

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

HELD AT 7.28 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2019

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

Members Present:

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| Mayor John Biggs | – (Executive Mayor) |
| Councillor Amina Ali | – (Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit) |
| Councillor Asma Begum | – (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities) |
| Councillor Rachel Blake | – (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Air Quality) |
| Councillor David Edgar | – (Cabinet Member for Environment) |
| 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) |

Officers Present:

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| Stephen Murray | – (Head of Arts and Events) |
| Neville Murton | – Corporate Director, Resources) |
| Judith St John | – (Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture) |
| Marcia Van-Loo | – Senior Lawyer – Employment and Education |
| Matthew Mannion | – (Head of Democratic Services, Governance) |

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest were received.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

RESOLVED

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the King George's Field Board held on Wednesday 28 November 2018 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Annual Report and Accounts for 2017-18

Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit, introduced the report providing details of the annual report and accounts of the King Georges Field Trust Mile End and King Georges Fields Trust Tredegar Square Charities for the 2017/2018 financial year. The report also contained brief details of key activities through the 2017/18 year.

In response to questions officers reported that:

- The report demonstrated that the evidence showed the charity was solvent and operating appropriately.
- More information would be produced in future years about planning around repairs, maintenance and income targets as it was valuable to develop and present longer term planning for the work of the Charity.
- They would work on ensuring a consistent methodology in reporting so that it was easier to compare different years' results.
- Noted changes to the ownership of the railway arches and in how the shop units were being managed.

Members requested that a report be presented to the next meeting of the Board setting out more information about levels of surplus, maintenance budgets/planning and similar areas so they could understand better how this was monitored and planned. Officers also agreed to look to see if more visual, promotional information could be provided around key activities in the park.

The **Mayor** proposed that the Board formally agree the accounts as compliant but ask that a more detailed report be provided in future years as set out by officers. He noted it was important that the Board were able to fully interrogate how the Charity was operating.

RESOLVED

1. To agree the annual report and accounts of the King George's Field Trust Mile End (Charity Registration 1077859) for the 2017/18 financial year as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.
2. To agree the Annual Report and Accounts for the King George's Field Trust Tredegar Sqaure (Charity registration 1088999) for the financial year 2017/18 set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

3. To authorise the Trust to sign the 2017/18 annual reports and accounts for submission to the Charity Commission by 28 February 2019.

3.2 Governance of the King George's Fields Mile End Charity and Options for Public Use of Mile End Park

Councillor Amina Ali, Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit, introduced a report proposing a review of 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 report confirmed the Board's powers to facilitate increased public participation in its decision making processes and set out options for how this might be approached.

The followed a discussion of the options that could be considered and some of the requirements including the need to have at least two Cabinet Members on the Board.

It was agreed to establish a working group to look at this comprising of:

- Councillor Amina Ali
- Councillor David Edgar
- Councillor Denise Jones
- Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman

The Mayor was also to be kept informed of the work of the review group. It was agreed that the group would report back to the next meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED

1. That a working group be established to review the functions and governance of the Trust, consisting of the above listed Members and supported by the relevant officers.
2. The working group to report back to the next meeting of the Board.

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

Nil Items

The meeting ended at 7.55 p.m.

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