

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 15 DECEMBER 2016

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Heather Johnson
Derrick Ashley (Vice Chairman) Chris Kennedy
David Andrews Valerie Metcalfe
John Bevan Alan Searing

In Attendance: Ross Houston, Linda Haysey (part time)

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 Wilkinson - Head of Planning & Strategic Partnerships
Stephen Roberts - Head of Property
Jon Carney - Head of Parklands
Gregg Pettit - APMD Section Manager
Karen Wheeler - Youth & Schools Manager
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager
Alan Butler - Director of Venues (North) Lee Valley Leisure Trust Ltd
Brian Daley - Director of Venues (South) Lee Valley Leisure Trust Ltd

Also Present: David Joy - Chief Executive, British Canoeing
Gemma Wiggs - International Affairs Manager, British Canoeing

Part I

775 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item Nos.	Nature of Interest	
John Bevan	6 & 7 9	Trustee of Lee Valley Leisure Trust Ltd Haringey appointed Member of LHC	<i>Non-pecuniary</i> <i>Non-pecuniary</i>

776 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2016 be approved and signed.

777 PUBLIC SPEAKING

No requests from the public to speak or present petitions had been received for this meeting.

778 PRESENTATION BY BRITISH CANOEING

David Joy and Gemma Wiggs gave a presentation on the 2019 ICF Canoe Slalom World Cup and 2020 ECA Canoe Slalom European Championships, key points included:

- British Canoeing enjoyed a well-established partnership with the Authority;
- a new strategic plan would be launched in March 2017 with the objective of making the sport bigger, stronger and more sustainable in the future;

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- there was value to overall performance in bringing events to the UK rather than going abroad as canoe slalom was one of the top events where home advantage was important;
- the 2020 European Championships would be the final qualification event for the Tokyo Olympics and given the euro centric nature of canoeing would be a flagship event;
- the ICF President, Jose Perurena, had been quoted as saying that Lee Valley White Water Centre was the best venue in the world;
- an integrated community programme was planned between British Canoeing, the Authority and GLA with the aim of increasing the number of people canoeing and targeting hard to reach communities;
- the economic impact of hosting the 2 events at Lee Valley White Water Centre was forecasted to be £1.3M for the Lee Valley area; and
- the 2 events were included in British Canoeing's commercial and TV strategy and a consultant had been appointed to maximise promotion.

The Chairman congratulated British Canoeing on achieving excellent results at the Rio Olympics.

In response to Members, David Joy advised that:

- as part of the contract they were required to produce TV coverage and would be engaging with broadcast partners over the next 3 months to secure as much coverage as possible; and
- it was hoped to build on the excitement of canoeing events at the Rio Olympics.

David Joy and Gemma Wiggs left the meeting.

779 SUPPORT FOR THE 2019 ICF CANOE SLALOM WORLD CUP Paper E/472/16
 AND 2020 ECA CANOE SLALOM EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

- the Authority was able to maximise its investment in these events due to flexibility from the Trust and British Canoeing;
- the Authority's proposed investment for the 2 events may decrease if some infrastructure projects were completed before the events are held; and
- support for the 2 events would generate significant community benefits which would enable Lottery Funding Agreement targets to be driven through.

In response to Members it was advised that:

- British Canoeing had approached the Authority first for support and would subsequently be seeking funding from UK Sport and the GLA;
- British Canoeing, as the most successful national governing body in Britain, had benefitted from the recent UK Sport funding allocations which will allow them to be established at Lee Valley White Water Centre for the next four years; and
- liaison would be undertaken with organisations in the area benefitting from the economic impact of hosting the 2 events.

The Chairman requested that regular updates be provided on support for major events.

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- (1) support for the events with a direct contribution from the Authority to the Lee Valley Leisure Trust of £135,155; and**
- (2) the entering into a Venue Use Agreement with British Canoeing on confirmation the bids have been won was approved.**

780 SUPPORT FOR THE 2017 NEC WHEELCHAIR TENNIS MASTERS Paper E/471/16

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

- Lee Valley Hockey & Tennis Centre was the only permanent built Paralympic venue and was the leading venue in the country;
- Wheelchair Tennis was going through a period of change with a rise in its profile; and
- the 2016 Wheelchair Tennis Masters had generated a strong community engagement programme with over 60% take-up of programmes during the championships.

Members who had attended the 2016 Wheelchair Tennis Masters commented on poor spectator attendance at the weekend and lack of TV coverage of the event. It was also suggested that dressing of the venue could be improved. In response it was advised that:

- a masterplan for the Eton Manor site was currently being developed;
- the Tennis Foundation's Chief Executive was working hard to raise the profile of the sport;
- for most events a 'clean' venue was required as commercial sponsorship of events was usually in place; and
- there had been a high volume of supporters during the week.

