

EPPING FOREST & COMMONS COMMITTEE
Monday, 8 September 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Epping Forest & Commons Committee held at
Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 8 September 2014 at
10.30 am

Present

Members:

Alderman Gordon Haines (Chairman)
George Abrahams (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Stanley Ginsburg
Deputy John Barker
Alderman Jeffrey Evans
Barbara Newman
Virginia Rounding
Verderer Peter Adams
Verderer Michael Chapman DL
Verderer Richard Morris
Verderer Dr. Joanna Thomas
Sylvia Moys
Alderman Ian Luder (Ex-Officio Member)

Officers:

Natasha Dogra	Town Clerk's Department
Sue Ireland	Director of Open Spaces
Paul Thomson	Superintendent, Epping Forest
Andy Barnard	Superintendent, Burnham Beeches, Stoke Common & City Commons
Alison Elam	Chamberlain's Department
Roger Adams	City Surveyor's Department
Edward Wood	Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Jo Hurst	Epping Forest, Open Spaces Department
Martin Hartup	Burnham Beeches, Open Spaces Department
Helen Reed	Burnham Beeches Open Spaces Department
Andy Thwaites	Burnham Beeches Open Spaces Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Deputy McGuinness, Ian Seaton and Deputy Deane.

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

An interest was declared by George Abrahams in respect of Orion Harriers Lease Renewal, discussed under 'any urgent non-public business'.

3. **MINUTES**

Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as an accurate record.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The Committee received a verbal update from the Superintendent of Epping Forest and noted the following:

Staff Changes

A gardener and interim Project Officer had been newly recruited. Vacancies remain for 2 litter picker posts and a maintenance worker. A new herdsman had been recruited by our contract partner Wildlife and Countryside Services. Recruitment for the role of Head of Visitor Services had been unsuccessful and a national campaign would commence this September.

Weather

July was the sixth sunniest since 1929 with many warm days and only 86% of average rainfall. Fortunately, thunderstorms kept the Forest damp across this month. August was the coolest since 1993 ending a sequence of eight warmer than average months. Daily rainfall totals at Epping Forest were 156% higher than the 20 year average. In particular, ex-hurricane 'Bertha' passed over the Forest on 10th to 11th bringing an Essex high of 25mm of rain in 24 hours at High Beach.

Fire Severity Index

The damper weather had reduced the Fire Severity Index as measured by the Meteorological Office from 4 Very High, on a scale of 1 to 5 to 2 Low.

New Study in Journal Nature

Climate change had been identified as a key driver of 'forest disturbances' such as fires; storms; bark beetles and droughts.

Green Flag & Green Heritage Awards

Epping Forest had successfully retained both awards.

Football Season

The summer at Wanstead Flats had seen a record number of 18 school sports days, 3 football tournaments and 45 pre-season football friendly matches. A new Rounders League and Archery taster sessions had been introduced. The new season which commenced on 6th September would host 5 separate leagues with 150 teams incorporated, together with 35 clubs comprising of 45 teams.

Community Payback Scheme

Wanstead Flats hosted a new Serco-run Community Payback scheme from 18th August with participants litter picking and cleaning the pavilion.

Golf

The removal of the Red Rule and the new Max 680/500/125 loyalty schemes continued to prove to be very popular with golfers. Chingford Gold Club had reached the national finals of the National Association of Public Golf Course completion and will be travelling to Bristol having won their regional heat. The City's Golf PGA Fellow Professional Andy Traynor had been awarded Trackman Master Professional status, becoming only the 41st person in the world to achieve the honour.

Illyria Theatre Company

Illyria staged 3 profitable events for the City and the theatre company, comprising Shakespeare's Scottish play on 24th July with 169 tickets sold; Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Pirates of Penzance' on 3rd August with 195 tickets sold and Roald Dahl's 'George's Marvellous Medicine' on 13th August which recorded a sell-out 477 tickets.

City of London Festival at 'The View' 6th July

This successful event was run for a second year in partnership with the City of London Festival and attracted over 2,000 people for dog-related events, folk bands, beer tent, a hog roast and a summer art exhibition opening.

