

**LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
19 JANUARY 2017**

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Denise Jones (sub for Heather Johnson)  
Derrick Ashley (Vice Chairman) Chris Kennedy  
John Bevan Valerie Metcalfe  
Alan Searing

Apologies Received From: David Andrews, Heather Johnson

In Attendance: Malcolm Cowan, Gwyneth Deakins, Simon Walsh,  
Ken Ayling (Deputy Member for Lyn White)

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive  
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services  
Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources  
Dan Buck - Head of Sport & Leisure  
Cath Patrick - Biodiversity Action Plan Manager  
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager

Part I

787 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	<i>Prejudicial</i> ✓
John Bevan	6	Trustee of Lee Valley Leisure Trust Ltd	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>

788 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2016 be approved and signed.**

789 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Claire Weiss addressed the meeting, including:

- she was speaking in a personal capacity but would be reporting back to the Markhouse Corner and Lea Bridge Residents Association;
- support the quest for finance to expand the ice centre at Lea Bridge Road;
- seeking a leasehold arrangement to produce an income stream rather than capital receipt could create a precedent for the future and should be avoided;
- contact should be made with Waltham Forest Council to secure S106 contribution from the Argyll Estate; and
- in order to produce sufficient income from housing on the site it was likely that the accommodation would be of high value and Waltham Forest residents in need of housing would not be able to benefit.

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The Chairman thanked Ms Weiss and advised that Waltham Forest Council's vision document would be considered at the Authority meeting on 26 January 2017.

790 COMMUNITY ACCESS FUND UPDATE Paper E/478/17

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

- varying levels of funding for phase 2 of the Community Access Fund were outlined; and
- it was intended to increase funding for the Travel Bursary Scheme to target more non-riparian boroughs.

Members were happy to support the scheme and officers advised that previous Member suggestions regarding the scheme had been included on the project tracker.

- (1) that funding for any future Community Access Fund programme be finalised as part of the budget and service planning process for 2017/18 and 2018/19;**
- (2) that budget allocation in year 1 of the Community Access Fund (2017/18) be set at £80,000 and at £100,000 in year 2 (2018/19); and**
- (3) resources being used to support project delivery and administration was approved.**

791 2017/18 REVENUE BUDGET AND LEVY Paper E/477/17

The report was introduced by the Director of Finance & Resources, including:

- new information had been received regarding the pension fund, the risk identified would not materialise and therefore there was an additional flex of £100K;
- the core spending power of local authorities given in Appendix G included a number of assumptions; and
- a more detailed analysis of car parking had been provided.

A Member advised that the Labour Group would be supporting option 2 (levy reduction by 2%).

The Vice Chairman, seconded by Valerie Metcalfe, supported option 1 (levy reduction by 6%) as this presented very little risk, was sensible and achievable.

Members voted on recommendation 1: Option 1 = 4 votes, Option 2 = 3 votes.

- (1) a proposed levy reduction for 2017/18 of 6%;**
- (2) additional net income and savings as set out in Appendix B1 (including the continued introduction of car parking charges across sites identified and covered in more detail in Appendix H to Paper E/477/17);**

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- (3) financing for the capital programme and revenue contribution of £1.3m as set out in paragraph 21 of Paper E/477/17;**
- (4) a net revenue budget for £10.187m (option 1) as set out in paragraph 31 of Paper E/477/17; and**
- (5) a minimum level of reserves of £4m be maintained as set out in paragraph 30 of Paper E/477/17 be recommended to Authority.**

The Chairman agreed to take an additional item of business.

792 GUIDED WALKS

The Director of Corporate Services advised that as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events programme 50 new walks would be advertised free of charge. This was contrary to recently agreed fees and charges of £3 per person per walk and therefore any loss of income, approximately £30 per walk, would be set aside from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary budget.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

The meeting started at 12.30pm and ended at 12.46pm.