

HAMPSTEAD HEATH HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN'S PARK COMMITTEE
Monday, 28 January 2013

Minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath Highgate Wood and Queen's Park
Committee held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday,
28 January 2013 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)
Deputy Michael Welbank (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy John Barker
Deputy Dennis Cotgrove
Deputy Stella Currie
Revd Dr Martin Dudley
Sophie Fernandes
Clare James
Deputy John Owen-Ward
Virginia Rounding
Alderman Robert Hall (Ex-Officio Member)
Councillor Melvin Cohen
Councillor Sally Gimson
Tony Ghilchik
Maija Roberts

Officers:

Jacky Compton	- Town Clerk's Department
Esther Sumner	- Town Clerk's Department
Alison Elam	- Group Accountant, Chamberlain's Department
Paul Monaghan	- City Surveyor's Department
Sue Ireland	- Director of Open Spaces
Simon Lee	- Superintendent of Hampstead Heath
Richard Gentry	- Constabulary and Queen's Park Manager

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Sally Gimson representing Camden Council to her first meeting of this Committee.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Barbara Newman, Dr Peter Hardwick, Charlotte Kemp and Martyn Foster.

2. **MEMBERS DECLARATION UNDER CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and summary from the meeting held on 26 November 2012 were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Dog Control Orders (page 2) – In answer to a question from the Deputy Chairman, the Director of Open Spaces advised that this was still ongoing and that there was no change to the timetable.

Hampstead Heath Calendar (page 4) – In answer to a question, the Chairman stated that these had been sent out to Members.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Committee considered their Terms of Reference prior to their submission to the Court at its meeting in April 2013.

RESOLVED: That the Terms of Reference remain unchanged and submitted to the Court at its meeting in April 2013.

5. **DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

The Committee received a report regarding details of action taken under delegated authority by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee, in accordance with Standing Order 41(b) relative to the Hampstead Heath Hydrology – Design Review Method Statement.

RECEIVED.

6. **SCHEDULE OF VISITS 2013**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk relative to the Schedule of Visits for 2013.

RESOLVED: That –

- i) the 2013 schedule of visits, as set out in the Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed; and
- ii) the various dates that relate to visits for each Committee be noted.

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The Superintendent was heard on matters relating to Hampstead Heath:

Planning Issues – Highgate Neighbourhood Forum had been formally designated and a further Forum was being formed for Dartmouth Park. On individual planning applications the Superintendent updated Members on The Garden House application that was refused permission by Camden's Development Control Committee.

Postponement of SEAA Cross Country – Superintendent advised that this had been cancelled due to the recent spell of bad weather.

National Grid – Works at Kenwood and the Heath Extension were almost completed, the major works at Parliament Hill were nearing completion, but inclement weather had delayed the programme.

Wild about Hampstead Heath – 2 officers had now been appointed by RSPB. Superintendent advised that the old football hut was currently being used by the RSPB.

8. **HAMPSTEAD HEATH HYDROLOGY (STRATEGIC RISK 11) - PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received a joint report of the Director of Open Spaces and the City Surveyor relative to the Hampstead Heath Hydrology (Strategic Risk 11).

The City Surveyor advised the Committee that with regards to the appointment of the designers, a number of contractors had withdrawn from the tender process.

RECEIVED.

9. **REVIEW OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSTABULARY**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath reviewing the work carried out by the Hampstead Heath Constabulary during the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012, recording 1,993 occurrences/incidence in the year, together with information on the progress made in the development of partnerships with other agencies and achievements on key objectives.

RESOLVED: That Members note the work of the Hampstead Heath Constabulary during 2012, in particular, the continued effort that is being undertaken to strengthen links with other agencies that helps to ensure that Hampstead Heath remains a safe, appealing and enjoyable place for millions who visit each year, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

10. **WEST HEATH OUTREACH WORK UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath providing an update on the partnership work, that has been undertaken by the City of London, Hampstead Heath Constabulary and Terrence Higgins Trust during 2012 in providing public sex environment outreach sessions on the West Heath, Hampstead Heath.

RESOLVED: That Members –

- i) Note partnership work which has continued to be carried out by the Hampstead heath Constabulary, Terrence Higgins Trust and other agencies promotion safety and responsible use of Hampstead Heath during 2012; and
- ii) Support the continued partnership work during 2013.

11. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The Superintendent was heard on matters relating to Highgate Wood and Queen's Park:

Sculpture in Play area – The Committee were advised that the sculpture had developed tree rot and may have to be taken down. The Superintendent stated that signage would shortly be placed around the area advising the public of what was taking place.

Queen's Park Winter Gathering – The Committee were advised on the success of the annual event held at Queen's Park.

12. **CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN - HIGHGATE WOOD**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath providing an update on the production of the new Conservation Management Plan for Highgate Wood.

RESOLVED: That Members –

- i) consider and approve the attached final draft of the Highgate Wood Conservation Management Plan 2013-2023, subject to any final amendments to be authorised by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman; and
- ii) authorise publication as the adopted Conservation Management Plan for Highgate Wood.

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

Conference – Pests and Diseases – In answer to a question, the Director of Open Spaces advised the Committee that a joint conference with the Forestry Commission had been held at Guildhall on Pests and Diseases that were relevant to trees in London. She stated that over 200 delegates had attended

which had been opened by the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and the Head of the Forestry Commission.

The Chairman advised that this had been an interesting conference and that many messages had been received requesting information on what could be done to prevent the diseases spreading.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

15. 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 as follows:-

Item No.

16

Paragraphs in Schedule 12A

3

16. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The Committee approved the non-public minutes of the meeting on 26 November 2012 as a correct record.

17. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

The Committee considered one urgent items of business relating to Hampstead Heath hydrology.

The meeting ended at 3.10 pm

Chairman

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