

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

Minutes of the meeting of the Charitable Trusts listed below to be held at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 50 Main Street, Keswick on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.00 pm

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**Present:**

Chair  
Councillor Jean Murray

Councillors

Steve Harwood	Denstone Kemp	Sally Lansbury
Benita Laphorn	Tim Parsons	Adam Paxon
Lorraine Taylor		

Also present were Vivien Little (Trust Clerk) and Christine Fawcett (Parks Manager).

**30. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dunn, Chris Houghton, Claire Houghton and Catherine Parker (RFO).

**31. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Trust Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (pages 4-6).

**32. Declarations of Interests**

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

**33. Chair's Report**

The Chair reported that anything she would have said would be covered in all reports in the agenda.

**34. Parks Manager's Report**

Consideration was given to the report of the Parks' Manager. The Parks Manager explained that it had been very wet in Hope Park. The Parks Manager had been in conversation with the Great North Air Ambulance Service about the helicopter, and they have agreed to work together to ensure that the area would have paving put in place, and also a physical donation box put in, with GNAAS volunteers emptying it on a regular basis.

Grass cutting in Lower Fitz Park had been suspended until the spring.

**RESOLVED** that the request for the use of the Chimenea be refused, due to the policy of no open fires and BBQs in the park grounds (Action – Parks Manager)

***Councillor Kemp arrived at 7.06pm***

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

Consideration was given to the report of Councillor Harwood/the Clerk. Councillor Harwood apologised for the lateness of the report, and the fact that there were no updated plans as yet. He explained that an application had been made to the LDNPA to fell the two Western Hemlocks on the site, but as per Trust policy, 3 new trees per tree felled would be put into the parks.

The next stage would be to get the construction drawings prepared, which would give an estimate as to costings.

Discussion was had over the car parking arrangements for the bowling club, and Councillor Harwood produced plans of potential parking area next to the museum, which could be prepared using hard core, with grey dust on top. This would be primarily used for staff parking, but the Bowling Club, who could use it for their matches instead of the current area beside Café HNW, and will be asked for a contribution towards the preparation of the area. Trustees raised concern over an increase of cars in the park, especially with regard to liability in case of an accident, and also the potential for visitors to Keswick to see it as free parking. The Clerk stated that it would be permit parking only, and the gates must be shut but users once they are through them.

**RESOLVED** that:

- i) due to the Professional Fees exceeding allowed budget, any extra fees will be paid from the sinking fund (Action – RFO); and
- ii) the plans for the parking area be agreed, with the clubs to be contacted regarding liability (Action – Clerk).

**36. Budget Comparisons**

**RECEIVED** budget comparisons for the first quarter.

**37. Trust Funds Movement**

Trustees considered the report of the Responsible Financial Officer.

**RESOLVED** that the Trust Funds Movement take place as set out in the report (Action – RFO).

**38. Climate Change Action Plan**

Councillor Lansbury and the Parks Manager gave an update on progress the parks had made with regard to the Actions the parks had taken in relation to the Action Plan. More work was obviously needed, but it was a good start. More information sharing was needed (Action – Clerk), and also more work with the sports clubs, as well as work on water usage.

**RESOLVED** that the Climate Change Action Plan for Keswick Town Council/Keswick Parks, be updated as discussed (Action – Clerk).

**39. Requests for Use of Keswick Parks**

Consideration was given to requests to use the Keswick Parks.

**RESOLVED** that:

- i) The dates proposed by Keswick Athletics Club be noted:
- ii) The date proposed by Lakeland Trails be approved, and the fee be put up to £800 + VAT + £1 per competitor; and
- iii) Ragged Edge Productions be given permission to use the park for their audio dramas on a 12 month trial basis, and to ask if they would be prepared to give a donation to the parks (Action – Clerk).

**Prior to the following business the Chair will 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.’

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

Consideration was given to the report of the Financial Officer.

**RESOLVED** that the item be deferred to the next Trust meeting (Action – Clerk).

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

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Chair

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Date