scheme.
4. The Trustees have therefore asked the County Council to consider appointing Ms Carolyn Cohen who was the Head Teacher at Rusthall St Paul’s CE Primary School from 1999 to 2013. Ms Cohen’s resume is enclosed at Appendix 1 to this report.
5. According to the scheme, “the person appointed may be but need not be a member of the appointing council.” Appointments are made for a term of four years. It is suggested that, on this occasion, the appointment be for the duration of the present County Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

6. The Committee is invited to appoint Ms Carolyn Cohen as its representative to serve on Body of Trustees of The Molyneux Almshouses for the remainder of the Council's term whereupon the position will be reviewed.

Peter Sass: Head of Democratic Services

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