

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 3 APRIL 2019

**ROOM C1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE
CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Mayor John Biggs	– (Executive Mayor)
Councillor Asma Begum	– (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities)
Councillor Danny Hassell	– (Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People)
Councillor Sirajul Islam	– (Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing)
Councillor Denise Jones	– (Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Candida Ronald	– (Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	– (Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth)

Apologies:

Councillor Amina Ali	– (Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit)
Councillor Rachel Blake	– (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Air Quality)
Councillor David Edgar	– (Cabinet Member for Environment)

Officers Present:

Agnes Adrien	– (Head of Litigation, Legal Services)
Stephen Murray	– (Head of Arts and Events)
David Knight	– (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on 27th February, 2019 were approved was approved as a correct record of the proceedings.
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3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Activities and Maintenance Updates

The Board received a report that provided details of planned activities in King Georges Fields Trust (KGFT) sites over the summer period and outlines plans for the development of a ten year maintenance plan. The main points of the discussion maybe summarised as follows.

The Board noted that:

- Mile End Park is the main area covered by KGFT and is a flagship park for the Borough. It contains many structures and features that require regular maintenance which the Council has budgeted for. However, the Council also needs to look into future and put aside significant amounts of funding reserves to cover more major refurbishment and in some cases replacement. Accordingly, the Council is therefore working on a detailed ten year maintenance plan that will be reviewed each year and adjusted as necessary;
- The intention behind creating this maintenance plan is to ensure the Council can check everything that needs checking on an annual basis and plan the KGFT finances in order to maintain the park at an acceptable standard for years to come. The income targets generated from the plan will ensure that the Council can justify any built up reserves to the Charity Commission and the public.
- User groups are ordinarily not consulted on the development of the maintenance plan at the KGFT sites;
- The Mile End Park Pavilions allow hirers to use outside caterers and do not charge corkage which is popular with users;
- It is expected that the first draft of the maintenance plan should be ready by July 2019;
- The Council are seeking to create a managers post for Pavilions due to level of activity;
- The Council already has a sinking fund to replace the 4G Astro turf surface at Stepney Green which was part of the funding conditions from the Football Foundation. The Council now need to add to this to be prepared for future costs across the whole KGFT area, buildings and other infra structure therein;
- The maintenance plan will help inform the Councils income targets each year and inform in year budget adjustments necessary to meet the targets;

- The first stage of drawing up the plans will entail a conditions survey taking place early in 2019 -20 along with research into life expectancy of fixtures and fixings;
- The Parks and Open spaces team will purchase an improved Audio Visual Suite;
- The Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector would be provided with a detailed report on the income targets to be generated from the Plan.
- The income regenerated would be used to build up the reserves to cover the proposed programme of refurbishment and where appropriate replacement; and
- There was a need to review the acoustics at Mile End Park Pavilions as they need to be addressed either with a better Audio Visual kit or acoustic baffling.

The Chair Moved and it was:-

RESOLVED

To:

1. Note the details of planned activities for the public for summer of 2019;
2. Note the proposed development of a ten year maintenance plan for King Georges Fields Trust land and buildings therein; and
3. Agree that the Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector would be provided with a detailed report on the income targets to be generated from the Plan.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

As the agenda circulated contained no exempt/confidential business and there was therefore no requirement to exclude the press and public to allow for its consideration.

5. EXEMPT MINUTES

Nil items

6. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Nil items

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

The Board noted that at the February meeting (Minute 3.2 refers) it was agreed to establish a working group to look at the operation and structure of the charity to encourage better public participation in the work of the Board and in ensuring that the Trust's objectives were being met.

This working group would comprise of:

1. Councillor Amina Ali
2. Councillor David Edgar
3. Councillor Denise Jones
4. Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman

It was noted that this working group has not yet been convened.

Accordingly,

The Chair Moved and it was:-

RESOLVED

1. The Working Group should be convened immediately and that there will be a report to the next meeting of the Board.

The meeting ended at 6.00 p.m.

**Chair, Mayor John Biggs
King George's Field Charity Board**