Music in the Park

This had been a successful event despite attendances being down on the previous year due to the poor weather forecast. The earlier closedown of 9pm together with additional security patrols led to a trouble-free event. The organisers, Aldersbrook Families Association, supported by a grant from the London Borough of Redbridge recorded a loss.

Public Park Research Report

The important report urged all involved to research the history and reassert the significance of urban parks and designed landscapes.

'Love Essex' Essex Anti-Littering Campaign

A partnership led by Braintree District Council and including the north of the Forest had been successfully launched.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Assessment – 15th July

Staff met with Natural England Officers to examine Forest SSSI compartments that remain in the 15% by area unfavourable condition category.

Oak Processionary Moth

Pheromone lures for Oak Processionary Moth were installed at 3 locations in the south of the Forest and at the adjacent City Cemetery and Crematorium and have recorded a total of 7 suspect male moths. Officers were awaiting positive identification of the moths from the Forestry Commission's research centre.

Invisible Fencing

An article of the Epping Forest Invisible Fencing Project appeared in Conservation Land Management magazine.

Green Arc – North East Quadrant

10 partner organisations met under the Chairmanship of the Director of Open Spaces met to agree a work plan for 2015.

City Bridge Trust Visit

Epping Forest hosted a visit for the Chief Grants Officer for City Bridge Trust.

Fatality at Wanstead Park Cycleway July

A cyclist died following leg injuries on the London Borough of Redbridge cycleway at Wanstead Park. Members of the public and an off-duty member of staff made a valiant attempt to save the injured woman's life before being joined by paramedics and the air ambulance.

Travellers

Further traveller trespass incidents were recorded at Mill Plain on 30th July and adjacent to the Forest at Debden House campsite on 7th August and Epping Forest District Council Playing Fields at Loughton.

Stolen Digger – 30th July

An excavator was stolen from the central reservation of the M25 before being driven through Buffer land towards the Wakes Arms roundabout. The digger broke through chain link deer fencing and 3 gates before being trapped in a culvert at the rear of the Miller and Carter restaurant.

Public indecency incident

A man had been charged with indecent exposure on Wanstead Flats following arrest by local Police.

Sexual Assault at Hollow Ponds

Police sought a 30 year old man following a sexual assault on a jogger at Leyton Flats.

Fly tipping

Provisional figures appeared to be continuing the 21% increase from 550 to 666 incidents recorded this year.

Rough Sleepers

Forest Keepers were continuing to clear Rough Sleeper encampments with 36 incidents since January.

Prosecutions

Quad Bike and fly tipping.

Possible Lyme Disease report at High Beach

A possible incident of Lyme Disease was being monitored following a report after a school visit to High Beach.

Advertising Encroachment at Woodford Green

The City had successfully removed the advertising hoarding erected without permission on Forest Land at Woodford Green. A byelaw prosecution was being pursued to recover the £1,500 removal costs.

Coast Guard Practice Event – 14th August

Following a real life emergency landing on Leyton Flats earlier this year, Forest Keepers supported a practice rescue involving Whipps Cross hospital's reserve Hyperbaric Treatment facility.

Countryfile

Further footage from the deer sanctuary was recently featured on BBC TV's 'Countryfile'.

Highams Park Lake desilting and dam strengthening works

Dam strengthening work by main contractor Balfour Beatty commenced on 8th September until 5th February 2015 and would include the removal of 5,000 M³ of silt.

Mallinson Park Wood

The London Borough of Waltham Forest had approved a public consultation on a project to improve public access to Mallinson Park Wood which would ideally like improvements at Highams Park Lake.

Scout 825

Four teams of 15 venture scouts undertook wood pasture restoration at Long Running and Cuckoo Pits; easy access trail improvements at High Beach and habitat improvements at Knighton Pond.

Practical Conservation Projects

For the past 3 years the Community Liaison Officer had been working with London Borough of Newham sixth form groups offering practical conservation tasks at Epping Forest including planting at Jubilee Pond this year.

Epping Forest 'Gateway'

A design by Bristol-based CodSteaks had been approved by the Chairman and Deputy Chairman for development to complete the 8 primary and 9 secondary Gateway commitment within the Branching Out Project.

