

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**AUTHORITY MEETING
27 APRIL 2017**

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Christopher Kennedy
David Andrews Derek Levy (Deputy for Christine Hamilton)
Derrick Ashley Gerry Lyons
John Bevan Valerie Metcalfe
Stephen Carr Gordon Nicholson
Malcolm Cowan Mary Sartin
Gwyneth Deakins Alan Searing
Zuber Gulamussen Syd Stavrou
Ross Houston Mari Stevenson (Deputy for Linda Haysey)
Heather Johnson Simon Walsh
Denise Jones Lyn White

Apologies Received From: Nick Draper, Christine Hamilton, Linda Haysey, John Knapman,
Graham McAndrew, Sarah McDermott, Maggie McEwen, Alan Smith,
Simon Walsh

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services
Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources
Stephen Wilkinson - Head of Planning & Strategic Partnerships
Stephen Roberts - Head of Property
Dan Buck - Head of Sports & Leisure
Cath Patrick - Senior Conservation Officer
Paul Roper - Volunteers Engagement Manager
Nick Powell - Property Surveyor
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager
Lindsey Johnson - Committee Services Officer
Karen Edwards - Marketing Manager (Lee Valley Leisure Trust Ltd)
(CE presentation only)

Part I

31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	
Mary Sartin	9	Local ward councillor	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>

31 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meetings held on 19 January 2017 and 26 January 2017 be approved and signed.

32 PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

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33 REVIEW OF 2013-2017

The Chief Executive gave a presentation on a review of 2013-2017.

The Chairman congratulated all staff on achievements over the past 4 years.

34 BIODIVERSITY

The Senior Conservation Officer gave a presentation on biodiversity.

In response to questions from Members it was advised that:

- invasive species were monitored across the Park and Rangers were proactive in dealing with them; and
- to date biodiversity activities had not been stopped due to vandalism.

35 VOLUNTEERING

The Volunteers Engagement Manager gave a presentation on volunteering.

The Chairman and Members commended the work of volunteers and the contribution they made to the Regional Park. The Vice-Chairman remarked that the monetary value analysis of the volunteering contribution should be reviewed to provide a realistic value.

36 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS WAIVERS 2016/17

Paper A/4239/17

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

(1) the report was noted.

37 WRITE-OFF OF IRRECOVERABLE ARREARS 2016/17

Paper A/4241/17

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

(1) the report was noted.

38 PROPOSED ADOPTION OF DRAFT CYCLING STRATEGY

Paper A/4240/17

The report was introduced by the Head of Planning & Strategic Partnerships including that the strategy was a high level document which demonstrated the Authority's commitment to promote cycling within the Regional Park.

Members welcomed the draft Cycling Strategy and commented:

- funding should be made available to allow work to commence as soon as possible on delivering some of the short-to-medium-term action plan measures;
- the food & beverage offer could be improved to attract more cyclists;
- the need for a family-friendly focus;
- whilst supporting the strategy a Member was concerned about references to the Canal & River Trust's Quietways project and potential for the Park's cycle paths to become fast race tracks instead of quiet family cycle rides and the possible loss of hedgerows;
- importance of considerate sharing of pathways by all users;

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- that the expert resources of the 2 mini-Holland boroughs within the Authority's membership should be called upon to assist in delivery of the strategy; and
- that attendance by the Canal & River Trust at meetings would be welcomed.

The Chairman remarked that concerns expressed would be considered during implementation of the strategy.

(1) adoption of the draft Cycling Strategy was approved.

Syd Stavrou left the meeting during the above discussion.

39 PROPOSAL TO DISPOSE OF PART OF ST PAUL'S FIELD SITE, NAZEING Paper A/4242/17

The report was introduced by the Director of Corporate Services.

Member comments included:

- there were a number of land areas which were not open to the public due to contamination and therefore the proposed disposal was a good compromise to enable public access to the remainder of the site;
- the need to consider biodiversity values of restricted access land areas; and
- that an overage clause should be included in the sale contract.

The Chairman commented that the Land & Property Working Group was considering a number of the Authority's land areas in accordance with the Land & Property Strategy and that a series of sites for potential acquisition to achieve priority objectives had also been identified.

(1) to declare the site shown hatched red on Appendix A to Paper A/4242/17 as no longer required for Park purposes and surplus to Authority requirements; and

(2) to market the site for disposal on the open market was approved.

40 AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

Following their decision not to stand for re-election in the 2017 County elections, the Chairman thanked Alan Searing, Malcolm Cowan and John Knapman for their service to the Authority and presented those present at the meeting with membership certificates and photographic mementoes.

Malcolm Cowan thanked Members and wished the Authority every success in the future.

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 2.00pm and ended at 3.25pm.