

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD**

**HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2019**

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

**Members Present:**

Councillor Sabina Akhtar	– (Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit)
Councillor Rachel Blake	– (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty)
Councillor David Edgar	– (Cabinet Member for Environment)
Councillor Candida Ronald	– (Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector)
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman	– (Cabinet Member for Work and Economic Growth)

**Apologies:**

Councillor Amina Ali	– (Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing)
Councillor Asma Begum	– (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities)
Councillor Danny Hassell	– (Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People)
Councillor Sirajul Islam	– (Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing)

**Officers Present:**

Agnes Adrien	– (Head of Litigation, Legal Services)
Judith St John	– (Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture)
David Knight	– (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

**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 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 were approved as a correct record of proceedings.

## **3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **3.1 Updates: Budget, 10 Year Maintenance Plan, Summer Activities, Proposed New 5-a-side Astro Pitches at Stepney Green**

The Board received a report that provided updates on: budget, 10 year maintenance plan, proposal for new 5-a-side Astro pitches at Stepney Green and on summer activities. The Chair invited the Board to ask questions and commented on each of the main sections of the report. The discussion can be summarised as follows:

The Board:

#### **1. Final Outturn Budget for 2018-19**

- Noted that **appendix 1** details the figures for the end of financial year April 2018 to March 2019. With the headline figure being a surplus of £273,399 and whilst it was noted that these figures are subject to change and clarification it was understood that a healthy surplus will have been achieved within this year;
- Noted that these accounts as detailed in **appendix 1** have been drafted as per the Charity Commissions Requirements;
- Noted that should the current higher level of trading be sustained then the income would be used to invest in developing the parks infrastructure;
- Noted that the income regarding rentals and pitch hire was not charitable income and therefore should be shown under a different heading such as "Other Trading";
- Agreed that there should be a review by an external auditor once the internal audit team has undertaken a final review this draft;
- Noted that there was a need to look at the sources of income such as (i) rentals and (ii) other income;
- Noted that the increased spend on repairs/maintenance shown in the report was due to an unexpected recharge from Facilities Management. Accordingly, the Board agreed that there was a need to ensure a greater overview of such "unannounced costs";
- Expressed the view that more use could be made of online processes to assist in the management of the Budget as part of the move away from the old style of financial administration;
- Commented that (i) there was a need to identify the alternative funding streams that the King George's Fields Charity could access; (ii) there was a need for the Councils Resources Directorate support in accessing these funds;
- Noted that with regards to premises and horticultural maintenance there was a need to identify the frequency of work that is to be

undertaken and that this correctly budgeted and that the level of reserves are maintained to fund this expenditure;

- Indicated that it wanted to look at the income expenditure for all the constituent elements so that they there can be a proper review of the charities affairs and how the Council has discharged it functions as a trustee;

## **2. The draft 10 year maintenance plan**

- Noted that (i) **appendix 2** is a draft of the 10 year maintenance plan for KGFTB lands and infrastructure; and (ii) intention is to keep the reserves in line with inflation so as to have the necessary monies available to undertake the required maintenance;

## **3. Update for two new 5 a side Astro turf pitches at Stepney Green**

- Noted that **appendix 3** is an assessment of how the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at Stepney Green is currently being used by the public and how the establishment of the 2 new MUGA's together with a picnic area could benefit resident's;
- Indicated that there was also a need to look at the development of such MUGA's on housing developments;
- Noted that two mature trees will need to be taken down for the MUGA's at Stepney Green and whilst these would be replaced by native species many people may object to the loss of these 2 mature trees;
- Noted that the consultation on these proposals would be carried-out until the end of September;

## **4. The 2019 summer activity programme**

- Noted that **appendix 4** provides an overview of the 2019 Parks summer programme;
- Noted that the Council had provided free meals for children across the borough during the school holidays. These together with holiday clubs opened in Tower Hamlets schools had provided a free breakfast and lunch for 330 children per day;
- Commented that going forward that consideration would need to be given as to how to fund this program and noted that Public Health were evaluating the impact of this program;
- Wished to see regular quarterly reports on the summer activity programme;

## **5. The composition of the Board**

- Noted that with regards to the changing composition of the Board there would be a briefing provided at the next meeting.

As a result of discussions on the report the Chair moved and it was **RESOLVED** that:

The Board:

1. **(i) Noted** the final outturn budget for 2018-19 and **(ii) Agreed** that there should be a review by an external auditor once the internal audit team has reviewed this draft;
2. **Noted** the draft 10 year maintenance plan.
3. **Noted** update for two new Multi Use Games Areas at Stepney Green.
4. **Noted** the 2019 summer activity programme.

**4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

As the agenda circulated contains no exempt/confidential business there is no need to go into closed session.

**5. EXEMPT MINUTES**

Nil items

**6. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Nil items

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

None.

The meeting ended at 6.35 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Sabina Akhtar  
King George's Field Charity Board