

QUEEN'S PARK JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP
Wednesday, 21 November 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the Queen's Park Joint Consultative Group held at
Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 21 November
2012 at 12.00 pm

Present

Members:

Jeremy Simons (Chairman)
Deputy Michael Welbank (Deputy Chairman)
Barbara Newman
John Blandy
Helen Durnford
Paul Stratton

Officers:

Edward Foale	- Town Clerk's Department
Jacky Compton	- Town Clerk's Department
Simon Lee	- Superintendent of Hampstead Heath
Richard Gentry	- Queen's Park Manager, Open Spaces Department
Jonathan Meares	- Highgate Wood Manager, Open Spaces Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Virginia Rounding, Cllr Mary Arnold, Annalisa Saba and Cllr James Denselow.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2012 were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Landscape Management – The Queen's Park Manager stated that after further investigation, the reason why a wedge was offered to pitch and putt users was because of the type of golf balls that are used are of a low bounce.

Representation on the Joint Consultative Group – The Superintendent stated that he would have to consider the constitution quite carefully before approaching members of the community and that once he had some suitable Groups identified, he would circulate it to Members for comment prior to proposing revised membership. The Group were advised that any change to the membership of the Queen's Park Joint Consultative Group would need to

be agreed by the Hampstead Heath Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Management Committee.

Queen's Park Café – Superintendent advised that there were still some issues regarding the final lease that needed to be addressed and would update the Group at its next meeting on progress.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE REPORT**

A report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath providing an update on management and enhancement matters that had taken place in Queen's Park since the last meeting in June 2012 was considered. During the discussion, the following was noted:

Events and activities in the Park - busy summer with over 870,000 visitors.

Sports and Recreation – Queen's Park Rangers Football Club held a summer camp with a very low turnout but they were still keen to continue to use the Park in the future.

Sports Day – over 900 children attended over various days.

Lexi Cinema – over 1000 attendees at each film, all events were very popular with people and that for next year it has been proposed to hold 4 events.

Tennis Courts – In response to a query, the Superintendent advised that he would talk with the Tennis Coach about the amount of use he makes of the Courts that he has booked during the summer holidays. The Superintendent stated that he would report back to the next meeting of the Group on the outcome.

Landscape Management – The Queen's Park Manager advised that a tree contractor would be starting work today on identified works to 30 trees in the Park.

Visitors and Community – The Queen's Park Manager advised that the Roadshow events had not taken place this summer and that they were hoping to hold sometime in 2013.

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5. **UPDATE ON TREE MANAGEMENT**

The Superintendent was heard relative to tree management. The Superintendent stated that although there was no sign of the Ash disease at present, it would probably arrive next year.

6. **CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE - QUEEN'S PARK**
The Committee received a report of the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath that provided an update on the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) project in Queen's Park.

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7. **PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT UPDATE - QUEEN'S PARK**
Members received a report of the Superintendent that provided an update on the Play Area Refurbishment in Queen's Park, focussing on the need for further fund raising.

The Queen's Park Manager advised that the area still continued to be a highly used and popular facility within the Park with over 197,000 visitors between October 2011 and September 2012.

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8. **QUESTIONS**
Personal Trainers – In response to a question, the Superintendent stated that there was currently a legal issue with regards to licensing of individuals. He advised that he was currently in discussions with the Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department as to the relevant powers to licence the trainers.

The Superintendent informed the Group that he would report back to the Group at its next meeting.

Vacant Property – In response to a question, the Superintendent advised the Group that there was currently one property that was vacant and that he hoped to have someone taking up occupancy in the coming couple of months.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**
There were no urgent items.

10. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**
Members noted that the next Committee meeting would be held in Queen's Park at 12noon on 12 June 2013, preceded by a visit at 10am.

The meeting ended at 12.58pm

Chairman

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