Service Based Review

The Policy and Resources Committee considered proposals across the organisation for realising £23 million of cost efficiencies across 2015/16 to 2017/18. The Open Spaces Department was projected to save £2.189 million for this period with approximately £800,000 of savings being made at Epping Forest. A full report would be made to the November Committee meeting with proposals to:

- Improve the performance of Estate Assets especially buildings by £360,000
- Increase charges on current 'at cost' legal agreements £80,000
- Review and increase existing charging tariffs £10,000
- Introduce vehicle parking charges at specific sites £100,000

- Secure sponsorship for subsidised sport facilities £120,000
- Restore the operating surplus at Chingford Golf Course £80,000.

Members queried whether Officers knew if the rough sleepers were repeat offenders. Officers said they try to find a refuge or fare home for each case found and this was working so far as there were no repeat offenders.

Members queried whether the high rainfall in August affected Highams Park Dam. Officers said there was a reasonably high rainfall, but reservoir levels were low prior to the rain so there was no overtopping.

5. EPPING FOREST TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

Members noted the Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2014 for Epping Forest.

6. DEER MANAGEMENT OF THE SOUTH WEST ESSEX DEER HERD ON THE BUFFER LANDS AND EPPING FOREST.

Members noted that the 2014 day time deer count recorded 505 Fallow and 44 Reeves Muntjac. This showed a 69% increase on the previous year's Fallow Deer figure of 299. 44 Reeves Muntjac were also recorded as opposed to 43 in 2013. The number of Deer Vehicle Collisions (DVCs) in the Forest locality, an area wider than the count area, also increased from 64 to 123 DVCs, an increase of 92%.

Members noted that year on year populations varied significantly due to variable factors such as weather, patterns of disturbance and the availability of winter food supplies. The more reliable five-year average for 2010-2014 (based on four counts) was 285 Fallow Deer, up 7% on the previous five-year average for 2009-2013 (based on four counts). This equated to an average population density of 5.5 deer per 100 acres. The proposed cull figures for the 2014/15 season recommended to your Committee are 105 Fallow Deer and as many Reeves Muntjac Deer as possible. The lower cull figures were set using data from the deer count, recommendations from the DMP and the experience of stalkers during the 2013/14 cull.

In response to a query from Members, Officers clarified that they would investigate the use of incentives to involve the land owners and local community more. Members noted that the number of deer around the forest had risen significantly and this may be due to a healthy diet available to the deer.

Members said that the deer were very beautiful but there were too many. Numbers were very significant so other arrangements for managing them needed to be identified. Officers said for this to be successful cooperation with neighbour landowners and tenants was crucial. Members asked Officers to identify ways to engage land owners, for example by inviting individuals to City Corporation events which may be of interest to them.

Discussions ensued regarding the commerciality of deer culling. Officers said they would seek to manage contracts in a more commercially viable way in future.

Officers informed Members that getting local landowners and stalkers to share their figures did prove difficult at times but was being worked on. The figures included in the report were just our own figures, not independent stalkers or Road Traffic Accidents.

Members queried the zero figures quoted in the report in years that still gave cull details. Officers said these indicated not that there were zero deer found, but that a count was not carried out in those years.

Members queried whether the farming of deer on buffer land was more effective than the cull. Officers said that option had not been considered as it would require a large infrastructure and may not work with the currently large migrant herd.

Resolved: That Members -

- Approved the cull figure of up to 105 Fallow deer and an unlimited cull of Reeves Muntjac, for the 2014/15 season in line with the Deer Management Plan.
- Approved a further meeting between the major estate owners for land within the South West Essex Deer Herd mediated by the Deer Initiative to encourage increased co-operation on the overall management of the Deer Herd.

7. **EPPING FOREST HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

Members were informed that the historic environment of Epping Forest and the heritage assets within it were a non-renewable resource that enabled us to understand the origins and significance of our landscapes. The Epping Forest Act of 1878 contained specific duties to preserve and maintain historic features. Research into the history of Epping Forest and the City of London Conservators responsibility under the 1878 Act was a continuing responsibility, which was addressed through conservation assessments, management plans, surveys and other processes.

