

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
23 JANUARY 2020**

Members Present: Paul Osborn (Chairman) Heather Johnson
Derrick Ashley (Vice Chairman) Chris Kennedy
David Andrews Valerie Metcalfe
Ross Houston Mary Sartin (Sub for Syd Stavrou)

Apologies Received From: Syd Stavrou

In Attendance: John Bevan, Gordon Nicholson

Officers Present: Shaun Dawson - Chief Executive
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services
Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources
Dan Buck - Head of Sport & Leisure
Paul Roper - Volunteer and Community Engagement Manager
Stephen Bromberg - Head of Communications
Victoria Yates - HR Strategic Business Manager
Keith Kellard - Chief Accountant
Melissa Sweetland - Committee & Members' Services Officer
Sandra Bertschin - Committee & Members' Services Manager

Part I

820 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	
Mary Sartin	10	Member of Epping Forest District Council Area Planning Sub Committee West	<i>Non-pecuniary</i>

821 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2019 be approved and signed.

822 PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

823 PENSION CONTRIBUTION RATE 2020

Paper E/653/20

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

(1) the employer contribution rate of 15.6% as set out in paragraph 5 of Paper E/653/20 and the valuation report at Appendix A of Paper E/653/20 was approved.

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

A Member raised the issue of increased funding for the Community Access Fund and it was advised that within the Active Communities service review realignment of current funding pots to achieve better outcomes was expected to increase funding for the Community Access Fund. Also the new Leisure Services Contract included enhanced requirements in regard to Active Communities.

Members remarked that the Authority should be able to benefit financially from the large scale developments taking place across the region, the resultant increase in population and related amenity value of the Park.

- (1) a proposed 0% increase in the levy for 2020/21;
- (2) additional expenditure, income and efficiencies as set out in Appendix B to Paper E/654/20;
- (3) revenue financing for the capital programme of £1.2m as set out in paragraph 21 of Paper E/654/20;
- (4) a net revenue budget of £9.3m as set out in paragraph 31 of Paper E/654/20; and
- (5) a revised medium term general reserve policy of £3-4m as set out in paragraph 30 of Paper E/654/20 was approved to be recommended to Authority.

825 OPTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE SIX SPORTS VENUES

This item was withdrawn.

826 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
10	Bittern Information Point Phase 1 Hide and Information Point Replacement Contractor Cost Increase	3
11	Options for management of the six sports venues	3

827 BITTERN INFORMATION POINT PHASE 1 HIDE AND INFORMATION POINT REPLACEMENT CONTRACTOR COST INCREASE

The report was introduced by the Volunteer and Community Engagement Manager.

- (1) **an extra £100,000 to deal with the piling issue and added contingency was approved.**

Paul Roper and Keith Kellard left the meeting.

828 OPTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE SIX SPORTS VENUES Paper E/656/20

The report was introduced by the Chief Executive.

Members acknowledged receipt of a letter dated 22 January 2020 from the Lee Valley Leisure Trust Limited Board.

Members considered options for management of the six sports venues and concluded that returning the venues to Authority management for an interim period was the option that offered the most certainty to the Authority around business continuity, staff, management of costs and the ability to move the organisation forward. Interim contracts with either Lee Valley Leisure Trust Limited or GLL could potentially lead to a legal challenge from either organisation or other potential operator.

Members highlighted the need for a comprehensive staff communications programme to provide assurance and maintain staff morale and retention during this period.

- (1) **that the six sports venues will be brought back under Authority management for a short period from 1 April 2020 following expiry of the current Leisure Services Contract and pending the application to lift the block on signing the longer Leisure Services Contract with GLL for the reasons set out in Paper A/4277/20 was noted; and**
- (2) **that the Authority approves and agrees the commencement of the TUPE process in relation to the six sports venues was approved to be recommended to Authority.**

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 11.50am and ended at 12.17pm