

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 16 DECEMBER 2021

Members
in remote presence: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Chris Kennedy
Susan Barker Graham McAndrew
Ross Houston Mary Sartin
Heather Johnson

Apologies Received From: David Andrews

In remote attendance: John Bevan

Officers
in remote presence: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
Beryl Foster - Deputy Chief Executive
Dan Buck - Corporate Director
Jon Carney - Corporate Director
Keith Kellard - Head of Finance
Claire Martin - Head of Planning
Paul Roper - Head of Projects & Funding Delivery
Michael Sterry - Senior Accountant
Ges Hoddinott - Ranger Service Manager
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager

Also in remote presence: Matt Bowmer – S151 Officer (Director of Finance & Commercial – LBE)
Laurie Elks – member of the public
Abigail Woodman – Save Lea Marshes

Part I

109 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

110 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2021 be approved and signed.

111 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Laurie Elks addressed the meeting in regard to agenda item 6, Sustainable Water Management for Middlesex Filter Beds, including:

- request for approval of option 1;
- in the 1980s there had been a proposal to create additional football pitches on the land, but to the Authority's credit it reconsidered this proposal;
- Middlesex Filter Beds represent the best of urban countryside and are what the 'green lung' is all about;
- although not of the Authority's making, Middlesex Filter Beds have been dry for too long causing loss of habitat;

- it was agreed in 2019 to find a solution and any of the other options would mean further delay;
- this was an ideal project for Section 106 monies, along with his previous suggestion of a footbridge;
- land disposals represented a bounty to the Authority which could yield significant capital which should be used to improve green spaces; and
- plea for this project to be progressed immediately.

Abigail Woodman addressed the meeting in regard to agenda item 6, Sustainable Water Management for Middlesex Filter Beds, and agenda item 8, Proposed Scrutiny Review – Environmental Policy, including:

- support for officers' recommendation of a sluice at Middlesex Filter Beds and that this should be funded from capital expenditure;
- habitat had been destroyed and any further delay would make this worse;
- funding this project from capital receipts would demonstrate the Authority's commitment to open spaces in the south of the Park; and
- endorsement for development of a coherent, robust and ground-breaking Environmental Policy, this was critical as the needs of the environment should be put first by individuals and organisations who manage green and open spaces on behalf of residents.

112 FEES AND CHARGES REVIEW 2022/23

Paper E/746/21

The report was introduced by the Corporate Director.

In response to a Member's comments it was advised:

- it had been recognised that the introduction of car parking charges may lead to displacement parking at some car parks;
- due to vandalism the parking payment machine at Clayton Hill car park had been removed and payment was now by app and phone.

(1) the Authority's proposed 2022/23 fees and charges as summarised from paragraph 7 and set out in detail in Appendix A to Paper E/746/21 was approved.

113 SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT FOR MIDDLESEX FILTER BEDS

Paper E/747/21

The report was introduced by the Corporate Director.

Members expressed full support for the project recognising that the proposed funding model included external funding which was not yet confirmed.

- (1) the need for a permanent solution for water management on the Middlesex Filter Beds;**
- (2) external funding has not currently been secured to deliver a construction phase was noted; and**
- (3) option 1 – installation of a sluice with control valve as outlined in paragraph 10 of Paper E/747/21, including the financial obligations was approved.**

114 FOOD SAFETY POLICY

Paper E/744/21

The report was introduced by the Corporate Director.

In response to Member questions it was advised that:

- cold food and stock rotation practices were included within existing procedures and stock rotation was subject to external audit; and
- the Authority's food outlets had all achieved 5 star food hygiene ratings.

(1) recommendation of the draft Food Safety Policy and associated procedure to the Authority for adoption was approved.

115 PROPOSED SCRUTINY REVIEW – ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Paper E/745/21

The report was introduced by the Head of Projects and Funding Delivery.

(1) the focus of the next Scrutiny Review be Environmental Policy as per the scope set out in paragraph 6 of Paper E/745/21 was approved.

116 UPDATE ON THE SECTION 106 OUTLINE SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS FOR THE LEA BRIDGE STATION SITES PLANNING APPLICATION

Paper E/748/21

The report was introduced by the Head of Planning.

The Chairman thanked officers for developing a good list of potential projects.

(1) the content of the outline schedule of Section 106 projects attached as Appendix B to Paper E/748/21 was noted.

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 10.33am and ended at 10.59am