



Hampstead Heath Sports Advisory Forum

Parliament Hill Meeting Room

11th May 2015, 6.30pm

Members:

Richard Sumray (Chairman)	RS	HHCC (London Council for Sports and Recreation)
Nigel Robinson	NR	Camden Council (Head of Sport & Physical Activity)
Marc Hutchison	MH	Hampstead Heath Winter Swimming Club, H & HS
Natasha Cendrowicz	NC	Highgate Harriers
David Bedford	DB	Representing Athletics on Hampstead Heath
Derek Mennell	DM	President of Parliament Hill Bowls club
Paul Mennell	PM	Secretary of Parliament Hill Bowls Club
Sandy Nairne	SN	Croquet Club President

In attendance:

Jeremy Simons	JLS	Chairman of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee
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Officers:

Bob Warnock	BW	Superintendent of Hampstead Heath, City of London
Declan Gallagher	DG	Operational Services Manager, City of London
Paul Maskell	PM	Leisure and Events Manager, City of London
Paul Jeal	PJ	Senior Swimming Supervisor
Christine Murphy (notes)	CM	Leisure Education & Events Support Service Officer

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Apologies	
	Rudolf Benjamin, Marc Hutchinson, Virginia Rounding, Simon Taylor, Jo Levy, Dave Walton.	
2.	Minutes of the previous meeting (9th May 2015) and matters arising	
	Accepted.	
	Noted date error on agenda bullet point 2 reads 9 th February.	NC
	BW gave an update on the Service Base Review - Sports feasibility study. DG is currently drafting an Opportunity Outline and an Organisational Impact Assessment. Working in parallel to this, Consultants have been approached for quotations to undertake a feasibility study.	
	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u>	
	DW Heath Extension Cross Country event. Agreed a meeting would take place to discuss this further.	DW/PM/DG
	<u>Mid Summer trail event</u> – PM provided an update to the group. PM will send route information to DB. PM and DB will meet to discuss trail operation, event plan, security and stewarding.	PM PM/DB

Presentation from the Bowls & Croquet Clubs

Croquet Club update presentation by Sandy Naine

- 18 coaching sessions took place in Golders Hill in 2014.
- There are currently 41 members at GPH and 22 at PH.

The HH Communication Officer will offer guidance on using twitter and Facebook to promote the Club.

PM

Bowls report was read out to the forum by Paul Mennell

- 3 long serving members lost this year.
- 4 new members have signed up in 2015 and a further 2 to be enrolled.
- Currently there are 26 members. Last year there were 24 members.
- The club has introduced a reduced membership fee of £50 in the aim to recruit more members.
- The Club helped 8 students to achieve 50% of their GCSE in Bowls through coaching sessions at PH.

Please contact Derek Mennell or Sandy Naine with any ideas for promoting the Clubs.

ALL

DISCUSSION POINTS

SPORTS STRATEGY

DG gave an update on the City Sports Strategy and circulated the City of London Sport and Physical Activity strategy 2015 – 2020. DG drew Members attention to page 5 – point 28 Partnership working / Awareness / Behaviour Change being the three themes the strategy is built around.

The Open Spaces Department Sports Programme Board has started to scope a Sports Framework and initial work has been completed charting the links between the Acts of Parliament the Open Spaces were acquired, the site Management Plans, Charitable Status and the relevant local authority Sport and Physical Activity strategies.

Issues raised relating to the Sports Strategy:

How do you match up what the local authorities are doing with what the Open Spaces are doing with various local amenities?

This is a Sports Strategy for the Square Mile, and is not applicable to Hampstead Heath?

Timescales:

NR offered to communicate with the Superintendent on the LBC methodology for writing their Sports Strategy.

NR

OUT DOOR GYM

NR Outlined the proposal and gave a progress update. Site Assessment will be completed late May 2015, Internal Procurement approval will be completed in late June 2015. Public users / stakeholder consultation will be completed late July 2015. The Procurement process will commence in August 2015, and Community Partner engagement will commence in September 2015. Site build will commence (in two stages) in October 2015, for a Spring 2016 launch.

NR/BW

The Sports Advisory Forum are very supportive of the proposal.

