


<p>King Georges Fields Trust Board Meeting</p> <p>18th December 2019</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
Report of: Debbie Jones. Children and Cultural Services	Classification: Unrestricted
Updates: budget, 10 year maintenance plan, summer activities, proposed new 5-a-side Astro Pitches at Stepney Green: Updates: budget, 10 year maintenance plan, summer activities, proposed new 5-a-side Astro Pitches at Stepney Green	

Lead Member	Councillor Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Culture Arts and Brexit
Originating Officer(s)	Stephen Murray. Head of Arts Parks and Events
Wards affected	All (All Wards);
Key Decision?	No
Forward Plan Notice Published	
Reason for Key Decision	
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in

REASONS FOR URGENCY

The report was not published five clear days in advance of the meeting. This is due to the additional time required to review the report in order to provide the necessary clearances. Also as it is important that there should not be an extended period without member oversight of this matter this report cannot be deferred.

Executive Summary

This is to provide updates on: budget, proposal for new 5-a-side Astro pitches at Stepney Green and draft Terms of reference for working group.

Recommendations:

The Board is recommended to:

1. Clarify required changes to the final outturn budget for 2018-19
2. Note update for two new 5 a side Astro turf pitches at Stepney Green and decide on pitch location from options presented
3. Discuss draft terms of reference for working group and decide how to take this forward.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The King Georges Fields charity is registered with the Charity Commission as

King Georges Field, Mile End Charity, registered number 1077859. Decisions over its management are required to be taken by the Board of Trustees.

- 1.2 The Council is the trustee of the charity and the council is the freehold owner of the land which is subject to this report.
- 1.3 The King Georges Fields Charity Board (the Board) is established by section 3.3.12 of the Council's Constitution, which gives the Board the following functions:
 - 3.2.1 To administer the affairs of the King Georges Fields Charity and discharge all the duties of the Council a sole trustee of the Charity
 - 3.2.2 To administer the affairs and discharge the duties of trustee of such other charities controlled by the Council as the Cabinet might authorise by resolution

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 For items 1 budget outturn for 2018/19 the alternative option would be to leave the accounts in their current form
- 2.2 For item 2 the alternative option would be to leave the final decision on lay out for new 5 a side pitches to parks staff. The report recommends an option with explanation of the benefits
- 2.3 For the Terms of Reference of working group the options are not to have a working group or create a different set of Terms of Reference

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 Appendix 1 details the figures for the end of financial year April 2018 to March 2019. Headline figure is a surplus of £273,399. At the Board Meeting of 4th September 2019 members requested changes to how the accounts are presented. Finance officer Simon Turner will be present at Board Meeting 4th December 2019 to clarify what changes are required and respond to questions about the accounts.
- 3.2 Appendix 2 is an independent report from Robert Myers Landscape Architects commissioned to do design options on possible lay out of new pitches. Members are asked to express their preference and comment on the report.
- 3.3 Appendix 3 is a draft terms of reference for KGFT working group. Board members are asked to comment and amend to meet their requirements.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Mile End Park is an important community asset that is open to all. As the population of the borough increases it, along with other parks, becomes increasingly important as a facility to support healthy living and community activity that helps promote community cohesion.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 The accounts for 2018-19 need to be in an acceptable format for the charity commission returns. At the meeting on the 4th September 2019 board members had queries around these accounts and these will be addressed at the meeting of the 4th December. This will not constitute any fundamental changes to the accounts or the outturn for 2018-19 but rather an issue of presentation.

6.2 The following CFO comments (paragraphs 6.3 -6.5) have been extracted from the KGFT Board meeting report dated 4th September 2019 and have been included for reference.

6.3 **Appendix 1** details the KGFT accounts for the financial year 18/19 resulting in a surplus of £274k.

6.4 **Appendix 2** provides an update on the 10 year maintenance plan. All maintenance costs will be covered within existing budgets and income targets.

6.5 **Appendix 3** details the proposal for 2 new 5 a side football pitches in Stepney Green. The £200k cost of these pitches will be met by Film location income previously generated within Arts Parks and Events.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The Council is the Trustee of the Mile End Charity pursuant to the Governing Document which is a Scheme dated 28th February, 2000. The Council's Constitution establishes the King George's Fields Charity Board to administer the charities affairs and discharge the Council's trustee functions.

7.2 The purpose of the charity is to preserve the Park Lands in perpetuity as a memorial to King George V under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation. The 1965 Scheme which established the Foundation gave its purpose as "to promote and to assist in the establishment and to promote the preservation throughout the United Kingdom of Playing Fields for the use and

enjoyment of the people...” Additionally, the trustees may “ apply the land to such charitable purposes as are set out in the Recreational Charities Act 1958”.

- 7.3 As trustees, the Board must make sure that the charity is carrying out the purposes for which it is set up, and no other purpose. It is the responsible of the Board to make decisions in relation to the management of the charity, this cannot be delegated to the working group. Further, the Board must act in the Charity’s best interests and manage the Charity’s resources responsibly.
- 7.4 This report recommends that the Board clarifies the changes to the final outturn budget to enable the trustees can undertake their duties. In considering this report and its recommendations, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty).

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- KGFT report for September 2019 Board Updates

Appendices

1. Final budget out turn 2018-19
 - 1a. Movement of funds
2. Consultant Report and drawing for proposed 5-a-side football pitches for Stepney Green
3. Draft Terms of Reference for working group

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

None

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