

FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Minutes of the meeting of the Charitable Trusts listed below held at the Quaker Meeting House, Elliot Park, Keswick on Thursday 11th September 2025 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
Councillor Jean Murray

Councillors

Louise Dunn	Natalie Evans	Chris Houghton
Claire Houghton	Steve Harwood	Denstone Kemp
Benita Laphorn	Claire Peat	Richard Scott
Lorraine Taylor		

Also present were Vivien Little (Trust Clerk) and Catherine Parker (Finance Officer).

29. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager).

30. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the Minutes of the Trust Meeting held on 10th July 2025 (pages 4-5).

31. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Harwood declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 as he was the person who had brought forward the requests. He would remain in the room and vote on the item.

32. Pickleball Court

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED that the addition of a pickleball court on the MUGA be agreed in principle, with costings brought back to the next Trust Meeting for final approval. (Action – Parks Manager).

33. Chair's Report

RECEIVED the Chair's report. Concern was raised over the spate of fires which had been started in Fitz Park, primarily around Archery Field.

RESOLVED that an approach was agreed (Action – Clerk).

34. Parks Manager's Report

RECEIVED the report of the Parks Manager for September 2025.

RESOLVED that thanks be given to the parks staff for all their hard work, and how well the parks look (Action – Parks Manager).

35. Clerk's Report

RECEIVED the Trust Clerk's report.

RESOLVED that:

- i) Councillor Dunn put a post on Facebook encouraging residents to vote in the Skipton Building Society (Action – Councillor Dunn);
- ii) Delegated authority be given to the Trust Clerk, Trust Finance Officer and the Parks Manager to complete negotiations with the Tennis Club (Action – Clerk, Finance Officer and Parks Manager);
- iii) A reminder to all clubs go out from the Clerk regarding speeds and the amount of cars in use in the park,, as well as signs limiting speed to 5mph to be put in the park (Action – Clerk and Parks Manager).

36. Parks Futures Plans

RECEIVED an update from Councillor Harwood. Although generally favourably received. Concern was raised about branding involved with the logo, and whether it could represent both the Parks and the Town Council more appropriately.

RESOLVED that the idea of the shields with logos was agreed in principle, with further information being brought back to the next Trust meeting (Action – Councillor Harwood).

37. Use of the Parks

Consideration was given to a request from Keswick Athletics Club to stage the Juniors and Seniors County Cross Country Championships in Fitz Park on Saturday 3 January 2026.

RESOLVED that:

- i) The request from Keswick Athletics Club to stage the Juniors and Seniors County Cross Country Championships in January 2026 be granted; and
- ii) The request for Keswick Athletics Club to host the GB Trial Race for the 2026 European Off Road Running Championships in May 2026 be granted.

38. Hope Park & Fitz Park Budgets – 1st quarter 2025-26

RECEIVED for information the 1st quarter budget comparisons.

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.’

39. Fundraising Update

RECEIVED an update from the Fundraiser.

RESOLVED that a project group be set up, to meet with the Fundraiser as soon as possible (Action – Clerk).

40. Football Club Lease

RECEIVED for information a copy of the Football Club Lease.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Chair

Date