

HAMPSTEAD HEATH, HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN'S PARK COMMITTEE
Monday, 15 April 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, 15 April 2013 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)
Deputy Michael Welbank (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy John Barker
Dennis Cotgrove
Revd Dr Martin Dudley
Clare James
Barbara Newman
Deputy John Owen-Ward
Virginia Rounding
Alderman Robert Hall (Ex-Officio Member)
Councillor Sally Gimson
Tony Ghilchik
Maija Roberts
Martyn Foster

Officers:

Jacky Compton	- Committee & Member Services Officer
Esther Sumner	- Policy Officer, Town Clerk's Department
Sue Ireland	- Director of Open Spaces
Simon Lee	- Superintendent of Hampstead Heath
Grace Rawnsley	- Hampstead Heath Department
Alison Elam	- Group Accountant, Chamberlain's Department
Edward Wood	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Bob Meldrum	- City Surveyor's Department

CHAIRMAN'S GOODBYE

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, wished to say farewell to a number of Members who were not re-elected and wished to thank them for their hard work and support on the Committee over the years.

The Chairman advised the Committee that he would write to those Members personally.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Melvin Cohen and Charlotte Kemp.

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

There were none.

3. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 28 January 2013 were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Dog Control Orders (page 2) – The Chairman advised that a report would be coming to the Committee in the autumn.

Postponement of SEAA Cross Country (page 3) – This event was **postponed** due to the spell of bad weather.

4. **HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

The draft public minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee meeting held on 11 March 2013 were received.

Matters Arising

Thanks to Bob Slowe (page 16) – The Chairman of the Open Spaces, City Gardens and West Ham Park Committee advised the Committee that Bob Slowe, a longstanding member of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee and Chairman of the Hampstead Heath Sports Advisory Forum had relinquished his post and the Chairman wished to place on record his thanks and appreciation for all the hard work that Bob Slowe had put into the Forum.

The Chairman stated that he would write to Bob Slowe on behalf of this Committee.

5. **OPEN SPACES DEPARTMENT BUSINESS PLAN 2013-2016 - KEY PROJECTS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces relative to the Open Spaces Department Business Plan 2013-16 and outlining the Key Projects which will be included in the Plan.

RESOLVED: That Members note and agree the Key Projects for Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park, for inclusion in the Open Spaces Department Business Plan for 2013-16.

Hampstead Heath

6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The Superintendent was heard on matters relating to Hampstead Heath as follows:

National Grid Works

The Superintendent updated the meeting on the reinstatement works associated with the National Grid works. Inclement weather conditions had

resulted in delays to the programme of reinstatement but contractors were on site last week and Parliament Hill Fields site is ready for seeding.

Planning

An article published in the Observer on Sunday 14th April identified issues with major developments in the immediate environs of the Heath in the Fitzroy Farm area and their impact on Hampstead Heath.

The Superintendent advised that an objection had been lodged with Camden Council concerning an application for further development of The Garden House, a property on private Metropolitan Open Land.

In response to a question the Superintendent advised that he had sent a copy of the "Policies for the Fringes of the Heath" a former Camden planning document to the Chairman of the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum. He also advised that he and the Ponds Project Communication Officer had met with Members of the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum and walked the Highgate chain of ponds.

It was confirmed that Dartmouth Park were also likely to be designated a Neighbourhood Forum.

New Heath Diary

The superintendent referred to copies of the 2013 Heath diary that were laid around the table and thanked David Bentley his Communications Officer for leading the publication of this important document. Over 60,000 copies are distributed each year.

City Dip

The Superintendent was delighted to announce that the Parliament Hill Fields Lido was participating in the annual City Dip Lord Mayor's Charity appeal on the 7th and 8th June 2013. The Lord Mayor would be attending the event on the 8th June 2013.

Hampstead Heath Ponds Project

The Superintendent updated Committee on progress of the project in terms of further consultation with the wider community, including attending the local Highgate Area Action Forum chaired by Councillor Sally Gimson. A very useful visit to Abberton Reservoir a multi-million pound reservoir currently under construction had taken place with officers and members of the Ponds Project Stakeholder Group.

