



Hampstead Heath Sports Advisory Forum

Parliament Hill meeting room

4 February 2019, 6.30pm

Members:

Richard Sumray (Chairman)	RS	Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee
Karina Dostalova	KD	Chairman of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee
Marc Hutchinson	MH	Hampstead Heath Winter Swimming Club, H&HS
Joseph Lowe	JL	Highgate Harriers
Natasha Cendrowicz	NC	Highgate Harriers
Eleanor Kennedy	EK	Parliament Hill Lido Users Group
Richard Caylor	RC	Parliament Hill Bowls Club
Brian Priestly	BP	Parliament Hill Bowls Club
Simon Taylor	ST	Hampstead Rugby Football Club
Sandy Nairn	SN	Hampstead Heath Croquet Club
David Walton	DW	London Heathside Athletics
John Carrier	JC	Camden CCG
Robert Gibbs	RGi	Representing Angling

Officers:

Bob Warnock	BW	Superintendent of Hampstead Heath, City of London
Colin Buttery	CB	Director of Open Spaces
Declan Gallagher	DG	Operational Services Manager, City of London
Paul Maskell	PM	Leisure and Events Manager, City of London
Richard Gentry	RG	Queen's Park & Constabulary Manger, City of London
Paul Jeal	PJ	Senior Swimming Supervisor, City of London
Richard O'Mahony	ROM	Parliament Hill Keeper Team Supervisor, City of London
Kate Radusin (notes)	KR	PA to Superintendent of Hampstead Heath, City of London

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Apologies Nigel Robinson, Anne Fairweather, Rudolf Benjamin, Paul Mennell.	
2.	Minutes of the previous meeting (10 September 2019) & Matters Arising <u>Track Café:</u> ST confirmed that this had been covered in the updated Athletics Track Club Booking Conditions. <u>Tennis online survey:</u> RG noted that due to staffing changes at the LTA this has been on hold, however COL are re-engaging with the LTA to progress.	RG
3.	Minutes of the Track Forum, Swimming Forum & AOB Items relating to the Swimming Facilities and Track <u>Swimming Forum minutes:</u> On-line season ticket payments are progressing, PJ provided an update on the Lido leak. An order has been raised to procure liquid sealant. This will be put through the pipework in late Spring	

	<p>2019 and it is hoped this will fix the leak. The sealant has a 91% success rate, however, if not successful a full pool drain-down may still be required.</p> <p>KHV signage has been removed from site as the designation has now been lifted. Biosecurity measures remain in place as good practice.</p> <p>BW confirmed that fishing from the Northern Bank remains suspended. The second limit line will be installed before the start of the summer season.</p> <p><u>Parliament Hill Track Forum minutes:</u> DG provided an update on re-surfacing and a drainage survey which was being undertaken. BW confirmed that the certification was currently in place, however COL may need to re-apply before the Highgate Harriers event.</p> <p><u>Showers – Lido & Track</u> There followed a discussion regarding the boiler systems at the Lido and Athletics Track and recent issues with the hot water and pressure at the facilities. BW confirmed that spare parts are being order and held to ensure that future incidences of breakdown can be repaired expediently.</p> <p>EK noted that lifeguards had been receiving and managing complaints from users. EK also noted that cold water swimming is growing in popularity and more people are using the facilities in the winter months. This was having a cumulative effect as not only are more people using the showers, they are using them for longer periods of time to warm up.</p> <p><u>Brexit</u> There followed a discussion regarding possible impacts of Brexit. CB confirmed that is could affect staffing, however it should not affect sourcing of equipment or goods. PJ confirmed for example that there would be no impact on procurement of chlorine. CB confirmed that weekly Brexit briefing meetings were being held and that plans are in place should a no-deal Brexit occur.</p> <p><u>Lido summer season review</u> There followed a discussion around the review. Members were supportive of retaining a single day swim session.</p> <p>RG gave an update following meetings with the MPS Gangs Team with regarding to calling on this resource during the summer months.</p> <p>PJ confirmed that Season Ticket holders would be turned away on very hot days if the queue had been shut.</p>	
4.	Management Strategy 2018- 2028 Outcome B, Priority 4	
	<p>There followed a discussion around the sports and recreation facilities available for young people. ST noted that the offer for older children and teenagers could be expanded to include basketball and netball. It was suggested that the PH Tennis courts could be marked up to facilitate dual use. JC suggested that a review of the local schools existing sports facilities could be undertaken to inform future provision on the Heath. It was noted that dual marking of courts would impact upon tennis, however if usage is reviewed it may highlight times and when the courts were not being utilised</p>	

