

# KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

Wednesday, 9 December 2020 at 6.00 p.m.

Online 'Virtual' Meeting - <https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

The meeting is open to the public to view.

**Members:**

Mayor John Biggs	(Executive Mayor)
Councillor Sabina Akhtar	(Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit)
Councillor Asma Begum	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Youth and Equalities)
Councillor Rachel Blake	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Danny Hassell	(Cabinet Member for Children and Schools )
Councillor Sirajul Islam	(Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing)
Councillor Candida Ronald	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	(Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth)
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin	Cabinet Member for Planning and Social Inclusion (Job Share) - Lead on Social Inclusion
Councillor Asma Islam	Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Realm (Job Share) - Lead on Environment
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Cabinet Member for Planning and Social Inclusion (Job Share) - Lead on Planning
Councillor Dan Tomlinson	Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Realm (Job Share) - Lead on Public Realm

[The quorum for this body is 3 Members]

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smart phone  
users

## **A Guide to KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD**

### **Decision Making at Tower Hamlets**

As Tower Hamlets operates the Directly Elected Mayor system, **Mayor John Biggs** holds Executive powers and takes decisions at Cabinet or through Individual Mayoral Decisions. The Mayor has also appointed this Board to administer the affairs of two charities of which the Council is sole trustee. Membership of the Board is set out on the front page of this agenda.

### **Which decisions are taken by King George's Field Charity Board?**

The Board administers the affairs of the King George's Field, Mile End charity, and the King George's Field – Stepney (Tredegar Square, Bow) charity and discharges all duties of the Council as sole trustee of these Charities. Decisions on these matters are executive decisions and so are treated much in the same way as decisions of the Mayor.

The Board may also take Key Decisions. The constitution describes Key Decisions as an executive decision which is likely

- a) to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the borough.

Upcoming Key Decisions are published on the website on the 'Forthcoming Decisions' page through [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee)

### **Published Decisions and Call-Ins**

Once the meeting decisions have been published, any 5 Councillors may submit a Call-In to the Service Head, Democratic Services requesting that a decision be reviewed. This halts the decision until it has been reconsidered.

- The decisions will be published on: **Friday, 11 December 2020**
- The deadline for call-ins is: **Friday, 18 December 2020**

Any Call-Ins will be considered at the next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee can reject the call-in or they can agree it and refer the decision back to the Mayor, with their recommendations, for his final consideration.

### **Public Engagement at King George's Field Charity Board**

The main focus of King George's Field Charity Board is as a decision-making body. However there is an opportunity for the public to contribute through making submissions that specifically relate to the reports set out on the agenda.

Members of the public may make written submissions in any form (for example; Petitions, letters, written questions) to the Clerk to King George's Field Charity Board (details on the front page) by 5 pm the day before the meeting.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS 7 - 8**

To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992.

See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, please see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are reminded to declare the nature of the interest and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it's the Members' responsibility to declare any interests form and to update their register of interest form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of your interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services

### **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 9 - 12**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.

### **3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **4. BUDGET UPDATE**

To follow.

### **5. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

“That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.”

#### **EXEMPT SECTION (Pink Papers)**

The exempt committee papers in the agenda will contain information, which is commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties. If you do not wish to retain these papers after the meeting, please hand them to the Committee Officer present.

**6. EXEMPT MINUTES**

Nil items

**7. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

To consider any items that the Chair considers to be urgent.

**Next Meeting of the Board.**

Wednesday, 31 March 2021 at 6.00 p.m. in the Online 'Virtual' Meeting -  
<https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

# Agenda Item 1

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS– NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER**

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

### **(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)**

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

**DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests.** In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

### **(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)**

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

### **(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.**

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

### **Guidance on Predetermination and Bias**

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

### **Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting**

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

**Further Advice** contact: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer,  
Tel: 0207 364 4800.

## **APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either—  (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or  (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

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

**HELD AT 7.50 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2019**

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

**Members Present:**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Councillor Amina Ali      | – (Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)       |
| Councillor Sabina Akhtar  | – (Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit)           |
| Councillor David Edgar    | – (Cabinet Member for Environment)                        |
| Councillor Danny Hassell  | – (Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People) |
| Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman | – (Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth)           |

**Apologies:**

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Councillor Asma Begum     | – (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities)            |
| Councillor Rachel Blake   | – (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty) |
| Councillor Sirajul Islam  | – (Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing)                          |
| Councillor Candida Ronald | – (Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)                          |

**Officers Present:**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Agnes Adrien    | – (Head of Litigation, Legal Services)      |
| Stephen Murray  | – (Head of Arts and Events)                 |
| Simon Turner    | – Link Accountant Childrens Finance Team    |
| Matthew Mannion | – (Head of Democratic Services, Governance) |

**1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

None were declared.

