

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2009

**M72, 7TH FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE CRESCENT,
LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present:

Councillor Lutfur Rahman
Councillor Joshua Peck
Councillor Rofique U Ahmed
Councillor Abdul Asad
Councillor Marc Francis
Councillor Rania Khan
Councillor Oliur Rahman

Other Councillors Present:

Nil

Officers Present:

David Galpin – (Head of Legal Services (Community))
Isabella Freeman – (Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services))
Michael Rowan – (Director of Mile End Park)

Alan Ingram – (Democratic Services)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010

Mr A. Ingram, Democratic Services Officer, opened the meeting and requested nominations for Chair of the Board for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

Councillor Joshua Peck nominated Councillor Lutfur Rahman to the position. There being no further nominations, it was –

RESOLVED

That Councillor Lutfur Rahman be elected Chair of the King George's Field Charity Board for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

Councillor Lutfur Rahman in the Chair

2. ELECTION OF VICE - CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2009/2010

The Chair requested nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

Councillor Rofique U Ahmed nominated Councillor Joshua Peck to the position. There being no further nominations, it was-

RESOLVED

That Councillor Joshua Peck be elected Vice-Chair of the King George's Charity Board for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Ohid Ahmed and Anwara Ali.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Type of Interest	Reason
Joshua Peck	Item 7.2	Personal	He was a Ward Member for Bow West and knew the individuals mentioned in the report.
Marc Francis	Item 7.2	Prejudicial	He had been a customer of the Palm Tree Public House and his local Labour Party had held meetings and events on the premises.
Lutfur Rahman	Item 7.1	Personal	The report concerned issues with which he had previously been involved.
Rofique U Ahmed	Item 7.1	Personal	The report concerned issues with which he had previously been involved.
Abdul Asad	Item 7.1	Personal	The report concerned issues with which he had previously been involved.
Rania Khan	Item 7.1	Personal	The report concerned issues with which she had previously been involved.

Oliur Rahman	Item 7.1	Personal	The report concerned issues with which he had previously been involved.
Abdal Ullah	Item 7.1	Personal	The report concerned issues with which he had previously been involved.

5. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the unrestricted minutes of the King George's Charity Board held on 7 January 2009 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

6. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Nil.

7. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

7.1 Governance of the King George's Fields Trusts (KGFCB/03/089)

Mr D. Galpin, Head of Legal Services – Community, introduced a detailed presentation concerning the governing documents of the two King George's Fields Trusts, which had been requested by Members at the meeting held on 7 January 2009.

The presentation and report addressed matters concerning:

- A review of the governing documents for the charities.
- Alternative governance schemes, clarifying the land under the remits of the charities, identifying the purposes for which the land may be used and clarifying the duties of the trustees.
- Commencement of discussions with the Charities Commission with a view to amalgamating the Mile End and Tredegar Square charities.
- Clarification of the position regarding Crossrail.

In response to queries from Members, Mr Galpin commented that:

- The matter of land comprising that part of Mile End Park bridging Mile End Road remained to be clarified in terms of inclusion in the St George's Fields lands.
- The maintenance of the land at Tredegar Square had to be maintained at the Council's expense and there was no scope for charging other parties.

- Any monies from land sales would have to be held by the charities in perpetuity, as in the case of any land exchanges.

In considering the report, the Board also discussed the following:

- The possibility of compensation regarding the anticipated loss of some 1800m² of open space in connection with Crossrail.
- The possibility of negotiations with Crossrail for reprovision of an astrotrurf football pitch near the existing site.

Councillor Peck indicated that the budgetary reference in paragraph 10.1 of the report should relate to "Parks Budget".

RESOLVED

1. That the proposal in paragraph 3.3 of the report be noted.
2. That agreement be given for the preparation of plans as referred to in paragraphs 5.12, 5.13 and 6.13 of the report.
3. That it be noted that the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) will give consideration to the mechanism by which any amendment might be effected to the governing documents to reflect revised plans or revised powers, or in relation to merger, as contemplated in the report and will bring forward any proposals to a future meeting of the Board.
4. That an application be made to the Charity Commission for a uniting direction in respect of the King George's Field, Mile End charity (1077859) and the King George's Field, Stepney (Tredegar Square Bow) charity (1088999), the Board being of the view that an administrative linkage will prevent waste and duplication of resources in the preparation of accounts and annual returns.

7.2 Decision concerning land near the Palm Tree (KGFCB/04/089)

Councillor Marc Francis declared a prejudicial interest regarding this item in that he had been a customer of the Palm Tree Public House and his local Labour Party had held meetings and events on the premises. Councillor Francis left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter.

Mr D. Galpin, Head of Legal Services – Community, introduced a report updating the position following the decision published on 4 February 2009 by the Adjudicator to HM Land Registry in the case of London Borough of Tower Hamlets v A. Barrett and V. Barrett concerning land at Mile End Park, London.

Mr Galpin indicated that the Barretts had sought to appeal the Adjudicator's decision and the decision of the High Court would probably be known in four to six weeks, after which a further update would be prepared.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

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

No urgent business was submitted.

The meeting ended at 7.30 p.m.

Chair,
King George's Field Charity Board