

# LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

## AUTHORITY MEETING 17 JANUARY 2019

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Maggie McEwen  
David Andrews Valerie Metcalfe  
Derrick Ashley Mary Sartin  
Ken Ayling Simon Walsh  
John Bevan Keith Warnell  
Osman Dervish Claudia Webbe  
Ross Houston John Wyllie  
Heather Johnson Terry Hone (Deputy for Frances Button)  
Denise Jones Derek Levy (Deputy for Christine Hamilton)  
Christopher Kennedy Gagan Mohindra (Deputy for Mike Garnett)

Apologies Received From: Frances Button, Josh Blacker, Paul Douglas, Mike Garnett,  
Christine Hamilton, Gordon Nicholson, Nigel Quinton, Syd Stavrou,  
Jill Whitehead

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive  
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services  
Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources  
Dan Buck - Head of Sport & Leisure  
Jon Carney - Head of Parklands  
Stephen Wilkinson - Head of Planning & Strategic Partnerships  
Cath Patrick - Conservation Manager  
Victoria Yates - Head of HR (Lee Valley Leisure Trust Ltd)  
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager  
Lindsey Johnson - Committee Services Officer

Also present: Dee O'Rourke (Head of Culture & Open Spaces, Essex County Council)

### Part I

#### 17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	
Gagan Mohindra	5	Sits on a Board which is co-financed by Vibrant Partnerships	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>
John Wyllie	5	Works for a company which supplies Vibrant Partnerships	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>

#### 18 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2018 be approved and signed.**

#### 19 PUBLIC SPEAKING

# AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

## 17 JANUARY 2019

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

20 2019/20 REVENUE BUDGET AND LEVY

Paper A/4264/19

The Director of Finance & Resources gave a presentation highlighting the current financial position and reminding Members of the factors they should consider when determining the levy.

The Director of Corporate Services informed Members of a request from the Regeneration & Planning Committee for an additional recommendation of "Note the request from the Regeneration & Planning Committee to prepare a schedule of potential projects connected to the Park Development Framework area proposals and prioritise those to sit alongside the 2020/21 budget setting process."

Several Members expressed support for the additional recommendation and it was suggested that Spitalbrook should become a country park.

The Chief Executive outlined opportunities for increased income in the medium term leading to emergence of a more positive revenue position.

Some Members, whilst welcoming and supporting the proposed freeze in the levy for 2019/20, did not support further potential levy decreases of 6% and 7% in future years.

Claudia Webbe arrived during consideration of the above item.

It was agreed that it would be beneficial for Deputy Members to receive electronic copies of agendas just in case they had to deputise for a Member.

- (1) a 0% increase in the levy for 2019/20;**
- (2) additional expenditure, income and efficiencies as set out in Appendix B to Paper E/604/19 attached as Annex A to Paper A/4264/19;**
- (3) financing for the capital programme and revenue contribution to capital of £1.2m as set out in paragraph 21 of Paper E/604/19 attached as Annex A to Paper A/4264/19;**
- (4) a net revenue budget of £9.55m as set out in paragraph 31 of Paper E/604/19 attached as Annex A to Paper A/4264/19; and**
- (5) a minimum level of reserves of £4m be maintained as set out in paragraph 30 of Paper E/604/19 attached as Annex A to Paper A/4264/19 was approved; and**
- (6) the request from the Regeneration & Planning Committee to prepare a schedule of potential projects connected to the Park Development Framework area proposals and prioritise those to sit alongside the 2020/21 budget setting process was noted.**

# AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

## 17 JANUARY 2019

21 ADOPTION OF THE LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK  
BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

Paper A/4263/19

The report was introduced by the Head of Parklands and the Conservation Manager gave a presentation including:

- Vision and Objectives;
- Cross-cutting themes;
- Biodiversity of Lee Valley Regional Park;
- Species Action Plans;
- Habitat review and actions plans;
- Action Plan structure;
- Consultation;
- Priority Species and species mapping;
- Habitat mapping;
- Standing Open Water;
- Grassland;
- Creeping Marshwort;
- Water Vole;
- Forthcoming Projects;
- Monitoring and Review; and
- Key Partners.

In response to questions from Members it was advised that:

- biodiversity work had a good collection of partners sharing best practice and the Authority worked closely with local wildlife trusts;
- site management plans would note any protected species and make provision for statutory requirements;
- by undertaking habitat improvement works it was expected that species would naturally move in;
- a number of initiatives, particularly along river corridors, were undertaken to combat litter in the Park and better engagement with the public would help to improve the situation;
- further communication with the Authority's Youth & Schools service would be undertaken to ensure biodiversity was highlighted within its programme of activities;
- enhanced dissemination of information would be undertaken through the Authority's website.

Members commended the biodiversity of the Park and remarked that this should be widely celebrated as eco-tourism was increasing.

- (1) adoption of the draft Lee Valley Regional Park Biodiversity Action Plan attached as Appendix A to Paper A/4263/19; and**
- (2) delegation to the Conservation Manager to make amendments to the draft Lee Valley Regional Park Biodiversity Action Plan to take account of comments from Members was approved.**

**AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES  
17 JANUARY 2019**

- 22 HUMAN RESOURCES POLICY UPDATE -  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

Paper A/4265/19

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

In response to a Member it was advised that the Authority's Equality Statement would be reviewed.

- (1) the revised Equal Opportunities Policy as set out at Appendix A to Paper E/606/19 attached as Annex A to Paper A/4265/19 was approved.**

- 23 NEXT MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY

It was noted that the next meeting of the Authority will be held on Thursday, 25 April 2019 at 2.00pm at Myddelton House, Bulls Cross, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 9HG.

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Chairman

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Date

The meeting started at 2.00pm and ended at 2.48pm.