

Charlotte Coxe Trust Committee

Date and time: Friday, 4 November 2022 at 2.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber - County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

Contact Officer: **Colm Ó Caomhánaigh**
Tel: 07393 001096; E-Mail:
colm.oocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Membership

Chair – Councillor Geoff Saul

Deputy Chair - Councillor Felix Bloomfield

Committee Members:

Councillor Robin Bennett

Councillor Freddie van Mierlo

Councillor Jane Murphy

A G E N D A

1.	Apologies for absence
2.	Declarations of Interest Please see guidance note
3.	Minutes (Pages 1 - 4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2022.
4.	Petitions and Public Address <i>Members of the public who wish to speak at this meeting can attend the meeting in person or 'virtually' through an online connection.</i> <i>To facilitate 'hybrid' meetings we are asking that requests to speak are submitted by no later than 9am four working days before the meeting i.e., 9am on Monday 31 October 2022. Requests to speak should be sent to colm.ocaomhanaigh@oxfordshire.gov.uk</i> <i>If you are speaking 'virtually', you may submit a written statement of your presentation to ensure that if the technology fails, then your views can still be taken into account. A written copy of your statement can be provided no later than 9am 2 working days before the meeting. Written submissions should be no longer than 1 A4 sheet.</i>

EXEMPT ITEMS

The Committee is RECOMMENDED that the public be excluded for the duration of items 5 and 6 in the Agenda by passing a resolution in relation in the following terms:

"that the public be excluded since it is likely that if they were present during the discussions there would be a disclosure of "exempt" information as described in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 and specified below the item in the Agenda".

THE MINUTES AND REPORT TO THE ITEM NAMED HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS 'CONFIDENTIAL' BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE THEM.

5.	Exempt Minutes (Pages 5 - 6) To approve the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2022 and to receive information arising from them. The information in this case is exempt in that it falls within the following prescribed categories:
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3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and since it is considered that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

6. Transfer of Trusteeship of the Charlotte Coxe Trust to Watlington Parish Council (Pages 7 - 60)

The information in the Annexes in this case is exempt in that it falls within the following prescribed category:

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and since it is considered that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

If members are satisfied, having considered the legal advice at Annex 1 to this report and the presentation received from Watlington Parish Council at the meeting on 22 June 2022, that transferring the trusteeship and assets of the Charlotte Coxe Trust to Watlington Parish Council with a “rent free” lease back of the library space to Oxfordshire County Council is appropriate, the Committee is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Approve the transfer of the trusteeship and assets of the Charlotte Coxe Trust from Oxfordshire County Council to Watlington Parish Council, provided that Watlington Parish Council provides an indemnity in respect of liabilities which arise after the date of the transfer;
- b) At the time of the transfer, place a legal obligation on Watlington Parish Council to grant a lease of Watlington Library back to Oxfordshire County Council on the terms summarised in Annex 5; and
- c) Request Oxfordshire County Council to report to the Committee after completion of the transfer with a justification of any professional fees requested for the financial, legal and estates work its officers have carried out, which it (or the Committee) may then seek to recover from the Trust.