

FITZ PARK, HOPE PARK & TOWNSFIELD CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Minutes of the Meeting of Fitz Park, Hope Park & Townsfield Charitable Trusts held using the Zoom app on Thursday 10th September 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor Adam Paxon

Councillors

Alexandra Boardman
Allan Daniels
Sally Lansbury
Peter Terry

David Burn
Alan Dunn
Tony Lywood

Markus Cambell-Savours
Steve Harwood
Duncan Miller

Also in attendance were Lynda Walker (Trust Clerk), Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), 1 member of the press and 3 members of the public.

29. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Titley.

30. Minutes

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9th July 2020 (pages 4-5).

31. Declarations of Interests

Declarations of interest were received from:

Councillor Harwood – item 18 – member of Keswick Athletics Club

Councillor Lansbury – item 18 – member of Keswick Tennis Club

32. Trustee Reports and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020

Frances Clark of Keswick Accountants presented the Annual Reports and Accounts for Hope and Fitz Parks for the year ended 31st March 2020. Frances was thanked for her work and presentation. The Responsible Financial Officer presented the Annual Report and Accounts for the Townsfield Charitable Trust.

RESOLVED that the Trustee Reports and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020 for Hope Park, Fitz Park and the Townsfield be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Campbell-Savours joined the meeting during this item.

Frances Clark left the meeting.

Note: Agenda items agreed for future meeting to consider merging the Townsfield Charity with Fitz Park Trust and to look at ideas for raising more income for Fitz Park.

33. Chairman's Report

RECEIVED the Chairman's report. The Chairman thanked all the parks staff for their hard work and congratulated them on the high standard of both parks.

34. Parks Manager's Report

RECEIVED the report of the Parks Manager.

RESOLVED that the grassed area above the cricket pavilion in Lower Fitz Park be included in the grass cutting contract in the future and that other areas be considered for 're-wilding'. It was further **RESOLVED** that separating waste for recycling in Hope Park be continued until the end of the season.

Councillor Campbell-Savours left the meeting.

35. Statue of Max (the dog) in Hope Park

Councillor Lywood presented a request for a slate bench to be located in Hope Park to feature a bronze dog and a collection box in honour of Max the dog (of 'Max out in the Lake District' fame). Funding had already been raised to pay for this and any donations would be used for the benefit of Keswick parks. Subject to agreement, it was anticipated that it would not be in place until early 2021.

RESOLVED that the request be approved subject to the location within Hope Park being agreed with the Parks Manager.

Kerry Irving (Max's owner) was present for this item.

36. Request for Sundial at Hope Park

A local resident put forward a request for the decorative sundial in Hope Park to be replaced with a functioning one and offered a donation towards the cost. Consideration was given to whether the existing sundial should be repaired or whether a new sundial should be purchased.

RESOLVED that the Trust Chair and the Parks Manager meet Dr Will to establish options and costings and bring a report to a future meeting.

37. Keswick Bowling Club - Renewal of Annual Parking Agreement for Upper Fitz Park

RESOLVED that the agreement for Bowling Club parking within Upper Fitz Park (i.e. five spaces at the rear of the staff/games hut for Bowling Club use only, on Tuesday afternoons between 1.45 pm and 4.30 pm and on a maximum of 18 other occasions – dates to be confirmed – during the season (mid-April to mid-September)) be renewed for the forthcoming year, subject to further review in September 2021.

38. Review of Funfair held in Fitz Park

RECEIVED a report from Councillor Titley.

39. Bus Shelter at Wivell Park – Mural

Councillor Lywood gave an update from the Working Group. Designs for the mural were due in by the end of September and the selected artist would be notified within two weeks. Liaison would then take place with children from St Herbert's school and it was anticipated that the mural would be in place by the middle of November 2020.

Councillor Lywood left the meeting.

40. Clerk's Report

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED that the tree stump at the rear of Upper Fitz park be turned into a 'Bug hotel' by the parks staff. It was further **RESOLVED** that a Fitz Park stakeholder meeting take place as soon as possible.

41. BMX Track

Councillor Lansbury gave an update on funding achieved for the upgrade of the BMX track to date. The Parks Manager reported that work was due to start during week commencing 5th October 2020.

RESOLVED that the income from the funfair held in Fitz Park be ringfenced for expenditure on the track and surrounding area.

42. Great British September Clean 11-27 September 2020

Consideration was given to a suggestion from Councillor Titley that the parks be included in the Great British clean-up event to take place during September.

RESOLVED that Councillor Titley be asked to liaise with the Parks Manager regarding the areas to be covered and that bags and pickers be provided to volunteers.

43. Budget Comparisons and Revisions to Budget for 2020-21

RECEIVED the first quarter's budget comparisons.

RESOLVED that the suggested adjustments to the current year's budgets for Hope and Fitz Parks as a result of Covid-19 funding shortfalls be approved, and that no contribution be made to the sinking fund for Fitz Park in the current year.

44. Requests for use of the Parks

Consideration was given to the following:

- i) Lakeland Trails – possible pre-Christmas event.
RESOLVED that further information be requested including whether an entry charge is to be made.
- ii) St Johns Church/British Legion – possible use of Fitz Park for annual Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November.
RESOLVED that Fitz Park be available for use if required.
- iii) BuggyFit – weekly exercise class for new Mums in Fitz Park.
RESOLVED that approval be granted subject to consultation with the Parks Manager regarding guidelines to be followed to protect other park users, and that a donation be requested.
- iv) Keswick Museum – request for free parking for 3 volunteers at Crosthwaite Road car park.
RESOLVED that the request be declined due to lack of space.

Prior to the following business the Chairman moved the 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.'

45. Contracting

Consideration was given to the report of the Parks Manager.

RESOLVED that the purchase of an additional pedestrian mower using funding from identified nominal codes be ratified, and that £163.39 be vired from the Community Sports Area nominal code to fund emergency electrical work at the Staff/Games hut.

46. Legal – Renewal of Leases

RECEIVED an update from the Clerk.

47. Legal – Land at Hospital Field

RECEIVED an update from the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Chairman

Date