

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 27th May 2021 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman
Councillor Duncan Miller

Councillors		
Alexandra Boardman	David Burn	Markus Campbell-Savours
Allan Daniels	Alan Dunn	Steve Harwood
Sally Lansbury	Tony Lywood	Duncan Miller
Peter Terry	Paul Titley	

Also in attendance were Vivien Little (Trust Clerk), Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), and one member of the public.

1. Election of Chairman

There being only one nomination it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Duncan Miller be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Adam Paxon.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

There being only one nomination it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Adam Paxon be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

4. Minutes

Councillor Boardman stated that the formation of the Future Funding Working Group be set up comprising Councillors Boardman, Campbell-Savours, Harwood and Lywood to look at future funding opportunities for Fitz Park was omitted from the minutes of the meeting on 11 March, and should be added in.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record, with the addition of the above amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2021 (pages 14-15).

5. Declarations of Interests

Councillor Harwood gave an interest with regard to item 18 on the agenda in that he was a member of Keswick Athletics Club.

Councillor Titley gave an interest with regard to item 18 on the agenda in that he was a member of Keswick Athletics Club.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked Trustees for the vote of confidence, and thanked Councillor Paxon for his time in the chair. He also thanked all staff for their hard work and dedication. He stated that he would like to introduce awareness afternoons or evenings for the Trustees in order to meet the parks staff and to be able to keep Trustees informed of the work going on in the parks.

RECEIVED the Chairman's Report.

7. West Cumbria River's Trust

Jodie Mills, from West Cumbria Rivers Trust gave an update to Trustees on potential plans for education events and activities in the Townsfield and Fitz Park. This included a potential

wildlife club, to meeting once a month all year round and a forest schools program 4 to 5 times during the summer.

Councillor Boardman explained that last month the Trust had applied for funding from Cumbria County Council in order to do a nature trail walk in Hope Park, towards the caravan site entrance, which the Rivers Trust could be involved in.

RECEIVED the request to use the parks be agreed in principle, to progress gently and to work with the Parks Manager.

8. Keswick Museum

Eilidh Young, Museum Manager and Claire Poulter, Chair of Trustees, gave an update on Museum Plans, and to seek permission for community engagement projects to be placed in Fitz Park. This included a Fox & Badger Trail for young children and an outdoor gallery for all. It was suggested that the Keswick Museum and West Cumbria Rivers Trust could work together for joint funding.

RESOLVED that the request to use Fitz Park as in the report was agreed, with a request to look at future ways of working together at a later date.

9. Parks Manager's Report

Consideration was given to the Parks Manager's report. She stated that some trees had been deadwooded, with future works planned for September, following the summer tree inspection. Waste collections were at high levels due to the amount of visitors to the parks. Thanks were given once again to Dr Leonard Will for his donation of the sundial which was now in place, and also Pete Sibley for the donation of the tree carving of the owls in Fitz Park.

RESOLVED that

- i) a meeting be arranged for the end of the season between Hope Park Leisure and a small working group to ensure that agreements were working as expected; and
- ii) small signs be produced encouraging the public to take litter home on a trial basis.
- iii) the quotation be accepted and the fence from the BMX to the road be replaced this summer.

10. Disposable Barbeques

Consideration was given to a motion from Councillor Lansbury to ban disposal barbeques on Trust owned land.

RESOLVED that the Trustees agreed that disposable barbeques should be prohibited from use on Keswick Parks land, while continuing to campaign for stronger measures with other groups.

11. Budget Comparisons

RECEIVED for information the budget comparisons for the fourth quarter.

Councillor Campbell-Savours left after this item.

12. Assets Register

RESOLVED that the updated Assets Registers for Hope and Fitz Parks be approved and adopted.

13. Review of Hire Charges

RESOLVED that the following fees be charged from 1 June 2021:

- i) That the use of Fitz Park and Hope Park daily rate be increased to £550 per day + VAT (with a charge of £125 + VAT applying for set up/take down days) OR £1 + VAT per competitor, whichever is greater; and
- ii) Car Parking Permits for Crosthwaite Road increase to £110 per annum, or £11 per month; and
- iii) That the light token fees for the sports area be kept as low as possible and the Parks Manager look at the actual costs and report back to the July meeting.

14. Requests for use of the Parks

Consideration was given to the following requests for the use of the parks

- i) Theatre by the Lake – Liz Stephenson from the Theatre gave a presentation to Trustees with an aim to work in partnership with the parks, with the idea of starting small this year, with a summer camp in either week commencing 16th August or 23rd August in Hope Park, to make a play in a week. Members were generally supportive as long as other users to Hope Park were kept in mind, especially Hope Park Leisure.
RESOLVED that permission be agreed in principal but more information would need to be provided to the Trust.
- ii) Cumbria NHS Wellbeing Service – Wellbeing Bunting (as previously agreed and enclosed in Park Manager’s report).
RESOLVED that the Wellbeing Bunting be allowed to be put up for the timescales within the report.
- iii) Happy to Chat bench
RESOLVED that the Trustees donate a ‘Happy to Chat’ bench to the NHS, to be placed along the river bank in Fitz Park, to be funded from the Fitz Park Memorial Fund.
- iv) British Orienteering – request for permission to use Hope Park as part of a Junior Selection Race on Friday 4th June 5pm – 8pm.
RESOLVED that the permission granted to use Hope Park be ratified.
- v) The Events Committee would like to request the use of Fitz Park on 5 September 2021 for the delayed Midsummer Prom from 10am-9.30pm, and request that the MUGA be closed for the duration.
RESOLVED that the request be granted on the same terms as previous years.
- vi) Keswick Mountain Festival – request the use of Crosthwaite Road Car Park from Thursday 8 September to Sunday 12 September for Campervan Parking.
RESOLVED that the request to use Crosthwaite Road Car Park for Campervan parking be refused.
- vii) Rachel Gerrard – request access to Lower Fitz Park to carry out work on Makers Mill with the EA permit in place.
RESOLVED that the request be granted subject to a bond payment of £1000 being made to the Trust prior to commencement of works (to be returned on completion once the Parks Manager has inspected the park and confirmed no damage has been caused). A further condition is that running boards be put in place for use with all tracked vehicles.
- viii) RDF Television – request to film in either Hope Park or Fitz Park, along with the use of a drone.
RESOLVED that the request be granted, with restrictions on drone flights over the children’s play area in Fitz Park.

**Prior to the following business the Chairman 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.’

15. Deed of Easement – Upper Fitz Park

Consideration was given to the report from the Clerk.

RESOLVED that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Trust sign the Deed of Easement when necessary. Further **RESOLVED** that it be reiterated to all parties that the Trust would not be held responsible for any costs pertaining to the deed or associated reports.

16. Future Fund Raising Options for Fitz Park

Consideration was given to the report of Councillors Harwood, Boardman and Campbell-Savours.

RESOLVED that items 1 and 2 on the list of the suggestions be agreed, and that the work of the Group continue including the production of a business plan and who would accommodate it.

17. Hospital Field

An update was received from the Clerk.

RESOLVED that Councillor Titley be appointed Chair of the Working Group, with a further update to be given at the next Trust meeting.

18. Clerk's Report

RECEIVED the report of the Clerk.

RESOLVED that if Covid restrictions continue, the proposed event be postponed to a later date.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

Chairman

Date