SUMMARY
Kingston upon Thames United Charities is the body responsible for the management of the Cleaves Almshouses in Old London Road, Kingston upon Thames. The Trust Deed requires the Council to appoint three Nominative Trustees to serve on the Board of Trustees for a four year period.

The Council has not made these appointments since 2002, when it was agreed that Councillors would no longer be appointed to serve as Trustees on the Charity. The Council’s decision was based on the view that the Charity does not give cash or benefits to residents and the representative at that time thought there was no particular benefit, or necessity, to appoint representatives. The Charity was advised of the decision and it was suggested that they amend the Charity’s Trust Deed to delete reference to appointments made by the Council. The Charity has not acted on this suggestion.

A letter has been received from the clerk to the Trustees requesting that the Council nominate three Trustees to the Charity. Acknowledging the rationale behind the Council’s decision in 2002, the clerk to the Trustees has suggested that, in effect, the Council appoint three of the existing Trustees to serve as Council nominees as set out below:

- Linda Dilks – Trustee since 2003
- Loveday Newton – Trustee since 1988
- Kevin Webber – Trustee since 2006

In the circumstances their appointment as Council nominees serves as a sensible solution.

RECOMMENDATIONS
It is RECOMMENDED that Linda Dilks, Loveday Newton and Kevin Webber be appointed as the Council’s nominees to serve as Trustees on the Board of Trustees for a four year period.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS
To enable the Council to discharge its obligation under the Charity’s Trust Deed by appointing three Nominative Trustees to serve on the Board of Trustees for a four year period.

BACKGROUND
1. Kingston upon Thames United Charities is the body responsible for the management of the Cleaves Almshouses in Old London Road, Kingston upon Thames. The Trust Deed requires the Council to appoint three Nominative Trustees to serve on the
Board of Trustees for a four year period. The Council has not made these appointments since 2002.

**REVIEW OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

2. A full review of the outside bodies the Council is represented on was carried out in 2002 by a ‘Task and Finish Group’ and the outcome was reported to the former Strategy & Resources Overview Panel in March 2002 setting out which bodies the Council should continue to appoint to and which it should not. Recommendations were made to the Leaders’ Panel and subsequently approved by the Leaders’ Panel on 16 April 2002 and the Ratification Panel on 25 April 2002.

3. Kingston upon Thames United Charities was one of the bodies which it was agreed not to make appointments. This was based on the view that the Charity does not give cash or benefits to residents and the representative at that time thought there was no particular benefit, or necessity, to appoint representatives. The Charity was advised of the decision and it was suggested that they amend the Charity’s Trust Deed to delete reference to appointments made by the Council. The Charity has not acted on this suggestion.

**CURRENT POSITION**

4. The Clerk to the Trustees has written requesting that the Council nominate three Trustees to the Charity. Acknowledging the rationale behind the Council’s decision in 2002, to no longer appoint Councillors to serve on the Charity the clerk to the Trustees has suggested that, in effect, the Council nominate three of the existing Trustees to serve as Council nominees. Details of the three nominees are set out below and, in the circumstances their appointment as Council nominees serves as a sensible solution.

- **Linda Dilks – Trustee since 2003**
  Linda Dilks has had a long association with the Borough. She has worked for many years in the NHS, the Red Cross in Canada and Shell UK. She has an interest in promoting the needs of elderly people, maintaining their independence and dignity. She has training and counselling and HR skills that she employs while working in the borough with the Witness Service. She has taken responsibility in the past for liaising with agencies and local government in the service of the Almhouses. She has also taken a lead role in the selection of candidates to be appointed as residents. As a valued member of the team, she agrees to remain on the Board as a Council nominee in order that a Co-opted Trustee can be sought at a later date.

- **Loveday Newton – Trustee since 1988**
  Loveday Newton is a solicitor and notary public. She has been a Trustee since 1988. During her tenure she has procured changes to the working of the Board of Trustees so that a wider section of the community could be tapped for potential Trustees. She also acted as Clerk to the Trustees in addition to being a Trustee until a paid clerk could be found. She has lived in the Borough for over 20 years. She has brought stability and continuity to the Board due to her length of service. This has been of tremendous help to the Board and residents alike.
• **Kevin Webber – Trustee since 2006**
  Kevin Webber is the manager of the RBS branch in the town centre. He is happy to be a Council nominee and recommence his term of appointment. He is tireless in his promotion of the business opportunities and opportunities for increasing revenue streams at the Almhouses. He has worked in the Borough for several years in the banking industry and looks upon his association in the Almhouses as a way to give something back to the Borough. He takes special responsibility for meeting with residents in accordance with our dispute resolution and complaints procedures.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. None arising to the Council from these appointments.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

6. None.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** held by Thayyiba Shaah (author of the report)
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• Notice served by Kingston Upon Thames United Charity
• Agenda (Appendix E) & Minutes of the Leaders’ Panel – 16 April 2002