FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Minutes of the annual meeting of Charitable Trusts listed below held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Council Offices, 50 Main Street, Keswick on Thursday 28th May 2026 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chair
Councillor Jean Murray

Councillors

Louise Dunn	Steve Harwood	Denstone Kemp
Benita Lapthorn	Claire Peat	Richard Scott

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

1. Election of Chair
There being only one nomination it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Murray be elected as Chair for the ensuing year.

2. Election of Vice Chair
There being only one nomination it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Chris Houghton be elected as Vice Chair for the ensuing year.

3. Apologies
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Evans, Chris Houghton, Claire Houghton and Taylor.

4. Minutes
RESOLVED that the Chair be authorised to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2026 (pages 13-14).

5. Declarations of Interests
No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

6. Chair's Report
No Chair's report was received.

7. Parks Manager's Report
RECEIVED the report of the Parks Manager.
RESOLVED that:

i) The parks staff remove the rope climbing frame, with social media being prepared to explain to the public why we have done this (Action – Parks Manager and Clerk);
ii) The remaining funds needed for the replacement work on the pumps at Hope Park be taken from the Max funds (Action – RFO); and
iii) The Chair of Fitz Park Trust write a letter to the Football Club along with the Clerk to explain the need to look at updating the drainage in the area alongside the football pitch (Action – Councillor Murray and Clerk).

8. Review of Constitution
RESOLVED that, with the inclusion of Townsfield in the Fitz Park Constitution (as per the linking order), and the addition of the Fundraising Group Terms of Reference, the updates to the Constitutions for both parks be agreed, and submitted accordingly to the Charity Commission (Action - Clerk and RFO).

9. Budget Comparisons
RECEIVED budget comparisons for the fourth quarter.

10. Review of Hire Charges
RESOLVED that the Hire Charges for the parks be agreed, with the addition of a transit fee for Commercial Users who wish to cross through the parks with no equipment, as a base rate of £850 plus VAT per day, with no fee for extra competitors (Action – RFO).

11. Asset Register
RECEIVED the report of the Financial Officer.

12. Requests for use of the Parks
Consideration was given to the requests to use the parks:
RESOLVED that

i) Binfluencers – delegated authority be given to the Chair, Clerk and Parks Manager to ensure that concerns over siting of the structures and the kind of chicken wire to be used (which could lead to extra litter being created) are addressed. Assuming all concerns are addressed, the structures to only be in place for the months of July and August (Action – Councillor Murray, Clerk and Parks Manager).

ii) Lakeland Trails – that the request to use Fitz Park on Saturday 5 September (with either one or two set up days) be agreed (Action – RFO).

iii) Keswick Museum – that the request to use the park on Friday 5 June be noted.

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.'

13. Request for use of parks
RECEIVED the report from the Clerk.
RESOLVED that the request be agreed, as per the decision in agenda item 10 to allow a transit fee through the park (Action – Clerk/RFO).

14. Request from Hope Leisure for an additional attraction
RECEIVED the request from the Clerk.
RESOLVED that the request from Hope Leisure be agreed (Action – Clerk).

15. Request for use of Parks for a Commercial Opportunity
RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.
RESOLVED that the request within the report be refused (Action – Clerk).

16. Fundraising update
RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED that recommendation A within the report be agreed, and a meeting be set up with the Rugby Club as soon as possible to discuss with them their approach (Action – Clerk).

17. Hope Centenary

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.
RESOLVED that the statue be commissioned as discussed within the report (Action – RFO).

18. Commercial Group

RECEIVED the minutes of the Commercial Group meeting held on Thursday 5 March 2026 and Wednesday 15 April 2026.

The meeting closed at 8.28pm.

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Chair

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Date