- (1) support for the event with a direct contribution from the Authority to the Lee Valley Leisure Trust of £21,259; and**
- (2) entering into a Venue Use Agreement with the Tennis Foundation on confirmation the bid has been won was approved.**

781 COMMUNITY ACCESS FUND UPDATE Paper E/473/16

The report was introduced by the Scrutiny Committee Chairman, including:

- the Scrutiny Committee unanimously commended the pilot project; and
- Scrutiny Committee supported extension of the scheme for another 2 years and proposed that funding for the Transport Bursary Scheme be increased.

The Chairman proposed that funding for extension of the Community Access Fund be considered at the Budget Workshop.

Members suggested various enhancements to the associated communications strategy.

- (1) that funding for any future Community Access Fund programme be considered as part of the budget and service planning process for 2017/18;**

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- (2) that if a Community Access Fund programme is approved as part of the 2017/18 budget process the following approach be adopted:
- (a) that any future funding stretches across two financial years to fully maximise two summer periods;
 - (b) that a Community Access Fund phase 2 be expanded to include additional boroughs not previously engaged;
 - (c) officers to build relationships with boroughs and organisations engaged in Community Access Fund phase 2 to create longer term engagement, resulting in repeat visits to the Regional Park;
 - (d) officers to aim to increase support and coordination of events and activities that impact multiple boroughs across the region, as a way of making resources stretch even further; and
 - (e) that 10% of the Community Access Fund be used to continue the Transport Bursary Scheme was approved.

782 PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/17 (REVISED) TO 2020/21 Paper E/470/16

The report was introduced by the Director of Finance & Resources, highlighting that the proposed programme will rely on funding from existing capital reserves, new land sales, borrowing and third party funding.

A Member expressed concern that it was proposed the capital budget be reduced from £1.8M to £1.3M given rising construction costs. He also highlighted the procurement services offered by LHC. It was advised that LHC would be contacted when the Authority was about to undertake a relevant procurement or in a position where it wanted to borrow or invest.

In response to a Member's comment that the budget line should be smoothed out, officers advised that this depended on many external factors, such as planning and disposal.

- (1) the revised capital programme for 2016/17 (revised) to 2020/21 as set out in Appendix A to Paper E/470/16; and
- (2) the proposed capital funding to meet the planned capital programme as set out in Table 2 (paragraph 15 of Paper E/470/16) was approved.

Brian Daley and Dan Buck left the meeting.

783 BORROWING LIMITS & PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2016/17 Paper E/475/16
(REVISED) – 2020/21

The report was introduced by the Director of Finance & Resources.

In response to a Member's query regarding the application of tax on reserves, officers advised that the Authority had a duty to maintain some reserves for financial prudence and that the Authority did not pay tax on interest anyway.

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- (1) **the borrowing limits and prudential indicators for 2016/17 (revised) to 2020/21 as set out in paragraphs 9 to 19 of Paper E/475/16 was approved.**

784 LAND & PROPERTY REVIEW WORKING GROUP – DRAFT Paper E/474/16
CORPORATE LAND AND PROPERTY STRATEGY

The report was introduced by the Director of Corporate Services, including:

- it was timely to do this review given the current economic climate and a number of local authorities were doing similar;
- further written advice from Counsel would be sought; and
- the Land & Property Review Working Group would continue to meet to bring forward possible acquisitions and disposals.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman commended the strategy as it reflected considerable work by the Land & Property Working Group and would enable generation of funding to invest in parklands and facilities.

Linda Haysey arrived during discussion of this item.

- (1) **the proposed Corporate Land and Property Strategy attached as Appendix A to Paper E/474/16; and**
- (2) **a recommendation to Authority to adopt the proposed draft Corporate Land and Property Strategy was approved.**

Karen Wheeler left the meeting.

The Chairman agreed to accept a late report (Lee Valley Caravan Park, Dobbs Weir, Final Phase Update) on the grounds of urgency.

785 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
12	Lee Valley Caravan Park, Dobbs Weir - Final Phase Update	3

786 LEE VALLEY CARAVAN PARK, DOBBS WEIR, FINAL PHASE Paper E/476/16
UPDATE

The report was introduced by the Director of Finance & Resources.

- (1) **the release of an additional £450,000 from the Authority's capital programme as detailed in paragraph 8 of Paper E/476/16 was approved.**

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Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 10.04am and ended at 11.20am.