

Committee(s)	Dated:
Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee	09.01.2017
Subject: Superintendent's Update	Public
Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath	For Discussion
Report author: Bob Warnock – Open Spaces Department	

Summary

This report provides an update to Members of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee on management and operational activities across the Heath since November 2016.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- Members provide feedback to the Superintendent on the contents of this report, and specifically in relation to the Lido Café lease and Eruv proposals.
- That the views of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee are conveyed to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee at their January meeting.

Main Report

Director of Open Spaces

1. Having led the Open Spaces Department for over nine years, the Director of Open Spaces, Sue Ireland, will be retiring on the 28 February 2017. Colin Buttery has been appointed as the new Director of the Open Spaces Department, and will take up the post on the 1 March 2017. Colin has been the Director of Parks and Deputy Chief Executive for The Royal Parks for the past 12 years and has been involved in conservation land management for over 30 years.
2. Colin has worked for the National Trust and Woodland Trust in a range of land management roles and the Boroughs of Bromley and the City of Westminster where he had responsibility for parks, cemeteries, tree management, leisure centres and a range of community facilities.

3. Colin is an ambassador for environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy and a member of the Forestry Commission's London Region Forest, and Woodlands Advisory Committee and Oak Processionary Moth Advisory Group.

Open Spaces Department Business Plan

4. As previously indicated by the Superintendent and Business Manager, there has been a Corporate review of Business Planning. A new framework has been introduced which focuses on outcomes and presents Departmental Business Plans much more succinctly. The new framework proposes that each Department set out its strategic contribution to the City's ambitions and sets out in very headline terms what it will do to support this. This is then cross referenced with current services, improvements, horizon scanning and developing capabilities. Introducing the new framework will take more than one business planning cycle and so this year's Business Plan will necessarily be a partial reflection of the ambition to demonstrate and consider the flow of outcomes from the Corporate Plan, to Departmental Plans, to Divisional Plans, Team Plans and individual Performance Development Reviews more effectively.

Open Spaces Bill

5. The CoL Open Spaces Bill successfully completed its Opposed Committee stage in the House of Commons on Tuesday 15 November. The Committee determined that there should be one addition, to clause 12 regarding the use of Freedom of Information (FOI); Officers are considering how this will be responded to. Next will be the Report Stage and Third Reading of the Bill in the Commons, at a time yet to be agreed.

Cafés

6. The Café Working Party (CWP) has now met four times, and Members participated in a discussion workshop on 19 November. There are two further meetings scheduled for January and February.
7. Responses to the questionnaire were received from 2,414 individuals during the 6 week consultation period. The draft Café Engagement Report is currently being considered by Members of the CWP, and comments are expected back in early January 2017. This will inform the Options Appraisal Report to guide future decisions on the café leases.
8. The Superintendent has adjusted the reporting timetable to this Committee to allow additional time for the CWP to review the report and discuss further the lease options that will be outlined in the Options Appraisal report. Consequently, the Optional Appraisal report will be deferred to the 13 March 2017 Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee meeting, and 15 May 2017 Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee meeting.

The Lido Café

9. On 30 September the City of London was notified by Digital Heroes of their intention to cease trading at the Lido café at the beginning of October.

10. Consequently, the Superintendent has commenced a period of engagement and consultation with Lido and Heath users to inform the future café licence tender and service delivery standards. This will now be incorporated into the scope of the CWP and will be included in the Options Appraisal report, to address the longer term provision at the Lido facility.
11. However, to ensure that there is a café provision at the Lido for summer 2017 the Superintendent will take account of the feedback from the engagement and consultation with Lido and Heath users, and seek agreement from HHMC at their meeting on 30 January 2017 to proceed to tender and appoint a short term lease for the facility. The Superintendent would welcome feedback from Members on this proposal.

