

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

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

HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2018

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

Members Present:

Mayor John Biggs (Chair)	(Executive Mayor)
Councillor Amina Ali (Member)	(Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Sirajul Islam (Member)	(Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing)

1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on 11th July, 2018 were approved and as a correct record of proceedings.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

4. MILE END PARK UPDATE

The Board received and noted a report that provided an update on items related to the management of Mile End Park including the planned activities and major maintenance issues.

It also provided an update on the other parks that are within the Board's responsibilities.

The questions and comments from Members on the report may be summarised as follows:

The Committee:

- Noted that after the death of King George V it was agreed to establish the King George's Fields Foundation to carry the late King's name forward through future generations. The aim being to promote and to assist in the establishment throughout the United Kingdom of playing fields for the use and enjoyment of the people;
- Noted when the King George's Fields Foundation was dissolved in 1965 there were over 400 King George Playing Fields and they are

legally protected by Fields in Trust and managed locally by either the Council or a Board of Local Trustees. There are also strict covenants and conditions that ensure that the public will continue to benefit from these open play areas;

- Agreed that there was a need for there to be a thorough review the operation of the Trust including a review of the Membership (**e.g.** including non-executive councillors; stakeholders and user groups); increased frequency of the Boards meetings; a review of the income and expenditure process; a review of the use of agency staff; considering how to increase the use of volunteers in supporting planned activities; a detailed breakdown on repairs and maintenance;
- Noted the summary set out in Appendix 1 of those activities that have taken place so far in the current year. Including an analysis of the type of events that have taken place at the Mile End Pavilions with the intention of achieving a balance between income generation and free to access events for the public;
- Noted that the activities programmed aim to provide something for all age ranges and families. The urban adventure playground programme being targeted at 10 to 25 year olds, the arts and other workshops younger children and the “stay and play toddler group;
- Noted an update detailed in Appendix 2 on income and expenditure that provided (i) a starting budget; (ii) the spend to date; and (iii) the forecast for the year;
- Noted that the yearly forecast shows a projected over spend of £5,200 in Mile End Park and a projected surplus in Stepney Green giving an overall projected surplus of £20,485. The expenditure it was noted included a sum of £80,000 for repairs and maintenance carried over from 2017-18, delayed in order to check details of works completed; and
- Noted that this was offset by a one off backdated rental income from the Climbing Wall of £100,000.

The Chair moved and it was:-

RESOLVED

The King George’s Field Charity Board:

1. Noted the update on activities in Mile End Park Appendix 1;
2. Noted the update on spend and income Appendix 2; and
3. Agreed for there to be a review of the operation of the Trust.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

6. EXEMPT MINUTES

The Chair **Moved** and it was:-

RESOLVED

That the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11th July, 2018 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

7. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Nil items

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

Nil items

The meeting ended at 7.30 p.m.

Will Tuckley
CHIEF EXECUTIVE