
MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE RECREATION GROUND, BATH

Minutes of the Meeting held

Wednesday, 20th November, 2013, 4.00 pm

Councillor David Dixon (Chair)
Stephen Baddeley
Councillor Tim Ball
Elizabeth Bloor
David Durdan
Don Earley
Simon Emery
Geoffrey Fairclough
Mike Laughton

1 FILMING OF MEETING

The Chair stated that a request had been received from the BBC South West to film this meeting for the programme "Inside Out" and sought the Trust's agreement. The Trustees raised no objection to the meeting being filmed.

2 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Administrator drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology was received from Derwent Campbell

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was none.

5 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

The Chair referred to Questions that were raised previously and asked the Recreation Ground Trust Project Advisor to respond. The Officer stated that one such matter related to the Spiegeltent 2013 and the sound levels. He circulated a paper giving details of the event and which recommended that (1) the Spiegeltent be rotated 90 degrees to ensure that the entrance faced away from the residential façade; and (2) that a suitably qualified person be employed to monitor future events and to use a suitably calibrated sound level meter with the capability of downloading to a storage facility which can be reviewed by the Environmental Protection Officers upon request.

The Trustees briefly discussed the matter and approved the recommendations.

The other matter related to Charges for change of use of the Recreation Ground. He circulated a paper which gave advice from the Trust's Legal Advisor, Francesca Quint. It referred to those hirers who are only partially fulfilling the Trust's charitable purposes and which are described as a subsidised commercial charge. She recommended that, to ensure that such charges do not cause loss to the Trust, it would be better to describe them as "intermediate".

The Trustees briefly discussed the matter and agreed the revised terminology as advised.

6 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30th October 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair

7 **STATEMENTS**

The Chair invited members of the public who had given the requisite notice to make their statements.

June Scott made a statement about the care and maintenance of the Recreation Ground by the Trust. The Lead Adviser to the Trustees responded to some of the comments raised. The Trust noted the Statement. (Note: A copy is included in the Minute Book).

Steve Osgood made a statement about the use of the Recreation Ground by Bath Rugby Club. The Lead Adviser to the Trustees responded to these comments. The Trust noted the Statement. (Note: A copy is included in the Minute Book).

8 **FINANCE MONITORING 2013/14**

The Trust considered the report of the Group Accountant – Place (Finance) which gave a finance update of current issues impacting on the 2013/14 accounts and presented the amended budget and forecast for 2013/14.

The Finance and Resources Manager reported on the issues in the report and responded to Trustees' enquiries.

The Trustees discussed the report. A query was raised regarding Miscellaneous Expenditure and the Officer replied that a breakdown of the expenditure would be provided. The Lead Adviser to the Trust stated that this was one-off expenditure and that the Trust's finances would usually be self-supporting.

RESOLVED to note the budget monitoring position for 2013/14

9 **TRUST BANK ACCOUNT - THIRD PARTY MANDATE**

The Trust considered a report by the Recreation Ground Trust Project Advisor which sought a resolution from the Trustees in connection with the bank account being established for the Trust. He outlined the issues in the report.

The Trustees discussed the matter. In response to a Trustee's query, the Lead Adviser to the Trust stated that cheque signing can be delegated to Officers and were working towards complete separation from the Council. A Trustee expressed his appreciation for support of Officers.

RESOLVED that Andrew Pate and Tony Bartlett be authorised to:

- (1) Complete and sign National Westminster Bank plc's Bankline Third Party Mandate;
- (2) Instruct the Bank to disclose information relating to its accounts to Bath and North East Somerset Council (the Bankline Customer) and authorise the Bankline Customer to give instructions (including payment instructions) in relation to the Accounts; and
- (3) Accept the Bankline terms on behalf of the organisation

10 **APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL ADVISORS**

The Recreation Ground Trust Project Advisor submitted a report which recommended the commencement of a process for the appointment of independent professional financial advisors to the Trust. He briefly outlined the report and referred to the financial services that were required and suggested that one or two Trustees could oversee the process.

The Trustees discussed the matter. Michael Laughton volunteered to undertake this responsibility with assistance from Geoffrey Fairclough.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) a process for the appointment of financial advisors as outlined in the report be commenced; and
- (2) Michael Laughton, with assistance from Geoffrey Fairclough, be nominated to oversee the process and to recommend to Trustees the preferred provider for appointment.

11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair stated that a date and time for the next meeting would be agreed in the near future and notice of it published on the Recreation Ground website

The meeting ended at 4.40 pm

Chair

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

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