Members noted that the need for the historic environment of Epping Forest to be prioritised was becoming increasingly apparent: Wanstead Park was included on the English Heritage (EH) Heritage At Risk Register; an independent request was made for EH to designate a site on Forest land; local groups have asked to undertake investigative work; and a new management plan for Epping Forest was being prepared which would cover the management of the historic environment.

In response to a query Members were informed that the Historic Environment Policy aimed to improve our understanding of the historic environment of Epping Forest in order to conserve and enhance it for the enjoyment of all, and to encourage visitors to value and care for it. The policy set out principles for

interacting with the historic environment of Epping Forest, rather than the Buffer Lands, whether by the City of London or by external bodies and individuals.

In response to a query, Members noted that in 2013-14, £5238 was spent on heritage research to feed into various projects. Further minor spends were anticipated in the next few years. The Visitor Services Section brought in £4869 in grants during 2010-14 to develop the museum collection, and further spends are anticipated to get the collection and archive store to accreditation standard.

Officers agreed that the final policy would list objectives that the City Corporation “will” achieve. A separate report regarding accreditation would be submitted to the Committee for consideration later in the year. Periodic reports including a heritage tracker would also be submitted to the Committee. Members advised that the list included on the tracker be updated as the objectives of the department evolved.

Members queried the value of gaining Museum Accreditation. Officers said that policy was intended to counterbalance some of our more defined/obvious duties as conservators. Accreditation would be dealt with as a separate report.

The Committee thanked all Officers and volunteers for all of their hard work.

Resolved: That Members resolved to adopt the Historic Environment.

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The Committee received a verbal update from the Superintendent of Burnham Beeches and City Commons, and noted the following:

Awards

8 Green Flags had been received for the following areas:

- Burnham Beeches
- Ashtead Common
- Coulsdon Common
- Kenley Common
- Farthing Downs
- West Wickham Common
- Spring Park
- Riddlesdown

5 Heritage Flags had been received for the following areas:

- Burnham Beeches
- Ashtead Common
- Farthing Downs
- Kenley Common
- Riddlesdown

Service Based Reviews

Project lists were being readied for consideration by the Serviced Based Review project boards set up by the Director and are:

- Focussing on the core
- Operational efficiency
- Income Generation

Kenley Heritage Lottery Fund

A revised timetable for a March 2015 submission, rather than December 2014, has been necessitated by changes to the conservation philosophy being developed as part of the project. The Conservation Workshop held in June led to the concept of an interpretative zone as a focus for an enhanced level of conservation and interpretation compared with the rest of the site. This zone will help to better interpret the heritage and should enhance the chances of the bid being successful. However, additional time and money must be allocated to accommodate the extra design work required.

Coulsdon Commons

Hay cutting across five sites had begun and 80 bales had been retained for winter feed.

A request from Tesco in Caterham had been received to help with a focal point to aid their learning programme for primary school children.

Farthings Down

Travellers had arrived on the site but Officers had dealt with them in a swift and professional manner.

The weekly health walk was resulting in good numbers. Alternating weekly between Farthing Downs & Kenley, it was serving recovering cardiac patients, a stroke victim and a few individuals who felt uncomfortable to access the space alone.

The City Surveyor's Department was now making good progress with the relevant authorities over the repeat, post-storm flooding issue on Coulsdon Common.

Members thanked the Superintendent for a useful visit to Burnham Beeches. Members discussed the scattering of ashes across sites. It was suggested that Officers liaise with local Funeral Directors to inform of policy and promote legacy giving, as an alternative.

9. **BURNHAM BEECHES AND STOKE COMMON TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

Members noted the Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year

Ended 31 March 2014 for Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common.

10. **CITY COMMONS TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

Members noted the Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year

Ended 31 March 2014 for Ashtead Common and West Wickham Common and Spring Park Wood Coulsdon and Other Commons,

11. INTRODUCTION OF DOG CONTROL ORDERS AT BURNHAM BEECHES

Members were informed that Burnham Beeches agreed a voluntary “Dog Walkers code” with its local dog walking community in 2006. A review of the number of dog related incidents since that date revealed that they had not decreased.

Work to develop proposals to introduce Dog Control Orders (DCOs) at Burnham Beeches, based upon guidance provided by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, received Committee approval in September 2012.

