

KEATS HOUSE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Monday, 21 October 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Keats House Consultative Committee held at Guildhall
on Monday, 21 October 2019 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Graham Packham (Chairman)	Steven Bobasch (Chair, Keats Community Library)
Deputy Wendy Hyde (Deputy Chairman)	Bob Hall (Keats Foundation)
Stephen Ainger (Chair, Downshire Hill Residents Association)	Martin Humphery (Heath and Hampstead Society)

In Attendance:

Deputy John Tomlinson (Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee)

Officers:

Alistair MacLellan	- Town Clerk's Department
Colin Buttery	- Director of Open Spaces
Rob Shakespeare	- Principal Curator, Keats House

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Karina Dostalova, Andrew Dutton Parish and Vivienne Littlechild.

The Town Clerk noted that Deputy John Tomlinson would be representing the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee that day.

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 of the meeting held on 18 March 2019 be approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

CIL Project to Improve Entrance to House

- The Principal Curator noted that the application had been reviewed by a number of Camden Planning Officers, the most recent of whom had noted he had recommended the application for approval. In response to a question, the Principal Curator confirmed that CIL funding was time-limited and therefore he was aiming to have the works completed by Spring 2020.

- A Member commented that two of the exterior gates to the property were no longer fit for purpose, given that swollen wood made them difficult to open and close in wet weather.
- A Member noted that works to improve public toilets in the House were in his view urgent.
- In response to a question the Principal Curator confirmed that phased like-for-like works to the toilet block would not require further planning permission.

4. **MID-YEAR UPDATE REPORT FOR KEATS HOUSE CHARITY 2019/20**

Members considered a mid-year update report of the Superintendent for Keats House Charity 2019/20 and the following points were made.

- The Principal Curator tabled a Licensing Decision letter regarding the House and noted that, in summary,
 - It would now be possible to deliver 50 indoor events per year between the hours of 6.00pm – 9.30pm for 100 persons.
 - It would now be possible to programme six outdoor events per year between 2.00pm – 9.00pm for 200 persons. The Principal Curator had noted 200 persons was not an excessive number as this was in line with the summer *Much Ado About Nothing* event that had attracted over 100 persons.
 - It would now be possible to sell a small number of Keats themed alcoholic gift items in the House shop, which was felt to be appropriate. Shop opening hours would be between 11.00am – 5.00pm, or in line with evening events as appropriate. Draught beer would not be available.
 - In response to a question, the Principal Curator noted that the original application had been phrased in the broadest terms of 10.00am – 10.00pm seven days a week as the online planning application portal did not offer options to qualify timings further.
 - The Principal Curator confirmed that the restrictions related to the sale of alcohol only and that there were no restrictions on non-licensable events.
- In response to a question, the Principal Curator confirmed there was CCTV provision within the House which was now operational subject to two cameras being upgraded – he would confirm to Members once this had been completed. The Principal Curator acknowledged that more signage highlighting CCTV would be appropriate from a GDPR perspective.

- In response to a question, the Principal Curator confirmed that scaffolding had been erected outside the House to facilitate restoration and redecoration works. works requiring listed building consent were taking place in this phase of works.
- A Member noted that the Keats House Activities plan should refer to reaching people not just locally and, in the UK, but around the world.
- Members suggested that a longer-term lease (rather than licence) should be offered to the Keats Community Library for the use of 10 Keats Grove.
- In response to a suggestion, the Principal Curator agreed to consider further highlighting City of London Corporation branding on Keats House signage.

RESOLVED, that

- the report be received.
- The views of the Committee be conveyed to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.
- The following revised priorities for April 2020 onwards be included in the Plans for the Future Periods section of the annual report when submitted in April 2020:
 - Deliver access to building maintenance projects at Keats House
 - Deliver Keats200 bicentenary programme
 - Implement Keats House Activities Plan for 2020/21
 - Consultation, finalisation and implementation of the Keats House Management Plan 2020-23.

5. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

7. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on 12 May 2020 at 2.00pm at Keats House.

The meeting ended at 2.18 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Alistair MacLellan / alistair.maclellan@cityoflondon.gov.uk