

HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Monday, 17 April 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee held at The Greenwood Centre, 37 Greenwood Place, NW5 1LB on Monday, 17 April 2023 at 5.30 pm

Present

Members:

William Upton KC (Chairman)
Nick Bradfield
John Foley
Merlin Fox
Colin Gregory
Michael Hammerson
Dr Gaye Henson
Helen Payne
Susan Rose
Richard Sumray
Jeff Waage

Officers:

Ben Dunleavy	- Town Clerk's Department
Declan Gallagher	- Natural Environment Department
Stefania Horne	- Natural Environment Department
Paul Maskell	- Natural Environment Department
Jonathan Meares	- Natural Environment Department
Blair Stringman	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft minutes of Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee held on 16 January 2023

RESOLVED – That, the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2023 be agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

- The venue of the meeting be changed to The Greenwood Centre, 37 Greenwood Place, NW5 1LB

- Under Any Other Business, it was noted that discussion had been raised in relation to professional dog walking licenses due to a concern about the number of dogs being walked.

MATTERS ARISING

- Members requested an update on the Kenwood Master Plan. A Member (Friends of Kenwood), noted that consultation had now ended however, the plan was in its second draft form. The Member requested that should other Members of the Committee have any questions to email in so that questions could be taken forward to the correct people. It was noted that Friends of Kenwood had provided significant financial support to the Master Plan.
- Members requested that an update on professional dog walking licences be included and picked up as part of the Director's Update.

3.2 Draft minutes of Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee

RESOLVED – That, the draft minutes of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee be noted.

4. ASSISTANT DIRECTORS UPDATE

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning an update on matters relating to Hampstead Heath since January 2023.

In response to a question raised by a Member (Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association), the Assistant Director noted that consideration into a working group to review the management strategy had been suggested by the Consultative Committee and should Members like to part of this working group, they were asked to inform the Assistant Director.

Projects Update

In relation to the Ponds Improvement Works, Members were informed that consultation with an ecologist had taken place to ensure that there were no adverse impacts.

The Assistant Director noted that the implementation of the cricket improvement work is going through the planning phase. The Assistant Director agreed to send a summary link to Members when it becomes available.

Café Tendering

The Assistant Director informed Members that the Natural Environment Division had worked closely with City Surveyor's in engaging an expert consultant to help in the marketing of the café's. It was noted that a marketing strategy would be presented as a report to a future meeting.

Good News

The Assistant Director noted that that a dashboard would be populated every month to update Members on Crime and Disorder issues. It was agreed that this would be shared with the Committee in the future.

In response to a question raised by a Member (Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee), Officers noted that wild swimming was now very popular and a programme of works on grass restoration were ongoing and the team would be putting further efforts into solving these issues.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

5. **HAMPSTEAD HEATH SPORTS ADVISORY FORUM MINUTES**

The Committee received a report of draft action points of the Hampstead Heath Sports & Wellbeing Forum.

Members were informed that a bid is being developed for numerous multi use game areas within Camden with the aim to encouraging access for priority groups. Bid submission will be between October - December 2023 with feedback on funding early 2024.

A high level sport strategy for the Natural environment, including Hampstead Heath, is in preparation and the committee was informed on the purpose and the structure of the strategy.

6. **HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN 2023/24**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Environment concerning the high-level business plan 2023/24 for the Natural Environment Division of the Environment Department.

RESOLVED – That, the report be noted.

7. **APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBER OF THE LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY TO THE HAMPSTEAD HEATH CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk concerning the appoint of a Member to the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee.

RESOLVED – That, the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee support that Liz Andrew, nominated by the London Natural History Society, be appointed as a Member of the Consultative Committee in accordance with the London Government Reorganisation (Hampstead Heath) Order 1989.

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

A question was raised on the following:

- A question was raised about the boarded-up house on the southeast entrance to the Heath, next to William Ellis School. The Assistant Director noted that the house has suffered severe subsidence and was currently not habitable. It was noted a claim had been made to the insurance company. However, the amount of money to be received

would most likely not be enough to replace the damage. As a result, options are being considered, including its reuse or even demolition. Further meetings with insurance and surveyors are planned. The Chair welcomed the opportunity for further discussion on the use of this building which is located at an important entrance point to the Heath.

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

There was no urgent business.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 19 JUNE 2023**

The meeting ended at 7.46 pm

Chairman

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