The Home Office had recently advised that the power to make Dog Control Orders was expected to cease on 20th October 2014 when the relevant provisions of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ABC&P) come into force. Any Orders introduced after that date would be Public Space Protections Orders.

Formal public consultation on the DCO proposals had recently concluded with the majority of responses received from dog walkers.

A good level of support was received for the introduction of Schedules 1, 4 and 5. Schedules 2 and 3 received less support. Member decisions were sought on a range of options using the powers provided under Secondary Authority status.

The Chairman informed Members that Deputy Deane was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a written statement which he read out, supporting rejection of the report recommendations.

The Superintendent informed Members that there were several typographical errors in the report as listed below:

- On P142 under Schedule 3 Option B had been labelled as option C
- On Page 143 in the text box there should be an ‘and’ between small roman numerals iii and iv and another ‘and’ between small roman numerals iv and v.
- Para 32 (page 150) It should be clarified to indicate that the BBCG supported 3 dogs as a maximum for Schedule 5 and that this matter was subsequently considered by your committee and the figure altered to a maximum of 4.
- Para 39 (page 151) should read a maximum of
- It was noted that the appendices had not been presented in the correct order.

Members attention was drawn to paragraphs 56 and 57 which highlighted additional initiatives flowing from the public consultation exercise i.e. some site

specific improvements and a proposal to seek a suitable candidate from the local dog walking community to join the Burnham Beeches Consultative Group.

Following publication of the report three issues had been raised by a Member.

Firstly, the report stated that the Dogs Trust supported the proposal for Schedule 5. This was incorrect - the Dogs Trust explicitly did not support Schedule 5. To rectify this error the text representing the Dogs Trust was amended to clearly state that they did not support Schedule 5. This amendment was needed in paragraph 36.iv and paragraph 78. The Superintendent had recently written to the Dogs Trust to apologise for this error.

Secondly the report was criticised for a possible and inadvertent discourtesy to the Primary Authority (SBDC). Officers clarified that this was not the intention of the report which attempted to portray a confused scenario at the very end of the consultation period. The SBDC Officer dealing with the matter gave a verbal indication that there would be no objection to the proposals, that position changed some five weeks later and on the very last day of the public consultation exercise. However, the final position was accurately recorded in SBDC's letter.

Thirdly, the Member referred to the feedback provided by Bucks County Council. BCC were not a statutory consultee albeit they had supported the position adopted by South Bucks District Council.

The Superintendent had reviewed the implications of all of the above on the statistics provided in the report. Members were assured that issues raised did not alter the figures presented for Schedules 1, 2, 3 and 4 and provide a 0.5% reduction in those agreeing with Schedule 5 balanced by a 0.5% increase in those disagreeing with schedule 5. A revised table was provided at the meeting, identifying these changes.

Members noted that the proposals were the result of extensive consultation that had included the general public, staff, external consultants and agencies, local authorities, BBCG members, Epping Forest and Commons Committee Members and others. The Kennel Club had been a key consultee and had commented extensively on the proposals at each stage in the development of the proposals. The proposals were submitted for formal public consultation based on those previously agreed by the BBCG and approved by this Committee.

The outcome of the public consultation was clear majority support for Schedules 1, 3, 4 and 5. There was less support for Schedule 2. The majority of responses were from local dog walkers.

Members were reminded that Officers were not proposing to ban dogs at Burnham Beeches. Schedule 2 required dog owners to put their pets on lead and let them off again at the appropriate moment. DEFRA provided clear guidance on the issue of proportionality and even-handedness.

In response to a query, the Chairman clarified that these Dog Control Orders were to be introduced at Burnham Beeches and not at Epping Forest. A report on the outcome will be presented to the other Open Spaces Committees.

Schedule 1. Pick up dog faeces

Members agreed that staff at Burnham Beeches should not have to pick up after people's dog faeces regardless of whether it was in a bag or not. Officers confirmed that there were a number of bins around the site which were regularly emptied.