	<p>NR A business case on the shortlisted suggested site will be put forward to the City of London to maximise usage and impact. The site ground conditions security and drainage will be assessed. BW will work with NR to look at the pros and cons of the suggested site and produce some maps on locations.</p> <p>BW reported back from the HHCC. Members were supportive overall, but expressed concerns over the visual impact around Dukes Field and the petanque pitch location.</p> <p>BW will report to the Consultative Committee in July 2015</p>	<p>NR /BW</p> <p>BW</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Swimming Issues</p>	
	<p>New opening times for the Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Ponds were introduced in March and have been well received by users.</p> <p><u>Update on the Ladies' Pond</u> BW will feedback at next meeting on the refurbishment options for the Ladies' pond staff accommodation, changing rooms, and on a final design for the new platform.</p> <p><u>Update on the Men's Pond</u> There followed a discussion around the recent Men's Pond fatality. Initial reports state the young man involved suffered a heart attack, but there has been no further contact from the Coroner or Health & Safety Executive to date. CoL has completed an accident report and investigation on the incident.</p> <p>A new water safety training programme will be delivered by a qualified Lifeguard to all Rangers and Constabulary staff who work near water.</p> <p>A meeting to review our operation co-ordination with the emergency services will be arranged. Access gates onto the Heath will be issued with Fire Brigade locks. It was noted that emergency services do not have a working knowledge of the Heath and rely on Heath staff to direct and instruct them when on site.</p> <p><u>Update on the Mixed Pond</u> Hand over took place on 27th April, and the pond reopened to be public on 2nd May.</p>	<p>BW</p> <p>PJ</p> <p>DG</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Lido</p>	
	<p><u>Update on the boundary wall, additional work programme</u> Boundary wall delay issues were outlined by PJ. Works commenced in March.</p> <p><u>Increased terrace space.</u> Work will be completed in the next two weeks, and further works will take place in Sept to finish the wall.</p> <p>JP will consult the lido user group about railings and will look into obtaining listed building consent.</p> <p><u>Update on investigations into the loss of water at the lido</u></p>	<p>JP</p>

	<p>PJ updated the group - ongoing investigations are taking place.</p> <p>On 27th April a team of divers carried out dye tests to the plate covering the sump but no leak was detected. Further dye testing was carried out around the 4 outlets in the deep end, and there were signs of leakage from all four outlets. Pressure testing of the pipework linking these outlets to the filters is required and will take place in October, as the pool will have to be drained down and closed for at least 2 weeks while this work is carried out.</p> <p><u>AWP Café works</u> Works have run over schedule by a number of weeks due to unforeseen circumstances. The new completion date is 29th May. The works include a new roof, new windows, extra doorways, re-pointing and new brickwork. The café should be open to the public by the Bank Holiday.</p>	PM/PJ
6.	Update on events	
	<p>PM gave an update on events.</p> <p><u>English National Cross Country Championships 21st February 2015</u> -A record number of participants took part. -One issue raised was the overcrowding of the tent City near the bandstand on the day and caused access problems to Heath users.</p> <p>NC Received complaints about the ground condition after the races.</p> <p>It was suggested that notices went up prior to race events to educate the public and reassure them that the ground will recover in time.</p> <p><u>Camden Schools Cross Country Championships</u> This event took place on 29 April 2015. 1,500 runners from 30 schools took part, an increase in participation from last year.</p> <p><u>Highgate Harriers night of 10,000m 'personal bests' 16th May 2015</u> Event will be used as the British and English National Championships and as the GB trials for the European team Athletics Cup.</p> <p><u>Lord Mayor's city dip 10 & 11 July 2015</u> Event raised £2K last year. PM has arranged for a CoL Sherriff to attend and teams entering will be given prioritised entry passes for the Decathlon. Anyone who would like to enter City dip should contact PM.</p> <p><u>Time table</u> Friday 11 July, 7am – 10am and 6.30pm – 8.30pm Saturday 12 July, 9am – 12 noon.</p> <p>Mark Foster, Olympic Athlete and world Commonwealth and European champion will be attending.</p> <p><u>Give it a go 12 July 2015</u> Members of the forum to direct anyone wanting to participate to get in touch with PM.</p>	
7.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	The group would like to thank Jeremy Simons for all his hard work and	

	dedication to the Sports Forum.	
8.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	14 th September 2015 at 6.30pm Parliament Hill Staff yard.	