

King George's Field Charity Board

Agenda

Wednesday, 12 October 2022 5.30 p.m.
**Committee Room One - Town Hall, Mulberry
Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG**

Members:

Chair: Mayor Lutfur Rahman

Councillor Maium Talukdar, Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Councillor Ohid Ahmed, Councillor Saied Ahmed, Councillor Suluk Ahmed, Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury, Councillor Abu Chowdhury, Councillor Iqbal Hossain and Councillor Kabir Hussain

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

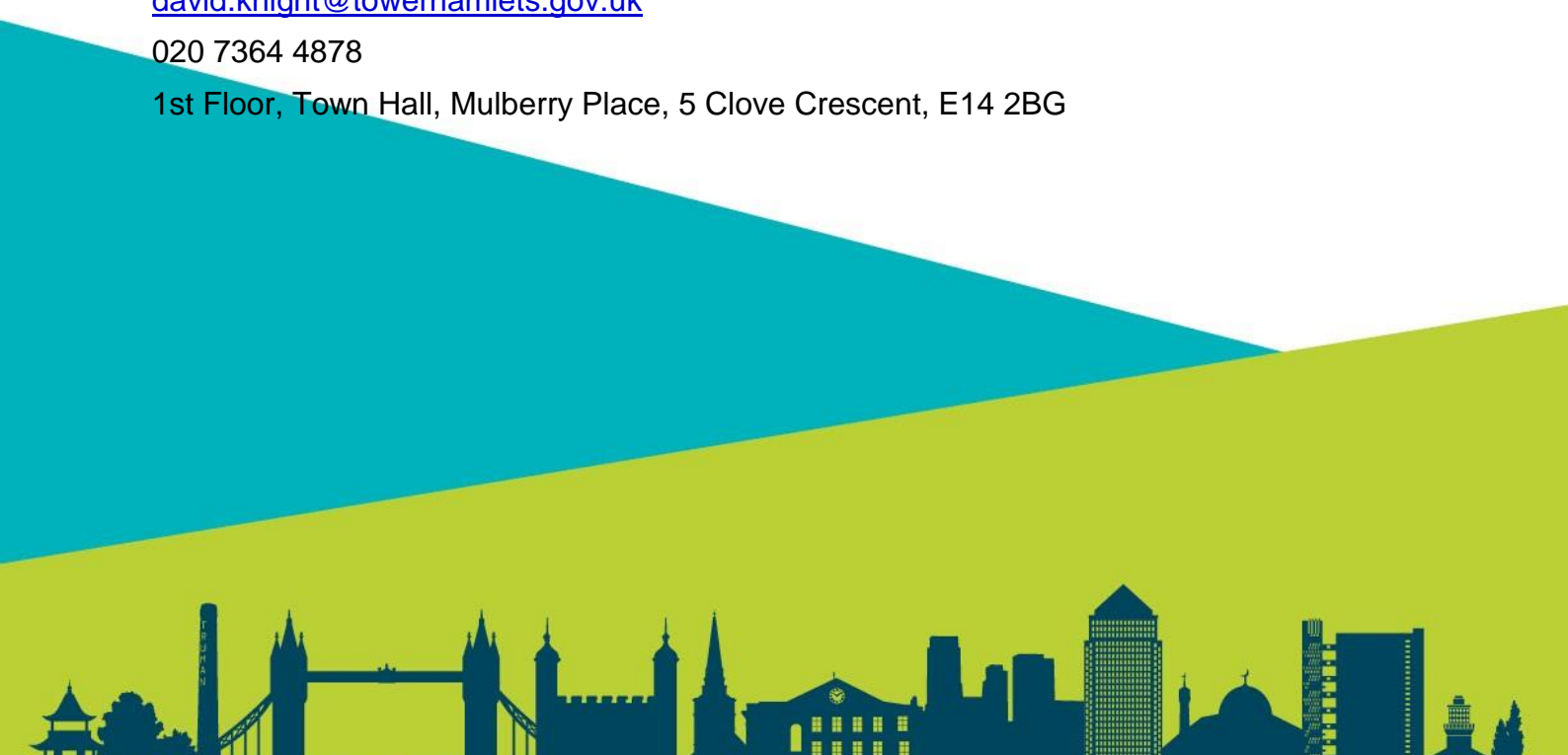
Contact for further enquiries:

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Public Information

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London Borough of Tower Hamlets

King George's Field Charity Board

Wednesday, 12 October 2022

5.30 p.m.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (PAGES 5 - 6)

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(S) (PAGES 7 - 10)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting of the Board.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 GOVERNANCE REPORT

To follow.

3.2 FINANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

To follow.



3.3 LEASES REPORT

To follow.

