

FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Minutes of the meeting of the Charitable Trusts listed below held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 50 Main Street, Keswick on Thursday 14th November 2024 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
Councillor Jean Murray

	Councillors	
Louise Dunn	Steve Harwood	Denstone Kemp
Benita Laphorn	Claire Peat	Lorraine Taylor

Also present were Vivien Little (Trust Clerk), Catherine Parker (Finance Officer), Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager) and Councillor Sally Lansbury (Cumberland Council).

34. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chris Houghton and Claire Houghton.

35. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

36. Chair's Report

RECEIVED the verbal report from the Chair.

Councillor Murray informed Trustees that she had requested information on any damage to trees in recent storms, to which the Parks Manager responded that only branches had come down and were dealt with. She also informed Trustees of progress with the Play area and meetings surrounding that, as well as a recent meeting with Hope Leisure.

37. Parks Manager's Report

Consideration was given to the report of the Parks Manager. Trustees brought forward some suggestions, including a QR code to give history information of the park, as well as a future Trustee Walk about.

RESOLVED that;

- i) the staff in the parks be thanked for their hard work, as shown in the recent Cumbria in Bloom awards; and
- ii) the Clerk was asked to chase up progress surrounding the leak in the retaining wall with the Swimming Pool area (Action – Clerk).

38. Clerk's Report

Consideration was given to the report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED that

- i) the Clerk request that a dog warden undertake regular visits to Fitz Park, to check for problem dogs and also to spray 'Keep in Clean' stencils (Action – Clerk); and
- ii) the Clerk to put a future Bioblitz in Elizabeth's Woodland on the agenda at a future date (Action – Clerk).

39. Draft Budgets for Hope and Fitz Parks 2025-26

Trustees considered the draft budgets for 2025/26, and thanked the Financial Officer and Parks Manager for their hard work and thorough explanations.

RESOLVED that the draft budgets be accepted, with the addition of a budget line, set at £5,000 for this year, in Fitz Park budgets earmarked for work on Wivell and Knights Bridge (Action – Financial Officer).

40. Hope Park & Fitz Park Budgets – 2nd quarter 2024-25

RECEIVED for information the 2nd quarter budget comparisons.

41. Climate Change Action Plan

RECEIVED the report from the Clerk. Councillor Sally Lansbury (Cumberland Council) said that due to a change in officers at Cumberland, the waste process for the old Allerdale area would be looked at.

42. Requests for use of the Parks

Consideration was given to the following:

- (i) Town Council request to have a Party in the Park on Saturday 28 June 2025 and Scruffs Dog Show on Sunday 29 June
RESOLVED that this request be agreed (Action – Financial Officer).
- (ii) Keswick Museum –request to use Fitz Park for their local schools event and a Summer Fair on Friday 6th June 2025 and Saturday 7th June 2025.
RESOLVED that this request be granted (Action – Clerk).
- (iii) Lakeland Trails – To consider a request to use Fitz Park for their annual Lakeland Trails event on Saturday 6th September 2025;
RESOLVED that this request be granted, to be charged a base rate of £750+VAT, plus £1.50+VAT per competitor over this number (Action – Financial Officer).
- (iv) West Cumberland Orienteering Club –a request to use Fitz Park for an orienteering event on Saturday 26th April 2025.
RESOLVED that this request be granted (Action – Clerk).

Prior to the following business the Chair moved the following resolution:

‘That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.’

43. Minutes

RESOLVED that Chair was authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2024 (pages 5-6).

The meeting closed at 7.57pm.

Chair

Date