

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
25 APRIL 2019**

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Heather Johnson
Derrick Ashley (Vice Chairman) Chris Kennedy
David Andrews Valerie Metcalfe
Ross Houston

Apologies Received From: Syd Stavrou

In Attendance: John Bevan, Frances Button, Derek Levy (Deputy for Christine Hamilton),
Denise Jones, Mary Sartin

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services
Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources
Dan Buck - Head of Sport & Leisure
Stephen Bromberg - Head of Communications
Stephen Wilkinson - Head of Planning & Strategic Partnerships
Paul Roper - Volunteer & Community Engagement Manager
Marigold Wilberforce - Property Manager
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager

Also Present: Abigail Woodman
2 members of the public
Rikki Butler - Grayling

Part I

746 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	
Chris Kennedy	4	Abigail Woodman was known to him	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>
Mary Sartin	6	Member of Area Planning Sub Committee West for Epping Forest District Council which may hear the planning application	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>

747 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2019 be approved and signed.

748 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Abigail Woodman addressed the meeting in regard to orientation of the proposed new Ice Centre, including:

- the minutes of the Annual Authority meeting of 7 July 2016 state very clearly "that the new ice rink, temporary ice rink and any associated works will be limited to land south of the northern perimeter of the current ice rink. Nothing connected with the new ice rink

will encroach north further onto Leyton Marsh and that there are no plans for the new ice rink to have a footprint bigger than that indicated by the red line on the map that was presented at the Authority meeting on 16 June 2016"; and

- clearly what is proposed does encroach further north onto Leyton Marsh so rejection of this orientation was requested as the Authority would not want to mislead the local community so blatantly.

749 LEE VALLEY ICE CENTRE: NEXT STAGE DETAILED DESIGN
AND PLANNING APPLICATION

Paper E/618/19

The report was introduced by the Head of Sport & Leisure, including:

- due to faults with the ice cutting machine the Ice Centre had closed on two Friday nights recently which meant that a considerable number of teenagers were out on the street instead of taking part in sporting activity;
- the proposed design had been amended to reflect feedback received on the previous scheme, to further enhance sensitivity to its surroundings and funding constraints;
- the proposed orientation opened up views on to the marsh and allowed continuity of ice, with only an approx. 3 month downtime instead of 2 years;
- pre-planning application discussions with the London Borough of Waltham Forest had also been reflected in the proposed orientation to address the site's designation as Metropolitan Open Land and to achieve a sustainable venue in line with the London Plan and BREEAM rating of very good.

The Chief Executive advised:

- discussions continued with partners such as the London Boroughs of Waltham Forest and Hackney and Sport England to secure a contribution to project costs;
- the brief for the socio-economic study to be undertaken shortly would include consideration of community cohesion and youth crime and how a new Ice Centre could benefit the area.

In response to Member questions, it was advised that:

- the current stage 2 design building is not any higher than the current building as it was in the Authority's interest to make it as low as possible to reduce air handling;
- the design team had worked with the local planning authority to extend the green landscape around the venue to enhance access and connectivity with the marshes from Lea Bridge Road. It was anticipated that with improved access and views of the marshes, including creating reedbeds and swales with grey water from the ice pads and native species planting, the number of visitors would increase as had been seen at River Lee Country Park through design of Lee Valley White Water Centre;
- recent improvements to the current Ice Centre, such as new ice pad and barrier, together with a new ice cutting machine, should extend its life span sufficiently to fit with the proposed new Ice Centre timeframe.

Members highlighted the need for the proposed new Ice Centre because of the socio-economic benefits together with the current user profile i.e., young girls and BAME.

(1) the project's next stage timeline as set out in paragraph 29 of Paper E/618/19;

(2) the financial risks set out in paragraphs 44 and 45 of Paper E/618/19;

- (3) the process for procuring an operator and achieving an actual revenue position for a new Ice Centre was noted;
- (4) the allocation of £1.75 million from the capital programme to fund the works detailed within paragraph 34 of Paper E/618/19; and
- (5) the allocation of up to £130,000 from the capital programme for ice related equipment as detailed within paragraph 42 of Paper E/618/19 was approved.

750 BITTERN INFORMATION POINT – DESIGN PROGRESS Paper E/619/19

The report was introduced by the Director of Corporate Services.

The Volunteer & Community Engagement Manager gave a presentation, including:

- the proposed design had been developed through consultation with relevant groups;
- the requirement for a lift in the tower and the type of cladding was still being reviewed; and
- it was hoped that the strong Volunteer base in this area would enable the new facility to be open during the week as well as weekends and Bank Holidays as presently.

Members endorsed the need for a new building but expressed concern regarding the tower and possible lift required for it given its remote location, open structure and maintenance requirements.

- (1) the proposed design for new hide and information point and for officers to apply for planning permission was approved.

The Chairman agreed to accept an additional agenda item by reason of urgency.

Members of the public, Rikki Butler, Dan Buck, Stephen Wilkinson, Stephen Bromberg and Paul Roper left the meeting.

751 **EXEMPT ITEMS**

THAT based on the principles of Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the items of business below on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information again on the principles as defined in those sections of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act indicated:

Agenda Item No	Subject	Exempt Information Section Number
7	Proposed Disposal of land at the rear of 9 North Barn, Broxbourne	3

752 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT THE REAR OF 9 NORTH BARN, BROXBOURNE Paper E/620/19

The report was introduced by the Director of Corporate Services.

Given the long standing of this issue Members agreed to delegate to the Director of Corporate Services flexibility to come to an accommodation to reach a negotiated position to achieve a valuation letter and disposal of the land.

- (1) delegation to the Director of Corporate Services to come to an accommodation to reach a negotiated position to achieve a valuation letter and disposal of the land;**
- (2) an application be submitted to the Secretary of State for consent to disposal of the land; and**
- (3) the signing and sealing of all necessary legal documentation was approved.**

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 11.37am and ended at 12.30pm.