

OPEN SPACES AND CITY GARDENS
Monday, 17 July 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces and City Gardens held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 17 July 2017 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Barbara Newman
Graeme Smith (Chairman)
Karina Dostalova
Wendy Mead
Deputy John Tomlinson

Officers:

Natasha Dogra	-	Town Clerk's Department
Alison Elam	-	Group Accountant, Chamberlain's
Martin Rodman	-	Superintendent, West Ham Park & City Gardens
Esther Sumner	-	Open Spaces Business Manager
Lucy Murphy	-	West Ham Park Manager
Colin Buttery	-	Director of Open Space
Michael Bradbury	-	City Surveyor's Department
Alison Hurley	-	City Surveyor's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Oliver Sells, Alderman Ian Luder, Caroline Haines and Anne Fairweather.

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 be agreed as an accurate record.

4. OPEN SPACES BUSINESS PLAN

The Committee noted the business plan and were informed that 2016/17 was a year of development within the department. The programme approach gathered pace and delivered a number of successes including the new learning team, sales of surplus fleet which were invested in energy efficiency and disposals of surplus lodges. Sites have done well to continue to deliver excellent services (as reflected by our high customer satisfaction) while delivering these changes. Having reflected on the last year, this report identifies a number of areas for improvement.

Resolved – that Members received the report.

5. **CYCLICAL WORKS PROGRAMME BID - 2018/19**

The Committee noted the provisional list of cyclical projects being considered for properties under the management of Open Spaces Committee under the “cyclical works programme”. The draft cyclical project list for 2018/19 totals approximately £1.46m and if approved will continue the on-going programme in the maintenance of the property and infrastructure assets.

Resolved – that the report be received.

6. **EVENTS POLICY**

Members noted that as part of the ongoing preparations for the passage of Open Spaces Bill through Parliament, we are required to develop a formal events policy. The report provided an update on the proposals to develop proposals and consult our communities. It is proposed the consultation takes place from autumn 2017 to early 2018 with the local Consultative Groups. This would allow the events policy to then be considered by each Committee prior to the spring.

Resolved – that the report be received.

7. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

The report provided an update to Members of the Open Spaces & City Gardens Committee on management and operational activities across the City Gardens section since May 2017.

Resolved – that Member received the report.

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

There were no questions.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED**

There was no urgent business.

10. **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.

11. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

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

12. **DEBT ARREARS - INVOICED INCOME FOR PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2017**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Open Spaces.

13. **FINSBURY CIRCUS ISSUES REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Open Spaces.

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

There were no questions.

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

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 12.15 pm

Chairman

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