

FITZ PARK AND HOPE PARK CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Minutes of the meeting of the Charitable Trusts listed above held at the Quaker Meeting House, Elliott Park, Keswick on Thursday 10th July 2025 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
Councillor Jean Murray

Councillors		
Natalie Evans	Chris Houghton	Claire Houghton
Steve Harwood	Denstone Kemp	Benita Lapthorn
Claire Peat	Richard Scott	Lorraine Taylor

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

18. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dunn and Nelson.

19. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2025 (pages 1-3).

20. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

21. Trustee Reports and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

Trustees considered the reports and accounts for the year ending for the year ended 31st March 2025 for Hope Park, Fitz Park and the Townsfield. The Trusts' accountant, Frances Clark explained the accounts, and answered questions from Trustees.

RESOLVED that the Reports and Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025 for Hope Park, Fitz Park and the Townsfield be formally approved.

22. Request to Display Banner

Trustees received a request to display a banner at Hope Park from the Alhambra Cinema. A representative of the Alhambra Cinema was in attendance for this item to answer questions from Trustees.

RESOLVED that no decision was made on whether to allow the Alhambra Cinema to put a banner on park railings.

23. Chair's Report

Trustees considered the Chair's verbal report following the recent interview process.

RESOLVED that subject to receipt of references, and a formal contract being agreed, Candidate 1 be appointed as Fundraiser for the Play Area project (Action – Clerk).

24. Parks Manager's Report

Trustees received the report of the Parks Manager for July 2025.

RESOLVED that report of the Parks Manager be accepted.

25. Clerk's Report

Trustees received the Trust Clerk's report.

RESOLVED that the football club lease be brought back to check exact wording at the September meeting (Action – Clerk).

26. Assets Register

RESOLVED to approve and adopt the updated Assets Registers for Hope and Fitz Parks.

27. Futures Plans discussion – Expression of Interest

Trustees received a plan from Councillor Harwood regarding generating Expressions of Interest for the area known as Hospital Field in Fitz Park. This was discussed in depth by Trustees. It was generally agreed that something matching the objectives of the Trust could go into that area that could generate income for Fitz Park Trust, but what was subject to debate, and would need fuller investigation, including discussions with the Charity Commission.

RESOLVED that the item be deferred until the next meeting.

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.’

28. Lower Fitz Park River retaining wall

Trustees considered the report of the Parks Manager.

RESOLVED that consideration for an engineer’s report, and future provision of a solution be included during the 2026/27 budget setting process (Action – RFO and Parks Manager).

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Chair

Date