

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD**

**HELD AT 6.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 6 JANUARY 2010**

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

**Members Present:**

Councillor Lutfur Rahman (Chair)

Councillor Joshua Peck (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Ohid Ahmed

Councillor Rofique U Ahmed

Councillor Rania Khan

**Other Councillors Present:**

**Officers Present:**

Owen Whalley – (Service Head Major Projects, Development & Renewal)

Bob Bennet – (Crossrail Project Manager)

Louise Fleming – (Acting Executive Team Leader, Democratic Services)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Anwara Ali, Lead Member Adult Health and Wellbeing.
- Councillor Abdul Asad, Lead Member, Children Schools and Families
- Councillor Marc Francis, Lead Member Housing and Development.
- Councillor Abdal Ullah, Lead Member Cleaner Safer Greener

Mr Luke Cully, Finance Manager Communities Localities and Culture would be deputised for by Mr Mike Rowan.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Councillor Joshua Peck** declared a **prejudicial interest** in Agenda item 5.1 (Stepping Stones Farm – Crossrail Implications). The declaration was made

on the basis that the report contained reference to Crossrail and Councillor Peck's employees had a contract with Crossrail. Councillor Peck left the meeting prior to the consideration of this item.

### **3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the unrestricted minutes of the King George's Fields Charity Board held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

### **4. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS**

There were no deputations or petitions.

### **5. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

#### **5.1 Stepping Stones Farm - Crossrail Implications (KGFCB/06/089)**

Mr Owen Whalley (Head of Planning and Building Control, Development and Renewal) introduced the report. He commented:

- The existing management company was continuing to undertake the management of the site. However officers were now responsible for the day to day management an operation of the farm, as a result of the decision taken by the Board at it's meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009.
- In respect of Members' concerns over the makeup of the Board, the two Board Members who were not resident of the Borough had resigned and active steps would be taken to recruit local people to the Board to ensure it was representative of the local community.
- It was proposed that the Board support the further involvement of the consultant involved in the Crossrail mitigation work. A further report would be brought to the Board with long term proposals in due course.

Mr Bob Bennett, Crossrail Project Manager, advised the Board that work was being carried out with the existing management company to continue capacity building with a view to seeing charitable status and effective fund raising. He also outlined the interim arrangements in place and responded to Members' questions regarding the makeup of the Board, in that officers were actively working to ensure the Board was representative of the local community.

Mr Owen Whalley, Head of Planning and Building Control, responded to Members' questions relating to costs and highlighted the need to transfer monies to the new Management Company. There would be a monitoring arrangement built into the Council's Mainstream Grants process.

The Chair welcomed the Chairman and representatives of Stepping Stones Farm Charity, Mr Robert Bennett, Ms Rachel Vincent and Ms Carol MacDowal, to the meeting and summarised the discussion which they had missed. The Chair thanked Mr Whalley for taking the concerns of the local Councillors into consideration and stressed the need for a robust management body to be in place.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the progress being made on the mitigation works to Stepping Stones Farm as described in paragraph 3.2 and of the report be noted;
2. That further involvement of consultant Mike Daligan in accordance with the revised terms of reference as set out in paragraph 4.6.2 of the report be agreed;
3. That the Authority be asked to investigate potential funding streams to contribute towards the estimates £20,000 per annum day to day to running costs of Stepping Stones City Farm.

**Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL**

**(A. DALVI)**

Head of Planning and Building Control, Development and Renewal, (O. Whalley)

Cross Rail Project Manager (B. Bennett)

**5.2 King George's Fields Charitable Trust Annual Accounts 2008/2009 (KGFCB/06/089)**

Mr Mike Rowan presented the report on behalf of Mr Luke Cully, Finance Manager Communities Localities and Culture. He outlined the salient points in the report and responded the Members' questions in relation to rentals, salaries and costs, providing a breakdown, and Venus in the Park

The Chair asked that a note be provided to Members on the detailed breakdown

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the annual report and accounts for the King George's Field, Mile End charity (registered number 1077859) for the 2008/09 financial year set out in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed;
2. That the annual report and accounts for the King George's Field Tredegar Square charity (registered number 108999) for the 2008/09 financial year set out at Appendix 2 to the report be agreed;

3. That the Chair of the Board be authorised to sign the annual reports and accounts for submission to the Charity Commission; and
4. A detailed note providing a breakdown of staffing costs would be provided to all Members.

**Action by:**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL (A. DALVI)**

Head of Planning and Building Control, Development and Renewal, (O. Whalley)

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

No urgent business was submitted.

The meeting ended at 6.55 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Lutfur Rahman  
King George's Field Charity Board