

MINUTES OF THE MEETING Alexandra Palace and Park Consultative Committee HELD ON Monday, 17th March, 2025, 20:15 – 21:00.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Sean O'Donovan, Anne Stennett and Emine Ibrahim

ALSO ATTENDING:

Co-optees/Non Voting Members: Jason Beazley (Three Avenues Residents Association), John Chilton (Friends of Alexandra Park), Etain Casey (Warner Estate Residents' Association WERA), Donald McKenzie (Alexandra Palace Organ Appeal), Duncan Neil (Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Residents Association), Hugh Williams (Palace View Residents' Association), John Thompson (Alexandra Palace Television Group), John Wilkinson (Alexandra Palace Allotments Association), Nigel Willmott (Friends of the Alexandra Palace Theatre), Natalie Rusby (Campsbourne Community Collective).

14. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Committee noted that the meeting was not being filmed or recorded.

15. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received by Councillors Ahmed Mahbub, Nick Da Costa.

16. NOMINATION OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR

It was stated this item would be brought forward at a later date.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ibrahim and Cllr O'Donovan, both declared an interest by virtue of being members of the Planning Sub Committee. In accordance with the terms of reference of the Planning Sub Committee, comments could be given but no opinions put forward.

18. URGENT BUSINESS

There were none.

19. MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

RESOLVED:

CC:

- That the minutes of the CC held on Monday 7th October 2024 be approved as a correct record.

SAC:

- That the minutes of the SAC held on Monday 7th October 2024 be noted.

APPB:

- That the minutes of the Trustee Board held on the 4th November 2024 be noted.

20. CEO GENERAL UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received the general update from the CEO of Alexandra Palace. A scheme was created by Alexandra Palace aimed to enhance entertainment and cultural offerings, delivering 259 event days and attracting 750,000 visitors. It featured 59 concerts, 51 corporate events, 14 weeks of theatre productions, 18 comedy and spoken word performances, 10 exhibitions, and 36 days hosting major sporting tournaments. Additionally, 150,000 skaters and 100,000 pub visitors contributed to an overall attendance of one million people, showcasing a remarkable calendar of in-house events.

- The team had been laying timbers to allow vehicles to cross, a task that was still in progress. A significant setback occurred last week, prompting the decision to submit an application to the Arts Council for funding. Given the unusual nature of the situation, alternative sources of financial support needed to be explored.
- Regarding the oral history project, 15 volunteers were involved, with Kirsten leading the initiative. She would need to address how memories were being captured within the project.
- In response to an inquiry about an in-house IT team, it was confirmed that none was available. As for the launch of the Patreon scheme, a report detailing how the palace had implemented the initiative was expected to be completed by the following week.

21. MATTERS RAISED BY INTERESTED GROUPS

- It was explained the decision tracker was brought to the next meeting for review.
- The impact report that had been prepared was considered highly effective, particularly in highlighting the number of young people involved in the project. It was suggested that this information should be shared more widely in meetings. Meanwhile, the Ally Pally event had grown substantially, evolving from participation by just a few schools into an oversubscribed gathering.
- A question was raised about the discontinuation of weddings at the venue, with the explanation being a shortage of staff.

22. NON VOTING BOARD MEMBERS FEEDBACK

The Chair highlighted:

- Discussed the change in car parking rate and the introduction of events parking charge.
- It was queried whether any member of the public visiting on an event day would have needed to pay the charge if they were not attending the event. It was explained that if they were parking at the palace on the particular event day, the parking charge would have applied. However, this was not the case for all car parks surrounding Alexandra Palace.

23. VIEWS/QUESTIONS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

24. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

It was stated suggestions will be sent over to the Democratic Service Officer.

25. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were none.

26. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The date for the next meeting of the Consultative Committee had not been finalised. The Committee would be advised once confirmed.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date