7. HAMPSTEAD HEATH PONDS PROJECT - ASSESSMENT OF THE DESIGN FLOOD

This report had been WITHDRAWN. The Chairman advised the Committee that this report would be considered at a special meeting of the Committee scheduled to take place shortly.

8. **HAMPSTEAD HEATH EDUCATION SERVICE - ANNUAL REPORT 2012**

The Committee received a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath reporting the success and key achievements of the Hampstead Heath Education Service in 2012, including its work on formal and informal education, community education and partnership working.

RECEIVED.

9. **REVIEW OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES - GREEN TO GOLD ACTIVITIES**

The Committee received a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath relative to the success of the Green to Gold campaign and events held on Hampstead Heath in support of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, wished to thank Paul Maskell for all his hard work and contribution in arranging these events.

RECEIVED.

10. **REVIEW OF AFFORDABLE ART FAIR ON HAMPSTEAD HEATH IN 2012 AND PROPOSALS FOR 2013 AND BEYOND**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath relative to reviewing the success of the Affordable Art Fair that was held at East Heath between 1st and 4th November 2012, that attracted 18,500 adult visitors over the course of four and a half days generating £2.8 million of art work sales by the 107 galleries exhibiting.

RESOLVED: That Members –

- 1) Note the success of the 2012 Affordable Art Fair in welcoming 18,500 (adult) visitors to the Heath and raising additional income to support management of the site;
- 2) Note the plans that are underway with regards the June 2013 event; and
- 3) Approve the principle of hosting another event on the back of the Affordable Art Fair in June 2014, subject to a further more detailed report later in 2013.

11. **REVIEW OF THE HAMPSTEAD HEATH SUMMER EVENTS PROGRAMME 2012**

The Committee received a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath relative to the 2012 summer events programme at Hampstead Heath.

RECEIVED.

12. **PROVISIONAL ADDITIONAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2014/15**

The Committee considered a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath setting out a provisional list of cyclical projects being considered for Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park in 2014/15 under the "additional works programme".

A Member enquired as to the future of the Athletics Track. The Superintendent advised that resources were currently unavailable within the organisation and that an investment would need to be sought for any improvement works to be undertaken.

RESOLVED: That the Committee's views be sought on the provisional list of works.

Highgate Wood and Queen's Park

13. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

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

Visit by Lord Mayor to Queen's Park

The Lord Mayor together with the Lady Mayoress and Chairman of the Management Committee visited Queen's Park on the 1st March 2013 and welcomed the Mayor of Brent and other guests. At the end of the tour of the park a tree was planted to celebrate the visit.

Conservation Management Plan

The first draft of a Conservation Management Plan for Queen's Park has been produced following consultation and workshops with local stakeholders. It is envisaged that this document will be discussed at the next meeting of the Queen's Park Joint Consultative Group.

Photovoltaic at Highgate Wood Machine Shed

The Superintendent advised Committee of further work being undertaken with the support of the City Surveyors Division to install photovoltaic cells on the roof of the machine shed in the Depot that would assist with reducing energy costs. A planning application for these works had been approved by Haringey Council.

14. **DECISION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk providing details of action taken by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of this Committee relative to the Highgate Wood Conservation Management Plan.

RECEIVED.

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

There were no questions.

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT
Oak Processionary Moth**

The Director of Open Spaces updated the Committee on the latest situation with regards to Oak Processionary Moth. She advised that a bid had been submitted to DEFRA for the Forestry Commission to spend £5m on tackling the Oak Processionary Moth across London.

The Chairman of the Open Spaces Committee, on behalf of the Committee thanked the Director of Open Spaces for all her hard work on the subject and advising us of the problem.

17. **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:-

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Paragraphs in Schedule 12A</u>
18	3
19	3
20-21	-

18. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The Committee approved the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2013 as a correct record.

19. **CITY OF LONDON PARKING SERVICE CONTRACTS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of the Built Environment relative to the City of London Parking Service Contracts.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no urgent items.

The meeting ended at 3pm

Chairman

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