

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

HELD AT 5.45 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2023

COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, WHITECHAPEL

Members Present in Person:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	
Councillor Saied Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain	(Cabinet Member for Culture and Recreation)
Councillor Kabir Hussain	(Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency)
Councillor Abdul Wahid	(Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Growth)

Apologies:

Councillor Maium Talukdar	(Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	(Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding)
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 Safer Communities)

Officers Present in Person:

Catherine Boyd	(Head of Arts, Parks and Events)
Raj Mistry	(Corporate Director for Communities)
Kamran Rashid	(Interim Project Manager)
Paul Sammut	(Parks Engagement and Projects officer)
Richard Ward	(Interim Head of Contracts and Procurement)
Jack Painter	(Democratic Services Officer (Committees))

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None were declared.

2. PUBLIC BENEFIT GUIDANCE

RESOLVED:

1. That the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Guidance be noted.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on Wednesday 12 April 2023 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

3.1 King George's Field Trust audited accounts 21/22, management recommendations and governance update, current financial position, activity update and allocation of Fields in Trust grant funding

The board received a report providing an update on the submission of the audited accounts and annual report for 2021/22 to the Charity Commission. The report included management recommendations from the auditors in respect of the 2021/22 audited accounts for the Board's noting.

This report also provided an update on the 2022/23 accounts is provided as part of this report as well as an overview of the current financial position for 2023/24 and activities update. A governance update is also provided as part of this report. In addition, the report seeks a decision from the Board on the allocation of grant funding from Fields in Trust.

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

RESOLVED that the Board;

1. Notes the update on the submission of the 2021/22 audited accounts and annual report to the Charity Commission.
2. Authorises Catherine Boyd to be the nominated charity contact to access the Charity Commission's "My Commission Account".
3. Notes the recommendations by the external auditors (Management Letter) with regards to the 2021/22 accounts.
4. Notes the update on the end of year accounts 2022/23.
5. Notes the current financial position for 2023/24.
6. Notes the activities update for 2023/24.
7. Notes the Governance update.
8. at their next meeting reviews the options and takes a decision on the allocation of Fields in Trust funding.

3.2 King George's Fields Trust – Commercial Property Recommendations and Updates

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 also provides an update in respect of lease renewal discussions and service charge arrears. The report outlines requirements for management arrangements and recommends that a new management agent contract is tendered

It was decided that the board would consider this item with the exclusion of the press and public. What was resolved by the board is shown below.

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

RESOLVED that the Board;

1. Notes the status of payments received and arrears for Green Bridge retail units.
2. Notes the actions being taken to recover outstanding arrears from "Tenant A".
3. Notes the ongoing discussions in respect of the rent review for "Tenant B" and the valuation provided.
4. Grants permission for officers to enter into negotiations to settle a new rental agreement with "Tenant C" based on the valuation provided.
5. Authorises the Corporate Director of Communities in consultation with the Chair to act against tenants listed in Table 1 of the report submitted to recover costs of unpaid service rent.
6. Agrees to procure external services to manage lettings in regard the management of leases

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

None.

5. 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.

6. EXEMPT REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

See minute 3.2.

The meeting ended at 6.25 p.m.

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