## **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **RESOLVED**

1. That the unrestricted minutes of the King George's Field Board meeting held on 4 September be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings subject to the amendment on the final page under Resolution 1 that the Committee noted it was a legal requirement for the charity accounts to be externally audited.

## **3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **3.1 Updates: Budget, 10 Year Maintenance Plan, Summer Activities, Proposed New 5-a-side Astro Pitches at Stepney Green**

Note – due to an administrative issue the report was not intended to include a 10 year maintenance plan or Summer Activities list as set out in the report title but it did include draft terms of reference for a King George's Fund Trust working group.

Stephen Murray, Head of Arts and Events, presented a report to the Board that provided updates on a number of matters:

#### **Budget**

Simon Turner from the Accounts Team was introduced as the officer who prepared the accounts.

Members discussed the report and noted a number of significant concerns including that:

- There should be a Trustees Report as a cover to the budget.
- There was a request for separate audit of the accounts rather than relying on the general audit of the Council accounts. Officers undertook to seek an independent audit of the accounts including indication of the level of assurance from an audit.
- Where the accounts set out income and expenditure a lot was backdated to the previous year so did that mean those previous accounts were wrong especially noting that no accounts were submitted to the Charity Commission that year.
- What comment point was being made in respect of salaries in the accounts?
- How much income was being expected from Network Rail?
- How and why had the savings been achieved on security?

During discussion officers highlighted the need for internal council communication to improve so that the service was aware of changes more quickly in areas such as shop income. They also undertook to discuss with the audit service improvements that should be made to the accounts

reporting. Members noted that many of these issues had been raised repeatedly at previous meetings.

Concluding the discussion Members agreed that they were not in a position to agree the accounts at this stage and requested an Extraordinary Meeting be arranged following the 29 January Cabinet meeting. In particular they asked to see a full set of accounts with a trustees report, an auditors opinion and answers to the questions on the financial analysis. It was also stated that an item on the Management Accounts should be a standing item on all future agendas.

#### Sports Pitches

It was explained that the attached report followed a Member request for an impact assessment on the proposed new sports pitches on Stepney Green. The landscaping report set out two options with details on planting and other mitigation measures. Option 2 was given as the preferred option. This was supported by officers. It was explained that funding for the improvements was from reserve film income and that it was hoped the pitches would generate income and also meet the Council's priorities to encourage sporting activity.

Members discussed the report. They agreed that Option 2 appeared the best option and it was noted that agreement had been provided at a previous meeting. Members indicated that they wished to see a new report which provided full information on the proposals including the reasons for the proposals and the resource planning for the pitches and how the timeline would work (such as around planning application processes etc).

#### Draft Terms of Reference for a KGFT Working Group

It was noted that the working group was proposed to allow engagement with backbench councillors and other interested parties in the management of the Trust lands. Member welcomed the draft terms of reference as a good first step. They highlighted that it was important the new body could be properly supported by the Council. It was agreed to proceed with the working group as set out and review it later as necessary.

On the above items the Board:

#### **RESOLVED**

1. To note the accounts set out in Appendix One but to request that they are returned to a future Extraordinary Meeting with the following additional information:
  - A Trustees Cover Report
  - An Audit Opinion
  - Answers to the financial questions set out above. Noted that **appendix 1** details the figures for the end of financial year April 2018 to March 2019. With the headline figure being a surplus of

£273,399 and whilst it was noted that these figures are subject to change and clarification it was understood that a healthy surplus will have been achieved within this year;

2. Noted the plans for the new Sports Pitches and but ask that an update be provided to the future Extraordinary Meeting with more information including background to the proposals and financial management plans.
3. To agree the Terms of Reference for the King George's Field Trust working group.
4. To agree that an Extraordinary Meeting of the King George's Field Board be established after the 29 January Cabinet meeting to cover the points raised above.

**4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Nil items.

**5. EXEMPT MINUTES**

Nil items.

**6. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Nil items.

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

None.

**The meeting ended at 8:29 pm**

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