

WEST HAM PARK COMMITTEE
Friday, 12 May 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the West Ham Park Committee held at Committee Rooms - Second Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Friday, 12 May 2017 at 12.15 pm

Present

Members:

Graeme Smith
Michael Welbank
Alderman Ian Luder
Deputy John Tomlinson
Jeremy Simons
Barbara Newman
Catherine Bickmore
Robert Cazenove
Bryan Collier

Officers:

Natasha Dogra – Town Clerk’s Department
Colin Buttery – Director, Open Spaces
Martin Rodman – Superintendent, City Gardens
Esther Sumner – Business Manager, Open Spaces
Lucy Anne Murphy – West Ham Park Manager
Alison Elam – Chamberlain’s Department
Edward Wood – Comptrollers and City Solicitor’s
Kate Smith – Town Clerk’s Department
Carl Locsin – Town Clerk’s Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Wendy Mead, Oliver Sells, Joy Laguda, Justin Meath Baker and Richard Gurney.

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

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

Resolved – that the minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

4. **ORDER OF THE COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL**

Resolved – that the Order of the Court of Common Council be received.

5. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Committee were invited to appoint a Chairman in accordance with Standing Order 29.

RESOLVED – it was unanimously agreed that ? be appointed Chairman for the ensuing.

6. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

The Committee were invited to appoint a Chairman in accordance with Standing Order 30. Oliver Sells was the only Member to seek election to be Chairman and was therefore appointed for the year ensuing.

RESOLVED – it was unanimously agreed that Oliver Sells be appointed Chairman for the ensuing

7. **RESOLUTION OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The Committee received a revised resolution of the Policy & Resources Committee relating to the appointment of Chairmen to Sub Committees

RESOLVED – that the resolution of the Policy & Resources Committee be received.

8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The Committee received an on management and operational activities across the City Gardens section since December 2017.

RESOLVED – that the update be received.

9. **OPEN SPACES & HERITAGE BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18**

Members noted that business plans were reviewed annually and cover a three year period. Following incorporation of the Tower Bridge, Monument and Keats House parts of the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Department into the Open Spaces Department on 1 February 2017, the Open Spaces Departmental Business Plan now reflects this broader range of activity under the heading "Open Spaces & Heritage".

The Committee were informed that the proposed business plan reflected the changes being made corporately to business planning, in particular the renewed focus on outcomes. This report also presented an early draft of the Corporate Plan 2018-23 to give Members an opportunity to provide informal feedback before wider consultation on the plan takes place in the autumn with staff, partners and other external stakeholders.

RESOLVED – that the Committee agreed the Open Spaces & Heritage Business Plan.

10. **WEST HAM PARK RISK MANAGEMENT**

Members noted an update on the management of risks faced by the Open Spaces Department. Risk is reviewed regularly by the Department's Senior Leadership Team as part of the ongoing management of the operations of the Department.

The department has previously reported on six departmental risks. The

departmental risk register was reviewed when the department was expanded to include Tower Bridge, Monument and Keats House but it was felt that the risks associated with these sites did not need to be escalated to the departmental level.

There are eight risks for City Gardens and West Ham Park (Parks and Gardens).

OSD 001 - Ensuring the health and safety of staff, volunteers, contractors and public

OSD 002 - Extreme weather

OSD 004 - Poor repair and maintenance of buildings

OSD 005 - Animal, plant and tree diseases

OSD 006 - Impact of housing and/or transport development

OSD 007 – Maintaining the City's water bodies.

RESOLVED – that Members:

- Approved the Departmental risk register outlined in this report.
- Approved the West Ham Park & City Gardens risk register.

11. **BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER EVENT PROPOSAL**

West Ham Park has received a proposal from HAFS academy, the outreach department of a local Islamic faith school to hold an event in the park on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 July 2017 entitled 'Bringing Communities Together'. The event aimed to create and strengthen positive relationships within local communities by bringing people together to enjoy fairground rides, cultural foods, arts and craft exhibitions whilst providing free health checks and wellbeing advice stalls.

Discussions ensued regarding the objective of the event and whether it would indeed bring communities together. Members also raised concerns over the security at the event and the number of rides being proposed. Officers assured the Committee that the event met many of the City's Corporate and Strategic objectives however it will be the first time that an event of this nature and scale has been held in the park. The organisers have taken steps to mitigate the risks associated with holding an event of this size and nature and have met with the Park Manager to discuss a suitable location within the park for the event. A similar event had been run successfully by the organisers in Westminster recently. The Chairman said he thought the proposal was already bringing communities together by encouraging those who may not use the park to reach out to the management there and submit a proposal for the event. Members were confident that this would encourage ethnic minorities who did not use the park to visit more, and asked Officers to provide a full report of the event to a future meeting.

RESOLVED – that Members:

- Approved the proposal and delegated authority to the Superintendent to finalise details of the event, event fee (including deposit and reinstatement), cancellation policy and pricing structure for fairground rides, food and other items to be sold by stall holders

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 PUBLIC**
RESOLVED, that under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.
15. **WEST HAM PARK NURSERY PROJECT**
The Committee considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces.
16. **LICENCING OF WEST HAM PARK FOOD CONCESSIONS 2017-2019**
The Committee considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces.
17. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 1:20pm

Chairman

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