

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

**RECORD OF THE DECISIONS OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY
BOARD**

HELD AT 7.07 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2022

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

Members Present in Person:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	
Councillor Maium Talukdar	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Safer Communities)
Councillor Saied Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion)
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation)
Councillor Kabir Hussain	(Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency)

Apologies:

Councillor Abu Chowdhury	(Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills, and Growth)
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Officers Present in Person:

Kevin Bartle	(Interim Corporate Director, Resources & Section 151 Officer)
Catherine Boyd	Interim Head of Arts, Parks, and Events
Paul Sammut	Parks Engagement and Projects officer
Stephen Shapiro	(Acting Director of Property and Major Programmes)
Richard Ward	(Interim Head of Contracts and Procurement)
David Knight	(Democratic Services Officer, Committees, Governance)

Officers In Attendance Virtually:

Kay Goodacre	(Head of Strategic Finance, Children & Culture)
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1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on 6th July, 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 GOVERNANCE REPORT

A report was received that provided an update of a review by the Council's legal team of the governance arrangements for King George's Field (Mile End) charity.

The Board

1. **Reviewed**, the summary of recommendations (**Appendix 1** of the report refers) to decide which of the recommendations should be implemented and authorise Director of Legal and Corporate Director of Children and Culture to progress these recommendations.

The Board agreed to the following actions regarding each of the recommendations/advisory notes:

KGF1 – reviewed and noted

KGF2 – did not authorise the merging of the two charities. However, the Board reviewed and authorised the Director of Legal to apply to the Charity Commission for a uniting direction if required for administrative and financial purposes.

KGF3 - reviewed and noted

KGF4 – reviewed and not approved

KGF5 – reviewed and no additional/separate delegation to be given to officers. Current Council scheme of delegation to be applied to the Charity. Approval to be sought to allow for an amendment of the “2000 Scheme”.

KGF6 - reviewed and noted

KGF7 – reviewed and authorised the Director of Legal and Corporate Director of Children and Culture to apply to the Charity Commission for an amendment of the “2000 Scheme” in relation to the charitable objectives

KGF8 - reviewed and noted

KGF9 – reviewed and not approved

2. **Authorised**, the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and the Director of Legal to apply to the Charity Commission to change the

King George's Field Mile End "2000 Scheme" when it is known which recommendations referred to in Appendix 1 are to be taken forward.

3. **Noted**, and had regard to, the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Guidance (**Appendix 2** of the report refers).

3.2 FINANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

A report was considered that provided an update on the audited accounts submission, the current financial position for King George's Field Trust (KGFT) and an update on the charitable activities carried out to date this year. The report also provides an update on grant funding from Fields in Trust.

The Board

- a) **Noted** the submission of the audited accounts 2020/21 and annual report 2020/21 to the Charity Commission
- b) **Noted** the forecasted financial position of King George's Fields Trust for 2022/23
- c) **Noted** the 2022 activity programme update.
- d) **Approved** the transfer of funds from Fields in Trust (as a grant) to King George's Fields Trust to support the maintenance, equipping and improvement of, or the provision of facilities in Stepney Green Park or Mile End Park. However, the Board agreed that the grant would not be used to fund additional five-a-side astroturf facilities at Stepney Green Park.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee agreed the following motion:

RESOLVED

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 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.

5. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 LEASES REPORT

A report was received that **(i)** provided an update on the lease arrangements for the King George's Field Trust (KGFT) retail and rental units, income from which supports the Charity to maintain park land and amenities for the benefit of Tower Hamlets residents; **(ii)** sought separate decisions from the KGFT Board regarding the renewal of a Green Bridge Shop unit, the renewal of a Mile End Park lease and to consider whether a Green Bridge lease should be

re-gear; and **(iii)** provided an update on a Green Bridge unit that has breached its lease and the potential extension of a services contract with external agents who manage the Green Bridge tenants on behalf of Asset Management.

The Board:

1. **Did not give** authority to the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and the Corporate Director for Place to enter into and conclude the renewal of the lease with "Tenant A" on the terms proposed by the tenant in restricted **Appendix 3.3. The Board instructed** that matters were to be resolved by way of Statutory dispute resolution.
2. **Noted** the position of the discussions for the lease renewal with "Tenant B" and advised they would want a term of five years.
3. **Did not give** authority to the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and the Corporate Director for Place to authorise the re-gear of the lease with "Tenant C", but **Gave authority** to document the rent review at passing.
4. **Noted** the update provided in exempt **Appendix 1** regarding lease breaches by "Tenant D" and authorised the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and the Corporate Director for Place to take forfeiture action against these breaches if they are not resolved, and then market the property as appropriate.
5. **Granted** approval of an optional one-year extension with the external management Contractor to continue to oversee letting management arrangements on behalf of the Council and KGFT.
6. **Authorised** the Chair of King George's Fields Trust to review Lease Agreements on behalf of the Board prior to any formal decisions being made by the Board.

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

With no other business to discuss the Chair called this meeting to a close and thanked the Members and Officers of the Board for their contributions to this evenings discussions.

The meeting ended at 7.43 p.m.

**Chair, Mayor Lutfur Rahman
King George's Field Charity Board**