

**FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS**

Minutes of the meeting of Fitz Park, Hope Park & Townsfield Charitable Trusts held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Council Offices, 50 Main Street, Keswick, on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Chairman  
Councillor Duncan Miller

	Councillors		
David Burn	David Etherden	Martin Jordan	
Denstone Kemp	Andrew Lysser	Tony Lywood	
Martin Pugmire	Paul Titley		

Also present were Lynda Walker (Trust Clerk), and Patricia Howells of Friends of Keswick Parks who was in attendance for item 4.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Susan Leighton (work), Lorraine Taylor (illness) and Keith Taylor (illness) and James Hewitt, Head Gardener (holiday).

**2. Declarations of Interests**

Declarations of interests in respect of items on this agenda were received from:-

Councillors D Kemp and M Pugmire – item 17 (members of Allerdale Borough Council) (non-pecuniary)

**3. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2013 (pages 5 – 6) and the Special Trust meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 (page 7).

**4. Tree Planting at Upper Fitz Park**

Patricia Howells expressed concern regarding the loss of trees and shrubs from Fitz Park due to old age/disease and offered £100 from the proceeds of a 'Tree Walk' she had recently organised in the park to start a 'Tree' fund to meet the costs of new planting to replace them. The fund would be organised by the Friends of the Parks with SusKes acting as the accountable financial body on their behalf.

**RESOLVED** that the proposal be welcomed that consideration be given to allocating an amount in the Fitz Park budget for 2014/15 towards replacement trees.

**5. Fitz Park Access Path**

Consideration was given to a proposal submitted by Elizabeth Barraclough, as convenor for the Friends of Keswick Parks, to create a new path on the eastern boundary of Fitz Park to link with the path leading to the disused river bridge which was used as a short cut into the park.

**RESOLVED** that the proposal be agreed in principle subject to ownership of the path leading to the disused river bridge being established.

**6. Request for planting at entrance to Crosthwaite Road Car Park**

Consideration was given to a request received via Elizabeth Barraclough from residents of Crosthwaite Road to improve the entrance to the car park by planting of trees or shrubs. Concerns were expressed regarding future maintenance implications and possible issues of planting trees adjacent to the highway.

**7. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman gave a verbal report updating on progress with the BMX track at Fitz Park.

**8. Clerk's Report**

**RECEIVED** the Clerk's report.

**RESOLVED** that further information be obtained concerning the new BIG Lottery 'Rethinking Parks' funding programme as soon as it is available.

**9. Head Gardeners Report**

**RECEIVED** the Head Gardener's report.

**RESOLVED** that the hard base of the contractor's compound behind the Museum at Fitz Park be retained as proposed.

**10. Requests for Use of Fitz Park**

**RESOLVED** that the following requests for use of Fitz Park be approved:

- (i) Keswick Mountain Festival – provisional booking for Wed 14 or Thurs 15 May 2014 for Kids Triathlon
- (ii) Lakeland Trails – Friday 5 (set up) and Saturday 6 September 2014
- (iii) Jennings Rivers Ride – provisional booking for 13 - 14 September 2014 – event to take place on Sunday 14 September.
- (iv) Rather Be Cycling – Saturday 4 (set up) and Sunday 5 October 2014 for the Lakeland Monster Miles event

**11. Request for use of public Bowling Green at Fitz Park**

**RECEIVED** a letter from Keswick Croquet Club requesting the use of part of the public bowling green at Fitz Park for croquet.

**RESOLVED** that the request be deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

**12. Memorials at Fitz Park**

Consideration was given to a suggestion by Councillor Lywood that an area for memorial stones be created under the Silver Bridge which links Upper and Lower Fitz Parks. Concern was expressed regarding the suitability of this area as the bridge is part of the highway maintained by Cumbria County Council.

**RESOLVED** that an alternative location be sought for a 'memorial wall' in the park by the Chair, Vice Chair, Councillor Lywood and the Head Gardener and that the suggestion be given further consideration at the next meeting.

**13. Hope Park & Fitz Park Budgets – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter**

**RECEIVED** for information the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter budget comparisons.

**14. Invasive Species**

**RECEIVED** report prepared by Councillor Jordan on sites of Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed in close proximity to Hope Park.

**RESOLVED** that Councillors Jordan and Etherden obtain further information from West Cumbria Rivers Trust on landowners' responsibilities and the best methods of treatment and report back to the next meeting.

**Prior to the following business the Chairman moved the following resolution:**

*'That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable/in the public interest that the public and/or press be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw'*

**15. Contracting – Additional Activities at Fitz Park**

Further consideration was given to proposals put forward at the last meeting in the light of additional information provided since then.

**RESOLVED:** (i) that approval be given to the request for Fitz Park to be a venue for the ‘Park Run’ initiative with all associated costs and organisational commitments to be borne by CLL  
(ii) that approval in principle be given to the ‘High Ropes’ proposal subject to agreement on siting and financial terms

**16. Contracting – Crow Park**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Etherden be authorised to enter into discussions with the National Trust and report back to the next meeting.

**17. Contracting – Crosthwaite Road Car Park**

**RESOLVED** that Expressions of Interest be invited in the management of the Crosthwaite Road car park from April 2014 on either a fixed price or percentage arrangement.

**18. Contracting – Games at Fitz Park**

**RESOLVED** that Ray & Sandra Dowding be offered a further one year concession for games and catering provision at Fitz Park for the 2014 season.

**19. Consultant’s Report**

**RECEIVED** a copy of report from Ivison Consulting.

**RESOLVED** that the report be referred to the (former) Futures Group for consideration and a recommendation be brought to a meeting early next year.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm

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Chairman

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Date