

KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

Wednesday, 28 April 2021 at 6.30 p.m.

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

The meeting is open to the public to attend.

Members:

Councillor Sabina Akhtar
Mayor John Biggs
Councillor Asma Begum
Councillor Rachel Blake
Councillor Danny Hassell
Councillor Sirajul Islam
Councillor Candida Ronald
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin
Councillor Asma Islam
Councillor Eve McQuillan
Councillor Dan Tomlinson

[The quorum for this body is 3 Members]

Contact for further enquiries:

Democratic Services, David Knight
1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG
Tel: 020 7364 4878
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Public Information

Attendance at meetings.

The public are welcome to attend meetings of the Committee. However seating is limited and offered on a first come first served basis.

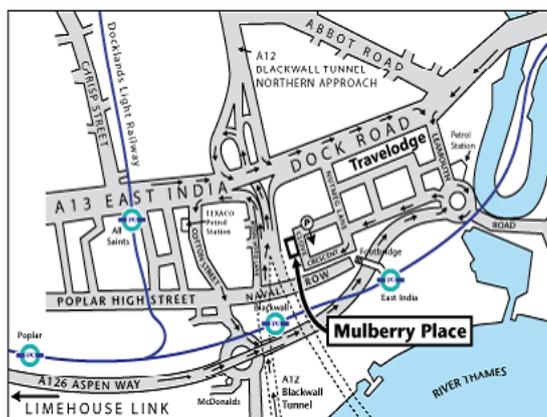
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Access information for the Town Hall, Mulberry Place.



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Docklands Light Railway: Nearest stations are East India: Head across the bridge and then through the complex to the Town Hall, Mulberry Place Blackwall station: Across the bus station then turn right to the back of the Town Hall complex, through the gates and archway to the Town Hall.

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To access this, click www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

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QR code for 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

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, 30 April 2021**
- The deadline for call-ins is: **Monday, 10 May 2021**

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.

King George's Field Trust (KGFT)

Charity Commission's Public Benefit Guidance

About public benefit

All charity trustees have a duty to 'have regard' to the commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

As a charity trustee, this means being able to show that:

- you are aware of the guidance
- you have taken it into account when making a decision to which the guidance is relevant
- if you have decided to depart from the guidance, you have a good reason for doing so

The public benefit requirement has two aspects:

To satisfy the 'benefit aspect'

To satisfy the benefit aspect:

- the charity's purpose must be beneficial – in an identifiable way and capable of being proved by evidence where necessary and which is not based on personal views
- any detriment or harm that results from the purpose (to people, property or the environment) must not outweigh the benefit - this is also based on evidence and not on personal views

The 'public aspect'

To satisfy the 'public aspect' the purpose must:

- benefit the public in general, or a sufficient section of the public
- not give rise to more than incidental personal benefit - personal benefit is 'incidental' where (having regard both to its nature and to its amount) it is a necessary result or by-product of carrying out the purpose

It is the trustees responsibility to ensure that the King George's Field Mile End Charity and King George's Field -Stepney (Tredegar Square, Bow) charity in a way that carries out its purposes for the public benefit. This means, you should

Make decisions :

- i) to ensure your charity's purpose provides benefit - understanding** how the purpose is beneficial and carrying it out so as to benefit the public in that way.
- ii) to manage risks of detriment or harm to your charity's beneficiaries or to the public in general that might result from carrying out the purpose -** identifying risks of harm, minimising the risks and making sure that any harm that might arise is a minor consequence of carrying out the purpose.

iii) about who benefits in ways that are consistent with the purpose

Knowing who can potentially benefit from the purpose and giving proper consideration to the full range of ways in which you could carry out your charity's purpose.

iv) Make decisions to make sure any personal benefits are no more than incidental

This means making sure that any personal benefits people receive (having regard both to its nature and to its amount) are no more than a necessary result or by-product of carrying out the purpose.

You must make decisions that are within the range of decisions that trustees could properly make in those particular circumstances. Provided that you do that, then you will have made a 'right' decision.

This means that, as a charity trustee, you generally have a choice about how to carry out your charity's purposes, provided that you exercise your discretion in a way which:

- is in accordance with your charity's purpose (so not operating outside of that purpose)
- is for the public benefit
- has regard to the commission's public benefit guidance where relevant
- is in accordance with the general framework for [trustee decision making](#)

Report on public benefit

The trustees' annual report must explain how you have carried out its purpose for the public benefit. A detailed report is only required if your charity's gross income exceeds £500,000; otherwise a brief summary is all that's needed.

You must also state whether you and the other trustees had due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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 18th December 2019.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

PAGE NUMBER	WARD(S) AFFECTED
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3.1 Budget Update

4. 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.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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

Next Meeting of the Board.

Wednesday, 16 June 2021 at 5.30 p.m. in the Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

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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**