


King Georges Fields Charity Board	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> September 2019</b>	
<b>Report of:</b> Debbie Jones, Corporate Director, Children and Culture	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Updates: budget, 10 year maintenance plan, summer activities, proposed new 5-a-side Astro Pitches at Stepney Green</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Councillor Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Culture Arts and Brexit</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Stephen Murray, Head of Arts Parks and Events
<b>Wards affected</b>	All Wards
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	N/A
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	N/A
<b>Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome</b>	<b>A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in</b>

### Reasons for urgency

This report was delayed due to difficulty in pulling together relevant data from multiple sources during holiday period. It cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting as the Board are keen to move forward with issues around governance and make-up of the board and information on budgets and Mile End Park maintenance will both help inform this process. Additionally, the Charity annual returns have been late two years-running and an early sight and discussion of the 2018/19 accounts will help ensure measures are in place for an earlier annual meeting and clearance of accounts for submission to the Charity Commission.

### Executive Summary

This is to provide updates on: budget, 10 year maintenance plan, proposal for new 5-a-side Astro pitches at Stepney Green and on summer activities

### Recommendations:

The Board is recommended to:

1. Note the final outturn budget for 2018-19.
2. Note the draft 10 year maintenance plan.
3. Note update for two new 5 a side Astro turf pitches at Stepney Green.
4. Note the 2019 summer activity programme.

## **1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 The King Georges Fields charity is registered with the Charity Commission as King Georges Field, Mile End Charity, registered number 1077859.
- 1.2 The Council is the trustee of the charity and the council is the freehold owner of the land which is subject to this report.
- 1.3 The King Georges Fields Charity Board (the Board) is established by section 3.3.12 of the Council's Constitution, which gives the Board the following functions:
  - 3.2.1 To administer the affairs of the King Georges Fields Charity and discharge all the duties of the Council a sole trustee of the Charity
  - 3.2.2 To administer the affairs and discharge the duties of trustee of such other charities controlled by the Council as the Cabinet might authorise by resolution
- 1.4 The Board are asked to note the progress on developing two new five side pitches in Stepney Green.

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 There is no consideration for alternative options as no decisions are required on any of the items tabled, they are for noting only.

## **3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

- 3.1 Appendix 1 details the figures for the end of financial year April 2018 to March 2019. Headline figure is a surplus of £273,399. These figures are subject to change and clarification but a healthy surplus will have been achieved within this year.
- 3.2 Appendix 2 is a draft of the 10 year maintenance plan for KGFT lands and infrastructure.
- 3.3 Appendix 3 is an assessment of how Stepney Green is currently used by the public and how this usage would be affected by the new pitches, it includes a drawing of the location and size.
- 3.4 Appendix 4 is an overview of the 2019 Parks summer programme.

## **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Mile End Park is an important community asset that is open to all. As the population of the borough increases it, along with other parks, becomes increasingly important as a facility to support healthy living and community activity that helps promote community cohesion.

## **5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.

5.2 There are no other statutory implications.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

6.1 Appendix 1 details the KGFT accounts for the financial year 18/19 resulting in a surplus of £274k.

6.2 Appendix 2 provides an update on the 10 year maintenance plan. All maintenance costs will be covered within existing budgets and income targets.

6.3 Appendix 3 details the proposal for 2 new 5 a side football pitches in Stepney Green. The £200k cost of these pitches will be met by Film location income previously generated within Arts Parks and Events.

6.4 The funding for the 2 new pitches is available from filming holding account and not earmarked for any other projects.

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

7.1 The Council is the Trustee of the Mile End Charity pursuant to the Governing Document which is a Scheme dated 28th February, 2000. The Council's Constitution establishes the King George's Fields Charity Board to administer the charities affairs and discharge the Council's trustee functions.

7.2 The purpose of the charity is to preserve the Park Lands in perpetuity as a memorial to King George V under the provisions of the King George's Fields Foundation. The 1965 Scheme which established the Foundation gave its purpose as "to promote and to assist in the establishment and to promote the preservation throughout the United Kingdom of Playing Fields for the use and enjoyment of the people..." Additionally, the trustees may "apply the land to such charitable purposes as are set out in the Recreational Charities Act 1958".

7.3 As trustees, the Board must make sure that the charity is carrying out the purposes for which it is set up, and no other purpose. Further, the Board

must act in the Charity's best interests and manage the Charity's resources responsibly.

- 7.4** This report provides information to the Board so that the trustees can undertake their duties. In considering this report and its recommendations, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). [Legal implications to be inserted when Financial Implications have been completed].

## **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

### **Linked Report**

- None

### **Appendices**

1. Final budget outturn 2018-19
2. Draft 10 Year Maintenance plan
3. Reports and drawing for proposed 5-a-side football pitches for Stepney Green
4. Summary of Summer 2019 activities

### **Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012**

None

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

Stephen Murray. Head of Arts Parks and Events x7910