

**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 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

Chairman  
Councillor Adam Paxon

	Councillors	
Allan Daniels	Louise Dunn	Steve Harwood
Sally Lansbury	Jean Murray	Paul Titley

Also present were Vivien Little (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (RFO), Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager) and one member of the public.

**41. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Burn, A Dunn, Lywood and Miller.

**42. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Chairman be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2022 (pages 7-9).

**43. Declarations of Interests**

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

**44. Chairman's Report**

Councillor Paxon asked Trustees to begin to consider whether it would be possible to operate a booking system for the Community Sports Area, and how it would be possible to manage such a system. At this moment in time it was agreed that it would be difficult to do so unless the area was manned, which there is not capacity to undertake.

Councillor Paxon also thanked Councillor Titley for chairing the Fitz Park User Groups meeting. Councillor Paxon brought up Hope Park's recent success in the Cumbria in Bloom competition, acknowledging all the staff help for this.

**RECEIVED** the Chairman's report.

**RESOLVED** that a budget of £500 per year be set aside for staff in acknowledgement of their continued support and dedication, beginning from this current year.

**45. Parks Manager's Report**

Consideration was given to the report of the Parks Manager. Thanks were given to Keswick Community Asset Company, who are donating funds to buy three outdoor games for use in Fitz Park, to be managed by Café HNW.

**RESOLVED** that:

- i. the cost of the pump replacement at Hope Park be taken from the budget heads as set out in the report (£1,500 contingency/£1,000 building fund); and
- ii. a letter from the Clerk be sent to all groups affected by the adoption of the new boundary extension to the conservation area in Keswick, warning that it could take longer for tree work to be approved in future.

**46. Clerk's Report**

Consideration was given to the report of the Clerk.

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**RESOLVED** that:

- i. the Parks Manager be given delegated authority to approve short notice, non-commercial requests to use the park, and any such requests granted be reported back to Trustees at the next available meeting; and
- ii. the Clerk produce publicity material regarding the recent success in the Cumbria in Bloom competition.

**47. Draft Budgets for Hope and Fitz Parks 2023-24**

Trustees considered the draft budgets for Hope and Fitz Parks for the next financial year, discussing which changes could be made. It was noted that the Fitz Park deficit would once again rely on a large grant from Keswick Town Council, which would then form the majority of the precept request, and that the potential loss of the annual £20,000 maintenance grant which came from Allerdale Borough Council, which so far has not been agreed by Cumberland Council, would also have an impact on the precept. Publicity explaining the situation should be prepared, as well as emphasising the risks to budgets that flooding could have.

**RESOLVED** that the draft budgets be agreed subject to:

- i. the following amendments discussed at the meeting:-
  - Hope Park - contingency be increased to £3,000;
  - Hope Park - Income for the games licence to be amended in line with the October 2022 CPI and for the games in line with RPI;
  - Both Parks - addition of £250 for staff recognition; and
  - Fitz Park – decrease sinking fund contribution to £7,500 and add £7,500 to professional fees
- ii. the result of the triennial valuation of the Local Government Pension Scheme;
- iii. confirmation of the Keswick Town Council administration charge; and
- iv. the Clerk prepare publicity explaining to Council Tax payers the reasons for the proposed increases.
- v. The Town Clerk, Financial Officer and the Parks Manager have delegated powers to spend the contingency fund within each park if required.

**48. Hope Park & Fitz Park Budgets – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2022-23**

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

**49. Requests for use of the Parks**

Consideration was given to the following:

- (i) Keswick Athletics Club – To consider a request to run a Cumbria League Cross Country Event for Juniors and Seniors in Fitz Park on Saturday 17 December 2022 (course revised after last year to minimise encroachment on Football and Cricket Club pitches)  
**RESOLVED** that the request be granted.
- (ii) Lakeland Trails – To consider a request to have the Lakeland Trails event in Fitz Park on Saturday 2 September 2023 (with set up on Friday 1 September 2023).  
**RESOLVED** that the request be granted at the rate of **£750.00 plus VAT per day** (with a charge of £125 plus VAT applying for set up/take down days) OR £1 plus VAT per competitor whichever is greater, plus a bond payable of £750.00.
- (iii) RSPB – To consider a request for the RSPB to have a stand in Hope Park Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January (inclusive) – to coincide with the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch;  
**RESOLVED** that the request be granted.
- (iv) Keswick Town Council – To consider a request to book Fitz Park for Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023;  
**RESOLVED** that the request be granted on the same terms of previous years.
- (v) Great North Air Ambulance Service – To consider a request to extend hosting the GNAAS helicopter through 2023.

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- RESOLVED** that the request be granted.
- (vi) Keswick Museum – To consider a request to hold a 125th Anniversary Event on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in Fitz Park.
- RESOLVED** that the request be granted.

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

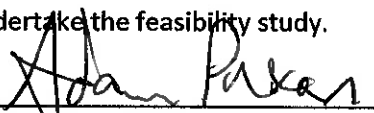
*'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'*

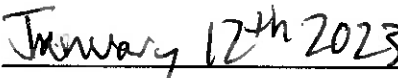
**50. Future Development plans for Upper Fitz Park**

Consideration was given to the report of Councillor Harwood.

**RESOLVED** that 2030 Architects Limited be appointed to undertake the feasibility study.

The meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

  
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Chairman

  
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Date