

<b>Committee(s):</b> Highgate Wood Consultative Group	<b>Dated:</b> 06/10/2021
<b>Subject:</b> Draft Mid Term Report – Highgate Wood Charity (No. 232986)	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	<b>2, 3, 5, 10, 11 &amp; 12</b>
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Executive Director Environment	<b>For Discussion</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Richard Gentry, Acting Superintendent	

### Summary

This report proposes a new approach to engaging with Members of the Highgate Wood Consultative Group on activities at the Wood since April 2021.

A 6-month Review of the Plans for Future Periods and Key Performance Measures for 2021-22 is presented for feedback (appendix 1).

### Recommendations

#### It is recommended that Members:

- Provide feedback in relation to the 6-month Review of the Plans for Future Periods and Key Performance Measures for 2021-22 as set out in appendix 1.
- Provide feedback on the ‘Poetry Project’, as outlined by the Highgate Wood Manager.

### Main Report

#### Background

1. Highgate Wood is a registered charity (No. 232986).
2. As a registered charity it is required to submit an annual report and financial statement, detailing its activities and to ensure compliance with the Charities Act 2011.

## **Current Position**

3. The draft report included at Appendix 1 forms the basis of the report for 2021/22, with activities for April to August 2021.
4. From 19 July 2021, in-line with the Government's Roadmap out of Lockdown, Covid-19 signage has been removed from the Wood. A number of Covid-19 control measures remain in place across the staff facilities, in line with guidance.
5. The Highgate Wood Divisonal Plan 2021-24 sets out the current position in relation to project work being undertaken at the Wood and is attached for Members feedback (appendix 2).
6. The Highgate Wood Manager will provide a verbal update in relation to the sports pitches playing surface.

## Events

7. Highgate Wood Community Heritage Day was cancelled again due to the ongoing public health concerns about Covid-19. Licenced Events and activities have recommenced over the spring summer period. A dog how was held on 12 September, to raise funds for the All Dogs Matter charity, which was well attended.

## Up coming work

8. City Surveyors attended site in August to look at the long running drainage issue effecting the Pavilion toilets, caused by poorly constructed pipework. A contractor has been appointed to carry out a survey and provide estimates for alleviating the current drain blockages.

## Planning

9. 37 Lanchester Road – Planning permission for a replacement dwelling was granted by the London Borough of Haringey under ref: HGY/2021/0814. Representations were submitted by the City Corporation in respect of the impact of the proposal on ancient trees within the site boundary. Although outside the boundary of Highgate Wood, these trees were formerly part of the same ancient woodland and are worthy of protection. There were no objections raised to the principal of development. Conditions have been attached to the permission to require on-site monitoring during construction and the imposition of suitable measures to ensure tree protection and the creation of an ecological corridor through the site.
10. In relation to Cranwood, 100 Woodside Avenue N10 3JA – A letter was received on 23 September 2021, setting out that an application has been received in respect of the proposed development described below (comments by 22/10/2021):
11. Proposal: Demolition of existing building and redevelopment of site to provide 41 new homes (Use Class C3) within 3 buildings ranging from 3 to 6 storeys in height, with associated vehicular access from Woodside Avenue, wheelchair

parking, landscaping, refuse/recycling and cycle storage facilities. New stepped access to Parkland Walk from Woodside Avenue.

#### Poetry in the Wood

12. A proposal has been received from 'the Poetry Project' regards the temporary installation of posters at Highgate Wood. Initially the following location are being considered:

- Information Hut
- Playground
- Café

13. The Highgate Wood Manager will provide a verbal update at the Meeting.

#### Fees & Charges

14. Members will be consulted on the draft fees & charges for Highgate Wood via email in Spring 2022.

#### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

15. The activities and projects included within this report contribute to the three objectives and outcomes set out in the Open Spaces Business Plan 2020-21:
- (a) Open spaces and historic sites are thriving and accessible,
  - (b) Spaces enrich people's lives and
  - (c) Business practices are responsible and sustainable.
16. These activities and projects also contribute towards the achievement of the three aims set out in the City of London Corporation Corporate Plan 2018-23. Contribute to a flourishing society (1-4), Support a thriving economy (5) and Shape outstanding environments (9-12).

#### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

17. The projects and works outlined in this report contribute towards the achievement of the three aims set out in the City of London Corporate Plan 2018-23: Contribute to a flourishing society, Support a thriving economy and Shape outstanding environments.
18. The projects and works outlined in this report also contribute towards the three objectives and outcomes set out in the Open Spaces Business Plan 2020-21 (a) Open spaces and historic sites are thriving and accessible, (b) Spaces enrich people's lives and (c) Business practices are responsible and sustainable.

#### Financial Implications

19. No Impact.

#### Resource Implications

20. Staff resources are being prioritised to keep the Wood open, safe, accessible and secure.

### Climate Implications

21. The City of London launched its Climate Action Strategy in October 2020 and the strategy is now in implementation stage. A key part of the strategy is conserving and enhancing biodiversity alongside reducing the City of London's carbon emissions.

### Legal Implications

22. No Impact.

### Risk Implications

23. No Impact.

### Equality Implications

24. No Impact.

### Security Implications

25. No Impact.

### **Conclusion**

26. The Wood has remained busy throughout the spring and summer months with some signs of a return to the visitor numbers prior to the Pandemic. The summer break period has been noticeably quieter with many residents choosing to travel further afield for the holidays. This has been a welcome change, and the Team are looking forward to starting work on the new Conservation Area. The works will be an opportunity for the Heath's Tree and Conservation Teams to work alongside and offer support to the Highgate Wood Team.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – 6-month Review of the Plans for Future Periods and Key Performance Measures for 2021-22
- Appendix 2 – Highgate Wood Divisonal Plan 2021-24 (September update)

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