Eruv

12. The Superintendent has received two proposals for works on Hampstead Heath that are related to the Highgate & Muswell Hill Eruv and the Camden Eruv. Details of the proposals are attached to this report.
13. The Consultative Committee walk, on the 7 January 2017, will include a visit to consider the proposals in relation to the Heath boundary with Hampstead Lane, as part of the information gathering arrangements in respect of the proposals.
14. The Comptroller & City Solicitor and the City Surveyor are being consulted on any regulatory, statutory and land management implications which may arise in connection with the proposals.
15. The Superintendent seeks views from Members of this Committee to inform a further report to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen's Park Committee, subject to advice on any relevant regulatory, statutory and land management implications.

Camden Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - Hampstead Town Ward

16. In January 2017 Ward Councillors for Hampstead Town Ward in Camden will be conducting public consultation on proposals for allocation of CIL funding in 2017. A number of proposals put forward related to investment in infrastructure on Hampstead Heath. In addition to a range of proposals from members of the community, the Superintendent proposed three projects at Parliament Hill Fields:
 - Refurbishing Peggy Jay Centre playground and adventure playground at Parliament Hill Fields
 - Developing a learning & volunteer centre at The Hive, Parliament Hill Fields
 - Installing an outdoor gym at Parliament Hill Fields to augment the existing trim trail.
17. The three proposals sought a contribution from the CIL of up to 25 per cent match funding towards the total cost of these capital projects.

18. Hampstead Heath spans three Camden Wards with residents of Hampstead Town, Highgate and Gospel Oak well served by play, learning and leisure facilities across the wider Heath. These facilities at Parliament Hill Fields are located within Highgate Ward, at the southern junction of the three ward boundaries. As such, it was suggested that proposals for investment on the Heath ought to be considered by Councillors across all three Wards prior to proceeding to the public consultation phase.
19. The Superintendent attended a CIL workshop with Ward Councillors, other community organisations and residents on 23 November and explained that proposals for investment on Hampstead Heath will require authorisation by the City prior to being submitted for CIL funding. To aid this, it is proposed that a proforma be provided to community organisations that includes a field indicating that the City has been consulted and has authorised the proposal prior to it being considered for public consultation.

Constabulary

20. Since last reporting to the Consultative Committee, the following successful prosecutions have been made for byelaw offences on Hampstead Heath:

Dogs

- Dog attacked another dog and caused it injury. Total payout: £958.08 including fine, costs, vets fees and victim surcharge.
- Dog offence. Total payout: £230 including fine, costs and victim surcharge
- Dog out of control which harassed swans (none injured). Total payout: £180 including fine, costs and victim surcharge.

Cycling

- Cycling on non-cycling path (did not attend court). Total payout: £575 including fine, costs and victim surcharge.
- Cycling on a prohibited path. Total payout: £230 including fine, costs and victim surcharge.
- Cycling on a prohibited path. Total payout: £230 including fine, costs and victim surcharge.
- Two charges of obstruction and cycling on a path where cycling is prohibited. Total payout: £720 including fine, costs and victim surcharge.
- Cycling on a no cycling path. Total payout: £575 including fine, costs and victim surcharge.

Planning

21. The Superintendent will provide an update on planning issues relating to Whitestone House, Heath House, the Water House, Parliament Hill / William Ellis Schools and 114-120 West Heath Road.

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly – Art installation at Golders Hill Park

22. The Superintendent has received notice from White Cube Art LLP in relation to the art installation, The Good, The Bad and The Ugly by Jake & Dinos Chapman. In February 2017 the sculptures will be moved from Golders Hill Park to a new home at the CASS Sculpture Foundation in Sussex. The cost of de-installation from Golders Hill Park will be met from the Superintendents Local Risk Budget.

March Consultative Committee Walk

23. It is proposed that the March walk will include a visit to the Golders Hill Park Zoo to discuss the proposals for the animal collection, improvements and engagement opportunities.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Highgate & Muswell Hill 'Eruv', proposal for Hampstead Lane
- Appendix 2 – Camden 'Eruv', proposal for Windmill Hill.

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