

MINUTES OF THE MEETING Alexandra Park and Palace Statutory Advisory Committee HELD ON Thursday, 17th July, 2025.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cathy Brennan, Alessandra Rossetti and Eldridge Culverwell

ALSO ATTENDING:

John Crompton (Advisory Committee Member) , Emma Dagnes – CEO of APP, Chris Liasi – Principal Committee Coordinator, Jason Beazley (Chair of the SAC), Elizabeth Richardson - (Advisory Committee Member)

10. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred to the filming of meetings and this information was noted.

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received by Councillors Emine Ibrahim, Emily Arkell, Elin Weston, Mark Blake and Joyce Rosser.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

13. URGENT BUSINESS

It was stated that David Frith, a past member of the committee had passed away at 95 years old. Condolences were passed to his family members.

There were 3 major points that the committee wanted to address:

- Parking
- Crowd Management
- W3 Closure

Officers explained this would be addressed in the presentation in the urgent business section of the agenda.

14. MINUTES

An update on CIL was provided to the committee as stated in the previous set of minutes:

“The Council secures financial contributions and other public benefits from new development via two main mechanisms: Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 planning obligations (S106). CIL regulations provide that 5% of receipts can be used to cover admin expenses, 15% must be spent on Neighbourhood CIL (NCIL) projects and the remaining 70-80% may be spent on Strategic CIL (SCIL) projects. In Haringey, SCIL is spent on CIL eligible infrastructure projects within the Council’s Capital Programme. SCIL receipts from development are pooled and may be spent anywhere in the borough on infrastructure. The Council’s Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 2023/24, published on the Council’s website, sets out full details of projects funded to date by SCIL. For NCIL, Haringey divides up the borough into 9 areas with consultation with communities in those areas informing how available monies are spent. The IFS 2023/24 sets out projects funded to date by NCIL. Later in 2025 there will be consultation on the spend of £1.7m of NCIL across the borough with the council inviting residents and communities to identify how they wish to see funds in their area spent. Section 106 planning obligations are secured for a specific purpose and must be spent in accordance with the specific terms in each individual S106 agreement for each individual planning permission. In addition to making CIL payments, the Haringey Heartlands/Alexandra Gate development in Wood Green has made Section 106 contributions for buses, walking and cycling and employment & skills”

- It was stated that Councillor O’Donovan and Cathy Brennan could mention CIL for APP at the next planning committee meeting.

RESOLVED:

SAC – 17th March 2025:

- That the minutes of the SAC held on 17th March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

CC – 17th March 2025:

- That the minutes of the CC held on the 10th March 2025 be noted.

APPB – 10th March 2025:

- That the minutes of the Trustee Board Minutes held on the 10th March 2025 be noted

15. CHIEF EXECUTIVE VISION AND GOALS UPDATE REPORT

As part of the London Festival of Architecture, Alexandra Palace’s Creative Learning team collaborated with Haringey Council’s placemaking department to engage local communities and strengthen their connection with the Palace. This initiative included a community radio broadcast from the Lower Field Sports Club, immersive heritage exhibitions and audio trails, volunteer-led heritage tours, and a specially curated version of Café Palais that brought older residents together to share stories and foster community bonds.

The Palace also made strides in activating its park as a communal and creative space. Shakespeare's *As You Like It* was performed in the Forest School area—once a deer enclosure—transforming it into a whimsical woodland theatre. Children attending Easter holiday camps enjoyed hands-on creative activities that seamlessly blended nature, performance, and play. A dedicated group of volunteer gardeners converted the pitch and putt vicinity into a blossoming wildflower meadow and began reshaping the theatre courtyard into a vibrant green oasis. Additionally, corporate volunteer days enabled teams to participate in park maintenance, enhancing their civic engagement and team camaraderie. The Forest School programme ran three days a week, connecting children with nature and nurturing early environmental awareness, resilience, and well-being.

To future-proof its mission, APPCT focused on increasing financial resilience. The charity expanded individual giving opportunities, appointing a Development Manager in early 2025 to lead the effort. Founding Ally Pally Patrons began contributing annual donations of £600 in June, while existing donors—starting at £3 a month—were informed of plans to relaunch as Ally Pally Supporters in spring 2026. Special events for individual supporters were hosted in June and July, including a reception around the co-production of *North by Northwest* at Alexandra Palace Theatre and a summer gathering in the park led by Friends of Alexandra Park.

Plans were laid for a renewed push around *In Celebration* donations and legacy gifts by autumn 2025. Supporters would soon be able to dedicate benches in the park or name seats within the theatre to commemorate loved ones or mark special occasions. Meanwhile, grant-seeking efforts were underway, with decisions expected in July for trust funding that would support Creative Learning programming and staff costs. Earlier in spring, the Palace received a grant from the Haringey Community Carbon Fund to cut emissions from the CUFOS building. June also marked the publication of a blog celebrating the 150th anniversary of Alexandra Palace Theatre, detailing technical upgrades funded by the Theatre's Trust—including live audio-visual relays and new digital donation units.

