

Committee(s): Epping Forest and Commons Committee	Date(s): Monday 14 May 2012	Item no.
Subject: 2012/13 Committee Appointments		
Report of: Town Clerk	Public For Decision	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>The Committee is asked to consider its appointments for the next twelve months. Membership of the various Sub Committees, Consultative Committees, Steering Groups and Management Project is explained in the attached appendix. Provision for appointing an observer from amongst the Verderers, to serve as an observer on the Open Spaces, City Gardens and West Ham Park Committee is also referred to. It is expected that this appointment would encompass the strategic open spaces capacity of that Committee.</p> <p><u>Recommendations</u></p> <p>I recommend that:-</p> <p>a) consideration be given to the appointment and composition of the following Sub Committees, Consultative Committees, Steering Groups, and Management Projects etc :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Reference Sub Committee ii) Ashtead Common Consultative Committee iii) Burnham Beeches Consultative Group iv) West Wickham and Coulsdon Commons Consultative Committee v) Epping Forest Centre Joint Consultative Committee vi) Epping Forest Management Plan Steering Group vii) Wanstead Flats Playing Fields Committee; viii) Downlands Countryside Management Project ix) Lower Mole Countryside Management Project ; and <p>b) consideration be given to the appointment of a representative to the Open Spaces, City Gardens and West Ham Park Committee for 2012/2013 as a local observer for this Committee.</p> <p>c) consideration be given to undertaking a full review of all the Committee's appointments in the next twelve months.</p>		

Background

1. The Committee makes a number of appointments to Sub Committees, Consultative Committees, Steering Groups and Management Projects that fall within its remit. These are reviewed annually.
2. There are a number of outstanding vacancies, which the Committee has struggled to fill in recent years. It should be noted that the current practice of inviting Common Councilmen who are not members of this Committee to help fill some of the vacancies has continued. Similarly, former Common Councilmen have continued to serve on some of these groups as the Committee's representatives. Members may wish to think of ways to re-establishing the link between this Committee and the various groups and sub Committees to which it makes appointments.
3. The report also advises on the attendance of the Senior Verderer of the Epping Forest & Commons Committee to the City's Open Spaces, City Gardens and West Ham Park Committee.

Options

4. That consideration be given to making the various appointments detailed in the report, from amongst the Committee membership. Consideration would then be given to filling any subsequent vacancies from existing or former Common Councilmen.
5. *The Committee is also invited to review their various Sub Committees and Working Parties to determine whether they are fit for purpose. The current roster of Working Parties, Sub and Consultative Committees has evolved over a number of years. For example, appointments are routinely made to the Reference Sub Committee and Management Plan Steering Group, which have not met for some years. The Superintendent of Epping Forest has indicated that a review of the Management Plan will start imminently. Therefore there will be a need to reactivate this group. Therefore no radical changes are suggested at this stage, but the Committee might be minded to request a more searching review in twelve months' time. This could provide the opportunity to devise a more structured way for the Committee's appointees to report back on their work.*

6. In 2011-12 Robin Eve represented the Committee on both the Lower Mole and Downlands Countryside Management Projects.

Implications

7. There are no financial, legal and risk implications.

Strategic Implications

8. By recommending a partnership and engagement approach, this report supports the City Together Theme: A World Class City, which supports our communities and the associated departmental strategic and improvement aims to work in partnership with communities and local authorities.

Conclusion

9. That consideration be made to making appointments to the various Sub Committees, Consultative Committees, Steering Groups and Management Projects detailed in the report.

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