Schedule 2. Dogs on leads at all times

Members said the areas where dogs could run freely and areas where they must be kept on a lead had been given careful thought by Officers. Most of the visitor car parks were on proposed Schedule 3 land, so that dogs could arrive at the site and exit vehicles without having to be on a lead. The demarcation between the proposed Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 areas, along the line of the road, was very clear and would be easily understood by site users. A very considerable 220 acres of land could still be used by dogs off leads and there were plenty of paths so that dog walkers would be able to double-back within this area. It was also noted that the topography of the two areas was very similar. Officers informed Members that the introduction of Schedule 2 was fully supported by the Burnham Beeches Consultation Group.

Schedule 3. Dogs on leads where requested

Members noted that Officers had experience of issuing fixed penalty notices following the introduction of parking fees at Burnham Beeches. Officers said an educational approach would be taken when dealing with offenders. Members noted that the issue of enforcement would be considered as part of the Dog Management Strategy by the Committee at the November meeting.

Schedule 4. Dog exclusion zones

Members agreed that the introduction of exclusion zones was a sensible way forward.

Schedule 5. Maximum number of dogs per responsible person

Members discussed the number of dogs per person, and agreed that this was not an exact science as the size and behaviour of each dog would vary. Members agreed that 4 should be the maximum number of dogs per person.

Members suggested that if Dog Control Orders were to be introduced at Burnham Beeches it would be beneficial for the Committee to receive an update from the Superintendent in July 2016 and a full review from the Superintendent in January 2017. Officers agreed to provide information relating to Dog Control Orders with their Annual Review of Dog Related Incidents. Officers confirmed that there was currently no statutory requirement to review Dog Control Orders. Officer also confirmed that any extant DCO's will automatically be converted into Public Spaces Protection Orders 3 years after the power to make PSPO's takes effect. It has subsequently been clarified that they will then need to be reviewed and a decision taken whether to extend them

every three years, under the arrangements for PSPO's that are due to come into force.

Resolved: Member approved the following:-

Schedule 1. Pick up dog faeces.

A. Resolve to make The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Burnham Beeches) Order 2014, to be applied as proposed, across the whole site.

Schedule 2. Dogs on leads at all times.

A. Resolve to make The Dogs on Leads (Burnham Beeches) Order 2014 to be applied as proposed.

Schedule 3. Dogs on leads where requested.

A. Resolve to make The Dogs on Leads by Direction (Burnham Beeches) Order 2014 to be applied as proposed.

Schedule 4. Dog exclusion zones.

A. Resolve to make The Dogs Exclusion (Burnham Beeches) Order 2014 as proposed. Dogs would be excluded from the area around the café, as currently applied.

Schedule 5. Maximum number of dogs per responsible person.

A. Resolve to make The Dogs (Specified Maximum) (Burnham Beeches) Order 2014 as proposed.

Further recommendations

- i. Members agreed that the Dog Control Orders should come into effect on 1 December 2014.
- ii. A further report would be submitted to this committee in November 2014 seeking approval for the Dog Management Strategy and associated authorisations relating to enforcement.
- iii. Members approved the principle of site improvements.
- iv. Members approved the principle of the appointment of a suitable candidate from the dog walking community to the Burnham Beeches Consultation Group. The Group would be consulted on this matter.
- v. Members resolved that the Committee would receive an update from the Superintendent in July 2016 and a full review from the Superintendent in January 2017.

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

There were no questions.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no urgent business.

14. **EXCLUSION OF THE MOTION:** 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.
15. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as an accurate record.
16. **HIGHAMS PARK LAKE - GATEWAY 5 APPROVAL REPORT**
The Committee considered the joint report of the Director of the Built Environment and Director of Open Spaces.
17. **GRANT OF LICENCE TO LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM FOR A PUBLIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY**
The Committee considered the report of the Superintendent.
18. **LAND AVAILABLE FOR ACQUISITION AT EPPING FOREST**
The Committee considered the report of the Superintendent.
19. **WANSTEAD PARK REQUEST**
The Committee considered the report of the Superintendent.
20. **HIGH BEACH REFRESHMENT SITE**
The Committee considered the report of the Director of Open Spaces.
21. **NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no non-public questions.
22. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**
There was one item of urgent business.
23. **REVIEW OF THE OPERATIONAL USE OF THE EPPING FOREST RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION AND THE CALL-OUT ROTA**
The Committee considered the report of the Director of Open Spaces.

The meeting ended at 12.55 pm

Chairman

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