Capital fundraising efforts continued as the team refined plans for the next stage of restoration across the Park and Palace. If funding is secured, this phase will focus on adapting facilities to promote community well-being and resilience against climate challenges. These improvements are aligned with APPCT's ten-year vision and include repurposing the North East Office Building to enhance functionality and sustainability for future generations.

Alexandra Palace embraced an adaptive reuse strategy to revitalise neglected and inaccessible spaces, successfully reintroducing them for public use with a diverse programme of events and activities. The North East Office Building (NEOB) Repair Project exemplified this initiative. A formal thank-you event for Historic England was held on 30 April, drawing attendees from prospective funders, patrons, and key organisations including Haringey Council, the GLA, and the National Lottery Heritage Fund. As part of the 150th anniversary celebrations, the Young Creatives Network collaborated with the Community Curatorial Team to deliver an immersive tour showcasing the Creative Learning team's contributions. Work continued to secure development phase funding to transform the NEOB into a vibrant hub for creative learning, complete with studios, office space, and an archive.

Strategic partnerships were expanded to enrich lives and promote career development. Alexandra Palace formalised its collaboration with the BBC Concert Orchestra, appointing it as the venue's first Associate Orchestra. This marked a significant milestone in an already strong relationship with the BBC, which included theatre broadcasts of *Friday Night is Music Night* and *Later with Jools Holland*. The partnership also built on the site's historical ties to the BBC, dating back to the inaugural public television transmission in 1936. Alongside performances and rehearsals, the Orchestra aimed to extend its impact through educational outreach in collaboration with the Creative Learning programme, benefitting local communities.

Internally, Alexandra Palace made strides in developing an inclusive and empowering workplace culture. Following the prior year's completion of its People Strategy development phase, a comprehensive three-year implementation plan was initiated to align with the organisation's decade-long vision. This Strategy centred around four goals: attracting and selecting talent, engaging employees, promoting growth, and ensuring retention, all rooted in values of collaboration, passion, resourcefulness, openness, and boldness. A key investment in future talent saw preparations for the launch of the first Apprenticeship Pilot in September 2025, supporting a Trainee Building Surveyor through a funded degree in Construction Management. The selected candidate, formerly part of the ice rink team, embodied the organisation's commitment to recognising and cultivating potential within its existing workforce.

- Councillors stated that the BBC Orchestra had been positive news.
- It was queried whether customers of the café had needed to use the public toilets. The officer clarified that internal toilets had since been installed for customer use.
- Improvements to the APP were welcomed by the Committee.
- Fire safety had been a topic of discussion, and queries were raised about the existence of a plan. It was stated that an aspirator system had been added to the palace and had already been tried and tested.

RESOLVED:

Recommendations:

1.1 – Noted

1.2 – Noted

1.3 – Noted

16. STATUTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

There were none.

17. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

Increased police patrols had been introduced in the area alongside expanded use of CCTV cameras. Traffic barriers and reduction measures were reviewed, and clearer

signage was deployed. Residents had been encouraged to report incidents, and 24 such reports had been logged.

Emma Dagnes had advised that if incidents occurred between midnight and 1:00 a.m., residents should contact the police immediately to log the issue. Alternatively, they were allowed to notify the palace the following day if preferred.

Monitoring and enforcement continued throughout the season. Future upgrades to site infrastructure were planned, including the installation of bollards, additional cameras, and improved lighting. The traffic management plans were scheduled to be reviewed and adapted seasonally to meet changing needs. Efforts to strengthen cross-agency collaboration had also been initiated through dedicated forums.

A traffic calming operation, was planned to begin in September, coordinated by the Head of Security and the Met Office. During a meeting, Councillor Rosetti raised a concern that event attendees appeared to be diverted under the bridge and through the playground. It was explained that this diversion was due to a breach in the park, though questions remained as to whether the change had been pre-planned. Complaints were made regarding drop-off points. While there were two entrances to the event, public access was restricted to one gate for security and familiarity reasons. Despite consistent feedback over the past five years, no changes had been implemented, although every gate was reportedly staffed with security personnel.

A representative from WIRA highlighted the absence of a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in the area, noting significant pressure on existing parking spaces. Only blue badge parking car parks were being utilized, while other nearby facilities, such as the Haddock car park, remained unused and were suggested for future event support. HGM measures were referenced, especially given that 8,000 attendees arrived early for the most recent event.

Concerns continued around the W3 bus route, where numerous emails and complaints had been received. Meetings had taken place with the police and Transport for London (TfL) to explore safety improvements. TfL had made decisions regarding redirection of the W3 route and promised to increase publicity about diversions. App staff were also set to coordinate with TfL personnel directly to improve communication. Finally, the number of event days was cited as an ongoing issue.

18. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The date for the next meeting of the Statutory Advisory Committee was noted as the 6th October 2025.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

