

**WEST HAM PARK COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, 5 February 2018**

Minutes of the meeting of the West Ham Park Committee held at Committee Rooms  
- Second Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 5 February 2018 at 12.15 pm

**Present**

**Members:**

Alderman Ian Luder  
Wendy Mead (Chief Commoner)  
Barbara Newman  
Graeme Smith (Chairman)  
Michael Welbank  
Justin Meath-Baker  
Robert Cazenove  
Councillor Bryan Collier MBE  
Councillor Joy Laguda MBE  
Jeremy Simons  
Oliver Sells QC (Deputy Chairman)

**Officers:**

Alison Elam	-	Chamberlain's Department
Martin Rodman	-	Superintendent, City Gardens
Natasha Dogra	-	Town Clerk's Department
Colin Buttery	-	Director of Open Spaces & Heritage
Carl Locsin	-	Town Clerk's Department

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Richard Gurney, Catherine Bickmore and Stennett Kirby.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

There were no declarations.

**3. MINUTES**

Resolved – that the minutes be agreed as an accurate record.

**4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The report provided an update to Members of the West Ham Park Committee on management and operational activities at West Ham Park since December 2017.

In response to query regarding the visit to West Ham Park, the Superintendent informed Members that due to low attendance at this visit it had last year been replaced by an Open Spaces and City Gardens dinner. The Chairman and Superintendent would discuss the possibility of a visit to the Park which would allow Members, local groups and volunteers to meet and discuss local matters. The Committee agreed that a visit from the Mayoral party boosted staff morale and should be included in the annual schedule. Members suggested an

evening garden party with a drinks reception, which Officers would investigate whether a naming ceremony for the wildlife garden could be held. The Director thanked Members for their suggestions and informed Members that a schedule of visits was being drawn up for Committee Members. With regards to timing, it was noted that late afternoon or early evening may be a more appropriate time for Members and local groups.

The Committee noted that the Nursery Project Board team met with the appointed consultants in the January to explore the development of the ideas for the future of the nursery site. A workshop with the Options Review Group is planned for February.

Resolved – that Members received the report.

**5. WHP WILDLIFE GARDEN EXTENSION PROPOSAL**

West Ham Park currently contains two wildlife areas that are enclosed to provide a refuge for wildlife and a dedicated area for outdoor educational activities to take place. Both areas are in increasing demand from local schools, but a balance is required between using the spaces and providing a rest period to ensure that habitats are not detrimentally disturbed.

Members were informed that in order to accommodate large school groups and lessen the impact of increasing number of sessions on existing habitats, an extension to the nature garden on the eastern edge of the park is proposed. This would result in the parks Wild Schools officer being able to deliver more sessions linked to the 'Science programmes of study' from the National curriculum of England (2013).

Resolved – that Members approve the use of 1500m<sup>2</sup> of open parkland to extend the existing nature garden to provide an increased area to accommodate school groups and other outdoor educational activities.

**6. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT.**

There was no urgent business.

**8. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

**The meeting ended at 1:00pm.**

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Chairman

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