

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE'S FIELD CHARITY BOARD

HELD AT 5.44 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 29 MAY 2024

COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, WHITECHAPEL

Members Present in Person:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	Chair
Councillor Maium Talukdar	Vice-Chair
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	
Councillor Musthak Ahmed	
Councillor Shafi Ahmed	
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury	
Councillor Abu Chowdhury	
Councillor Kamrul Hussain	
Councillor Abdul Wahid	

Apologies:

Councillor Saied Ahmed

Officers Present in Person:

Simon Baxter	(Corporate Director Communities)
Catherine Boyd	(Head of Arts, Parks and Events)
Caroline Dzandu	(Senior Estates Surveyor)
Jack Painter	(Democratic Services Officer)

Officers In Attendance Virtually:

Joanne Dunnyaglo	(Principal Property Lawyer)
Richard Ward	(Head of Commercial & Contracts)

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(S)

That the unrestricted minutes of the Board meeting held on Wednesday 22 November 2023 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record of proceedings.

4. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 Terms of Reference of the King George's Field Charity Board

The board received a report setting out the board's terms of reference, membership and quorum of the King George's Fields Charity Board for 2024/2025.

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 notes it's terms of reference, membership and quorum as set out in the report submitted.

4.2 King George's Field Trust audited accounts and annual report 2022/2023

The item was withdrawn before the meeting.

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

The board received a report that provides an update on the submission of the trust's audited accounts and annual report to the Charity Commission. The report also provides an update on the current financial position and activities delivered by the trust this financial year (2023/24), a governance update and in addition, 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 audited accounts and annual reports to the Charity Commission.
2. Notes the forecasted financial position for 2023/24 as set out in appendix 1 in the report submitted.
3. Notes the activities update for 2023/24 as set out in appendix 2 in the report submitted.
4. Notes the Governance update.
5. Reviewed the options set out in appendix 3 in the report submitted and agreed for officers to take forward the Match fund practice cricket nets at a KGFT park / open space, creation of a small refreshment kiosk at

Stepney Green Astro turf and Match funding towards Playzone scheme upgrades to the artificial pitches at Mile End Park.

6. Note, and have regard to, the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Guidance as set out in appendix 4 in the report submitted.

4.4 King George's Field Trust Review of Fees and Charges 2024/25

The board received a report that provides an update of a 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 report also provides an overview of the benchmarking carried out by officers and proposed options for new fees and charges for the hire of the Art and Ecology Pavilions and Stepney Green astro turf facility.

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. approves the proposed hire charge increases for the Art and Ecology Pavilions from June 2024 and authorises the Corporate Director of Communities and Corporate Director of Resources to implement the new Charges as shown in Appendix 1 in the report submitted.
2. approves the proposed hire charge increase for the Stepney Green astro turf from June 2024 and authorises the Corporate Director of Communities and Corporate Director of Resources to implement the new Charges as shown in Appendix 2 in the report submitted.

4.5 King George's Field Trust update on leases for Commercial and Retail Assets

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 ongoing discussions with "Tenant A" in respect of outstanding arrears and their lease arrangements and approve the proposal from the tenant to offset their arrears.
3. Notes the outcome of discussions in respect of the rent review for "Tenant B" and their lease arrangements.
4. Notes the current position with regard to negotiations with "Tenant C" regarding their lease renewal.
5. Notes the status of lease renewal arrangements with "Tenant D".
6. Note the ongoing discussions with "Tenant E" regarding their rent review.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair **MOVED** and it was:

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 4.5.

The meeting ended at 7.00 p.m.

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