	<p>for tennis which would allow them to be utilised for netball/basketball instead. It was noted that any changes would need to be consulted on with users and Committee.</p> <p>ACTION: Discussion on Outcome B, Priority 4 (the Heath is inclusive and welcoming to a diverse range of visitors) to continue at the next meeting.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Presentation from the Hampstead Heath Croquet Club</p>	
	<p>SN gave a presentation and introduced a proposal to build a second lawn adjacent to the current PH facility. There followed a discussion regarding the feasibility of the proposal and the impact on the local area. It was noted that the drainage at the proposed location was a known issue and that currently this area was unenclosed and regularly used for recreational football, dog walking and picnicking in the summer months. The implications of the Club moving to PH and relinquishing the lawn at GHP were also discussed. SN noted that funding was still to be considered, however the Club intend to seek funding for the project. It was also noted that the cost of the project would need to be weighed against Membership and participation. SN noted that Membership and participation would need to increase significantly to make it worthwhile.</p> <p>BW confirmed that the COL would work with SN to consider how the project could be progressed.</p> <p>ACTION: BW to consult the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee and Hampstead Heath Management Committee on the proposal.</p>	<p>BW</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Review of the current licence for the Parliament Hill Bowling Green & Pavilion and discuss a request from the Parliament Hill Bowls Club and the Hampstead Heath Croquet Club to extend the license.</p>	
	<p>BP gave an update on the Bowls Club over the last 5 years including the steps taken to encourage Membership growth. Member numbers have fluctuated between 20-25, however it was noted that this included a degree of turnover.</p> <p>It was noted that the Hampstead Heath Croquet Club is celebrating its 10th year in 2019.</p> <p>JC noted that offering joint membership for both Clubs may help bolster membership numbers.</p> <p>DG confirmed the KPI's of the current lease (which is due to expire in April 2019) and noted that both Clubs had not achieved the membership KPI.</p> <p>There followed lengthy discussions in relation to the current green keeping arrangements at the facility and the grant donation offered to the Club under the current license. It was noted that the COL would look to reduce the Grant as Membership numbers grow to promote the Clubs becoming more financially sustainable.</p> <p>RS noted that longer leases (25 years +) were usually required to obtain HLF funding. BW confirmed that the COL usually issued leases for 7 years, with 21 years being the maximum period (by exception).</p>	

	<p>Members were supported in principle a further lease being offered subject to considerations of feasibility and cost.</p> <p>ACTION: BW to consult the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee in relation to future lease arrangements for the Clubs.</p>	BW
7.	Review Membership of the Sports Advisory Forum	
	<p>ST noted that he had been attending the Forum for 10 years, queried that several sports were not represented, such as Cricket, Football and fitness training (BMF). RG noted that Angling was not represented, and a new society had been formed who wanted to engage with the Forum. RS confirmed that the Forum should be inclusive and welcomed seeking representatives from Sports not currently represented. It was also noted that as the number of Sports represented increase, the number of reps attending for each Sport may need to be limited.</p> <p>ACTION: COL to draw up a list of Sports and Activities taking place on the Heath to facilitate further discussion on Membership.</p>	PM/DG
8.	Update on Recent Events	
	<p><u>Christmas Day Swim</u>: PM noted 100+ swimmers took part and over 200 spectators also in attendance. The event passed without incident.</p> <p><u>Southern Counties Cross Country Championships, 26 January 2019</u>: PM noted that 5, 631 runners took part (a new participation record). NC noted that parts of the course marking were removed overnight (following set up the day before). PM confirmed that the start/finish were reinstated by staff following removal by a member of the public.</p>	
9.	Upcoming events	
	<p><u>Give it a Go! - 14 July 2019</u>: PM confirmed planning had commenced for the event.</p>	
10.	AOB	
	<p>ST noted that a Rugby player who started on the Heath as a junior aged 8 years old was now making his professional debut.</p> <p>NC noted that a running event had been cancelled at another site as it was considered to have grown too large and queried if there could be implication for the weekly ParkRun event which has grown in size in recent years. BW confirmed that sporting events with under 500 participants and spectators are covered by Sports Licencing arrangements. However, should numbers continue to grow there are mechanisms in place to address this through the Events Policy.</p>	
11.	Dates for 2019 meetings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 13 May 2019, 6.30pm Parliament Hill meeting room • Monday 16 September 2019, 6.30pm Parliament Hill meeting room 	