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. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

Next Meeting of the King George's Field Charity Board

Wednesday, 26 October 2022 at 7.00 p.m. to be held in Committee Room One - Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG



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: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal 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 6.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 6 JULY 2022

**COMMITTEE ROOM ONE - TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5 CLOVE
CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

Members Present in Person:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman (Chair)	
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 Suluk Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion)
Councillor Abu Chowdhury	(Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills, and Growth)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation)
Councillor Kabir Hussain	(Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency)

Apologies:

Councillor Saied Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
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Officers Present in Person:

Agnes Adrien	(Head of Litigation, Legal Services)
Kevin Bartle	(Interim Corporate Director, Resources & Section 151 Officer)
Catherine Boyd	Interim Head of Arts, Parks, and Events
Amy Jackson	Head of Mayor's Office - Strategy and Performance
Matthew Mannion	Head of Democratic Services
Paul Sammut	Parks Engagement and Projects officer
Judith St John	(Director, Commissioning and Culture, Children's Services)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. PUBLIC BENEFIT GUIDANCE

The Board received and noted the Public Benefit Guidance and how understanding public benefit helps in running the King George's Field Charity

to know what it means to be a charity, and to function as a charity should. It also helps the trustees to describe and report on their work.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Agreed the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on 8th March 2022 be approved for signing by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

4. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 King George's Field Trust Finance Report June 2022

The Board received a report that sought approval of the audited accounts for 2020/21 and the annual report for 2020/21. The main points considered may be summarised as follows:

The Board **noted** that:

- ❖ The report asked for agreement of the audited accounts for 2020/21 and the annual report for 2020/21.
- ❖ Approval is required in order for the accounts and report to be submitted to the Charity Commission, a legal duty for organisations with a turnover of more than £1million.
- ❖ The accounts for 2020/21 have been independently audited by Arnold Hill & Co LLP in line with the requirements of the Charity Commission for organisations with a turnover of over £1million to publish audited accounts.
- ❖ The accounts are accompanied by an annual report, in keeping with the requirements of the Charity Commission (**Appendix 1 of the report refers**).
- ❖ The report and accounts relate to the King George's Field, Mile End charity which comprises Stepney Green and Whitehorse Road Open Space.
- ❖ King George's Field Mile End had a revenue surplus for the year amounting £79,000, resulting in a carry-forward cumulative unrestricted revenue reserve of £77,000.
- ❖ King George's Field Tredegar Square charity (registered number 1088999) achieved a balanced position. There was £10,000 of expenditure for Repairs and Maintenance related to grounds maintenance.

Accordingly, the Board:

1. **Approved** the audited accounts 2020/21 for submission to the Charity Commission; and
2. **Approved** the annual report for 2020/21 for submission to the Charity Commission.

4.2 Review of Hire Charges King George's Field Trust Report

The Board considered a report seeking approval for a review of hire charges for the Arts and Ecology Pavilions to be agreed by the King George's Field Trust (KGFT) board, which would come into effect for bookings from the 1 April 2023. In addition, this report sought approval for a review of the King George's Field Trust policy regarding subsidised hire charges for use of the Arts and Ecology Pavilions by community groups. The main matters considered maybe summarised as follows:

The Board **noted** that:

- ❖ The Arts and Ecology Pavilions are a significant source of income for KGFT.
- ❖ Costs for operating and maintaining the Arts and Ecology Pavilions are increasing due to rising inflation, increased utility rates and operational costs (including staffing) and therefore a review of the current hire rates is recommended.
- ❖ The hire rates for both pavilions have not been reviewed since 2014 and are now well-established wedding and private hire venues.
- ❖ A review of corporate, commercial, and private hire rates is recommended to ensure that KGFT is offering the pavilions at appropriate hire rates for the client base and activity.
- ❖ It is proposed that the findings of the review, including any recommended increases to hire fees, are presented to the KGFT board in the autumn. If approved, any revised charges would apply to corporate, commercial, and private bookings from 1 April 2023.
- ❖ In parallel to a review of corporate, commercial, and private hires, a review of KGFT's policy on subsidised hire charges is also proposed.
- ❖ In March 2018 a policy for subsidised hire rates for community groups was approved by the KGFT board. (**Appendix 1 of the report refers**). However, since the subsidised hire policy was agreed the charity's financial position has been adversely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. In addition, there has been a significant increase in maintenance costs in part due to increases in contractor and product costs but also due to the higher level of usage. Casual staff and security costs have also increased. Therefore, a review of the subsidised hire policy is recommended to protect the ongoing viability of the venues and to support the KGFT's revenue streams and delivery of its charitable objectives.
- ❖ If approved, the review for both the hire charges and the subsidised rates, would include reviewing: current and predicted increased utility costs, waste removal costs, enhanced cleaning costs, wear and tear maintenance, replacement (furniture and facilities) staffing and security. In addition, officers would undertake a benchmarking exercise of similar venues and consult with industry experts to ascertain current client trends and expectations regarding price and service offer.

Accordingly, the Board:

1. **Approved** a review of hire charges for the Arts and Ecology Pavilion that would be applied to bookings from 1 April 2023; and
2. **Approved** a review of KGFT's subsidised hire policy for the Arts and Ecology Pavilions.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

As the agenda circulated contained no exempt/confidential reports and there was therefore no requirement to exclude the press and public to allow for its consideration.

6. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Nil items

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

With no other items for consideration the Trustees noted that the next Board meeting will be on 1st August 2022 at the Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2B.

Finally, the Chair thanked everybody for their attendance and participation in tonight's Board meeting.

The meeting ended at 6.54 p.m.

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