

HAMPSTEAD HEATH, HIGHGATE WOOD AND QUEEN'S PARK COMMITTEE
Wednesday, 5 October 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 5 October 2022 at 4.00 pm

Present

Members:

William Upton KC (Chair)
Alderman Gregory Jones KC (Deputy Chairman)
Timothy Butcher
John Foley
Alderman Prem Goyal
Alethea Silk
Jason Groves
Arjun Mittra
Wendy Mead
John Beyer
Chris Craig

Officers:

Sally Agass	- Natural Environment Department
Ben Dunleavy	- Town Clerk's Department
Stefania Horne	- Natural Environment Department
Paul Maskell	- Natural Environment Department
Elisabeth Hannah	- Natural Environment Department
Joanne Hill	- Natural Environment Department
Jonathan Meares	- Natural Environment Department
Julia Pridham	- Bridge House Estates
Blair Stringman	- Town Clerk's Department
Chandni Tanna	- Town Clerk's Department
Edward Wood	- Comptroller & City Solicitor's

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received from Marcus Boyland, Caroline Haines and Andrew McMurtrie.

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

Jason Groves declared a non-pecuniary interest due to being a Member of Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association which has representation on the Highgate Wood Consultative Group.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 15 June 2022 be approved as a correct record subject to the attendance of Wendy Mead corrected.

4. **OTHER MINUTES**

4.1 **Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee**

RESOLVED – That the draft minutes be noted.

5. **ASSISTANT DIRECTORS UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of Executive Director, Environment concerning an update on matters relating to Hampstead Heath since June 2022.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

6. **RISK UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Environment on the Risk Update Report.

In response to a question raised by a Member, the Executive Director confirmed that building stock and structural assets that required repair or replacement had been escalated as red and any works needed would require approval by the executive board. The Committee was informed that a request had been submitted for a survey to be carried out to assess the building and structural damage on assets and where buildings had been deemed as a potential danger to life, they were closed and not accessible to the public.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

7. **GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT FOR NATURE RECOVERY**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning proposals for future grassland management on Hampstead Heath and Queen's Park.

RESOLVED – That,

- Members agree the future grassland management proposals, as set out in paragraphs 7 - 10 and appendix 1.

8. **A BLUEPRINT FOR THE PARLIAMENT HILL LIDO**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning the high-level concept plan for the Parliament Hill Lido.

In response to a question raised by a Member, the Executive Director confirmed the need for sustainability and management of the business plan. It was noted that future management options required realistic consideration in terms of the ability to raise funding and agreement on a visual concept plan.

RESOLVED – That,

- Members agree the development of a blueprint for the Lido.
- Members provide feedback on the high-level concept plan (appendix 1) and business plan (appendix 2).

9. **SWIMMING BOOKING SYSTEMS**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning proposed changes to the booking system used at the bathing ponds and lido on Hampstead Heath.

RESOLVED – That,

- Members agree the proposals as set out in paragraphs 5-11 of the report.

10. **VISION AND PRIORITIES FOR PARLIAMENT HILL IMPROVEMENTS**

The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning a vision for improvements at Parliament Hill.

In response to a question raised by a Member, the Executive Director, Environment noted revising the current design according to feedback and alongside further engagement.

RESOLVED – That,

- Members agree to develop a Vision for improvements at Parliament Hill.

11. **TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk & Chief Executive concerning a review of the Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

12. **LEVELLING UP AND REGENERATION BILL**

The Committee received a report of the remembrancer concerning an overview of the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

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

There were no questions.

14. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

14.1 **Natural Environment Charity Review Report**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning actions to be taken to ensure charities under the Natural Environment Departments authority were fit for purpose.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

15. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - The following matters relate to business under the remit of the Court of Common Council acting for the City Corporation as charity Trustee, to which Part VA and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 public access to meetings provisions do not apply. The following items contain sensitive information which it is not in the best interests of the charity to consider in a public meeting (engaging similar considerations as under paragraphs 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act) and will be considered in non-public session.

16. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2022 be approved as a correct record

17. **CHARITY REVIEW**

The Committee received a report of the Managing Director Bridge House Estate concerning the Corporate Charities Review.

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

Questions were raised in respect of the Highgate Wood tree incident and funding for Roman Kiln.

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

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 6.05pm

Chairman

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