

MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PALACE AND PARK BOARD

29 JULY 2002

Councillors: *Krokou (Chair), *Dobbie (Deputy Chair), *Diakkides, Haley, Knight and Reynolds. (Two vacancies).

Non-voting representatives: Mr. J. Bays, Ms. V. Paley and *Mr. M. Tarpey

*Members present

Observer: Mr. D. Liebeck (Chair, Alexandra Park and Palace Advisory Committee) was also present.

AP7 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Knight and Reynolds.

AP8 MINUTES:

RESOLVED –

- i) That the Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 16 April and the special meeting of the Board held on 27 June be approved and signed.
- ii) That the Minutes of the Alexandra Park and Palace Advisory Committee held on 1 July be received. In the absence of specific advice the following was noted in respect of the Committee's recommendations:-

Friends Groups (AP 384) Following the press launch, a number of groups including The Television Trust were being invited to nominate representatives to the TV Studios Friends Group.

Unitary Development Plan (AP 388) It was understood that there were no proposals to amend the current status or boundaries of Metropolitan Open Land in relation to Alexandra Palace and Park.

- iii) That the Minutes of the Friends of Alexandra Palace Theatre Committee of 11 June be received and noted.

AP9 FINANCIAL RESULTS 2001/2002

The financial results for the year ending 31 March 2002 (as reported to the previous meeting in connection with the Audit of Accounts) were noted. Income had been above budget and the annual deficit was £1,667,000, £28k better than budget. The level of deficit requiring funding by the local authority was £606,000 after accounting for the covenanted profit from Alexandra Palace Trading Ltd.

Minutes of The Alexandra Palace and Park Board – 29 July 2002**AP10 OPERATING BUDGET 2002/2003**

The Board noted three months results to the end of June which showed an overall deficit of £438k, some £70k better than budget.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the report be noted.
- ii) That the management accounts should in future include a note clarifying how Heritage Lottery funding is treated within the accounts.
- iii) That in future, comparative information on financial out turn over the previous five years be provided alongside the annual report on financial results.

AP11 HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

It was noted that the grant contract had been signed and it was hoped to commence work in the following week. First priorities were to advertise the post of Parks Manager and invite tenders for landscape architectural services. It was noted that the scale of the project required advertising the tenders in the Official Journal of the European Communities (OJEC).

It was anticipated that a detailed programme would be ready for approval by the Board in April 2003, with completion by the end of 2007.

The Board noted the report and emphasised the importance of keeping within scheduled costs.

AP12 CAPITAL AND MAINTENANCE WORKS

The Board noted recent or on-going repair and maintenance work, in particular works to enable more detailed inspections of the Theatre. It was noted that the possibility of applying for English Heritage grant towards work to the Theatre was being pursued.

It was reported that the tender submissions for works to the roof of the South East Pavilion were significantly over the budget at £66,000. Consideration was being given to the use of a temporary roof in this area to maintain it as "wind and water tight". An added advantage would be creation of a second access to the old television studio where the current access is through the Charity's offices. A decision would be needed on whether a temporary or (more expensive) permanent structure should be provided.

RESOLVED –

That work be carried out exploring the alternatives and the report be further considered.

Minutes of The Alexandra Palace and Park Board – 29 July 2002**AP13 COMMUNITY USAGE**

A report was received on events held or planned for the period mid-April to end September 2002. Members attention was drawn to development of a sponsorship package in connection with the Fireworks, Family Festival and Pantomime on Ice and to the inaugural meeting of the Friends of the Studios which was expected to take place towards the end of September.

The Board noted the report.

AP14 CHARITY COMMISSION SCHEME - PRESENT POSITION

The Trust's Solicitor provided a full briefing on the history of this Scheme following a request from the Charity Commission for confirmation that the Trustees still wished the Commissioners to promote the Scheme.

It was recalled that Scheme would empower the Trustees to lease the whole, part, or parts of the development footprint thereby improving their capacity to meet their following obligations:-

- to balance the Charity's books
- to meet their liability to the Council
- to uphold, maintain and repair the Palace and Park

It was noted that since the original resolution in 1998 to approach the Charity Commissioners to promote a Scheme, the financial position had consistently shown an annual deficit (ranging between £348m and £606m.). Members therefore concluded that the position remained unchanged and the previous decision to seek wider leasing powers was still appropriate.

RESOLVED –

To re-affirm the Board's previous decision of 6 July 1998 to request the Charity Commission to invite it to ask the Commission to promote a Scheme.

(As Councillor Reynolds, who was new to the Committee could not be present, officers were asked to contact him after the meeting for his observations on the issue).

AP15 PROGRESS REPORT IN RESPECT OF NEGOTIATIONS UPON PROPOSALS FOR LICENCES/LEASES OF VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CHARITY'S ASSETS.

The press and public were excluded from the meeting for this item as it contained exempt information relating to the negotiation of terms for the disposal of property.

The Board noted progress on negotiations and completion of leases.

RESOLVED –

1. That the required Quantity Surveyor's report be submitted to the next meeting in respect of the Garden Centre lease.

Minutes of The Alexandra Palace and Park Board – 29 July 2002

2. That the lease of the cricket ground be executed in accordance with the Board's previous decision (12.10.99) subject to the Trust's Solicitor confirming details of that decision with the Chair.

AP16 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates were agreed:-

Consultative Committee

Tuesday 10 September

Tuesday 3 December

Tuesday 4 March

Board

Tuesday 29 October

Thursday 30 January

Monday 7 April

The meeting ended at 9 pm.

ANDREW KROKOU

Chair