

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

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

HELD AT 7.31 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 27 JUNE 2017

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

Members Present:

Mayor John Biggs	(Chair)
Councillor Rachel Blake	(Cabinet Member for Strategic Development & Waste)
Councillor David Edgar	(Cabinet Member for Resources)
Councillor Sirajul Islam	(Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing)
Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Youth)
Councillor Amy Whitelock Gibbs	(Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services)
Councillor Rachael Saunders	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Services)

Apologies:

Councillor Amina Ali	(Cabinet Member for Environment)
Councillor Asma Begum	(Cabinet Member for Community Safety)
Councillor Joshua Peck	(Cabinet Member for Work & Economic Growth)

Others Present:

Councillor Denise Jones	(Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
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Officers Present:

Will Tuckley	(Chief Executive)
Graham White	(Acting Corporate Director, Governance)
Stephen Murray	(Head of Arts and Events, Communities Localities & Culture)
Joel West	(Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

DECISION:

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on 4 April 2017 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 Erection of a statue of Swami Vivekananda at Mile End Park

DECISION:

That the King George's Field Charity Board requests a report is brought to a future meeting which:

1. Will allow the Board to review and if necessary amend, guidance on the placing of statues, plaques and other structures in Mile End Park and other land within its remit; and
2. Provides more detail on the proposal to erect a statue of Swami Vivekananda in Mile End Park, including the connection of Swami Vivekananda with the proposed site.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES (D. Jones)
(Stephen Murray –Head of Arts, Parks and Events).

Reasons for the decision

The Council has been approached by the Vivekananda Human Centre, Aldgate, for permission to erect a statue of Swami Vivekananda. He was a Hindu Bengali who died in 1902 who had an international profile and promoted Tolerance, Harmony and Peace amongst all faiths. The application is supported by the Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum.

Alternative options

There are opportunities for a wide variety of temporary and permanent public art works in the borough. Apart from the obvious landmark buildings parks and open spaces there are also schools, colleges and medical facilities, sheltered housing and hostels, community centres, libraries, idea stores and sports centres, train stations and other transport structures. There are also a variety of media you could consider, lighting, mosaics, restoration of building facades and 2 dimensional artworks. Permission from the relevant landowners must be sought at all times.

Assessment: For the purposes of promoting learning about Swami Vivekananda a statue does seem to be appropriate for this purpose, however

officers felt there should be more information on site and perhaps a link to a web site with full history.

3.2 Update on Mile End Park

DECISION:

That the King George's Field Charity Board:

1. Considered and commented on the summer activities programme
2. Noted the report on commercial activity in Mile End park
3. Noted the update on repairs to water features in Mile End Park.

Action by:

CORPORATE DIRECTOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES (D. Jones)
(Stephen Murray –Head of Arts, Parks and Events).

Reasons for the decision

The King George's Field Charity Board, at its meeting on 4th April 2017, requested additional information around ongoing problems with the lakes at the Ecology Pavilion.

The Board also needs to be aware of the commercial activities that take place in Mile End Park and also the free community activities.

Alternative options

This is a noting report.

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

None.

The meeting ended at 7.55 p.m.

Mayor John Biggs