

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

HELD AT 5:55PM ON WEDNESDAY, 12 APRIL 2023

COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, WHITECHAPEL

Members Present in Person:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	
Councillor Maium Talukdar	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))
Councillor Saied Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
Councillor Suluk Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Equalities and Social Inclusion)
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	(Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care)
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 Kabir Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)
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Officers Present in Person:

James Thomas	(Corporate Director, Children and Culture)
Richard Ward	(Head of Commercial & Contracts)
Catherine Boyd	(Head of Arts, Parks and Events)
Paul Sammut	(Parks Engagement and Projects officer)
Caroline Dzandu	(Senior Estates Surveyor)
Ahsan Khan	(Chief Accountant)
Jack Painter	(Democratic Services Officer)

Officers In Attendance Virtually:

Caroline Holland	(Interim Corporate Director, Resources)
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1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on 26th October, 2022 be approved for signature by the Chair of the Trust as a correct record of proceedings.

3. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 King George's Field Trust End of Year Accounts and Annual Report Approval (Year End 31 March 2022)

The board received a report seeking approval of the audited accounts for 2021/22 and the annual report for 2021/22. Approval was needed 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.

This report also provided an update on the current financial position for 2022/23.

The board of the trust considered the report and the Chair of the Trust then moved the recommendations and it was:-

RESOLVED to

- approved the audited accounts 2021/22 for submission to the Charity Commission.
- approved the annual report for 2021/22 for submission to the Charity Commission.
- approved the Letter of Representation from Arnold Hill & Co LLP.
- noted the Letter of Ownership Confirmation sign off required by the charity's auditors, Arnold Hill & Co LLP, from the Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, before the accounts can be signed off by the charity's auditors.
- granted permission to appoint Arnold Hill & Co LLP to audit the accounts for 2022/23.
- noted the current financial position for 2022/23.
- noted the activities update for 2022/23.

3.2 Fees and Charges Review Report

The board received a report that provided an update of the review by the Council's Arts, Parks and Events of fees and charges for the hire of assets owned by King George's Field (Mile End) charity.

The board of the trust considered the report and the Chair of the Trust then moved the recommendations and it was:-

RESOLVED to

- approved the proposed hire charge increases for the Art and Ecology Pavilions from 1 April 2023 and authorised the Corporate Director of

Children and Culture and Director of Finance to implement the new charges.

- reviewed the “Subsidised Hire of Pavilions for Community Groups”, agreed by the Board on 6 March 2018, approved the updated policy and authorised the Corporate Director of Children and Culture to implement the revised policy from 1 April 2023.
- approved the proposed hire charge increase for the Stepney Green astro turf from 1 April 2023 and authorised the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and Director of Finance to implement the new charges.
- noted the Charity Commission’s Public Benefit Guidance.

3.3 Leases Update

The board received a report that provided an update on the lease arrangements for the King George’s Field Trust (KGFT) retail and rental units, income from which supports the Charity to maintain park land and amenities for the benefit of Tower Hamlets residents.

This report required a decision from the KGFT Board to authorise officers to undertake action against a Green Bridge unit that has arrears against utility charges, which is in breach of the lease.

The report also provided an update in respect of lease renewal discussions.

The board of the trust considered the report and the Chair of the Trust then moved the recommendations and it was:-

RESOLVED to

- Authorised the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and the Corporate Director for Place to take action against “Tenant A” to recover costs of unpaid utilities.
- Noted the ongoing discussions in respect of the lease renewal of “Tenant B”.
- Noted the ongoing discussions in respect of “Tenant C” and to authorise the Corporate Director of Children and Culture and the Corporate Director for Place to undertake and complete a review of “Tenant C’s” rent (subject to final consideration by the Board).

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

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.

5. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

None.

The meeting ended at 6:45pm

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