

Alexandra Palace

ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE **JOINT MEETING OF THE STATUTORY ADVISORY AND CONSULTATIVE** **COMMITTEES**

25th OCTOBER 2018

Report Title: CEO's Report

Report of: Louise Stewart, Chief Executive Officer

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Purpose:

This report provides information to the Statutory Advisory and Consultative Committees on planning and policy issues in relation to Alexandra Park and Palace. It also provides additional information on the events programme and a range of activities of the Charitable Trust.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To note the content of this report, and;
- 1.2 To note the Red Bull Soapbox event times in section 9.

2. Park Update

- 2.1 The Park has again achieved the Green Flag Award and the Green Heritage Award. The judge's comments were very positive, "It is credit to all staff and in particular to the Site Manager, Mark, and the volunteers of the Friends of Alexandra Palace Park for their commitment, enthusiasm and aspirations to restore, maintain and develop a treasured historical feature from decay and demise. Congratulations to you all and well done."

Further to this, three silver-gilt awards were achieved in the London in Bloom scheme. These were in the categories of Large Park, Large Conservation area and Heritage Gardens. The judges said "Overall the landscape is being managed and maintained very well against a background of a 150-year-old park with constrained

budgets and increasing visitor demands. So well done to the Park Manager and all concerned with the park's upkeep for achieving the Silver Gilt award."

- 2.2 The ground reinstatement work at the Go Ape course has been completed. Unfortunately, the electrical supply issue has still not been resolved so the temporary cabin and generator are still in place.
- 2.3 We have installed signed routes for dog walkers as part of the 'Walk This Way' scheme run by Keep Britain Tidy and The Dogs Trust. These encourage the positive benefits of dog walking for health and social interaction and include the message about cleaning up after your dog. Additional bins have been placed at key locations along the route.
- 2.4 An annual report on the Park Monitoring Framework is currently being prepared for the Board to consider at its next meeting. The Board approved the framework in November 2017 to monitor damage to the Park during outdoor events. The Board and SAC/CC receive updates on areas of concern throughout the year.

3. Pavement parking on Alexandra Palace Way

- 3.1 Members of SAC/CC may be aware that there has been an issue with groups of drivers parking their vehicles on the pavements of Alexandra Palace Way in the evening. The parking is not caused by the car parks being closed or full but a rather a deliberate gathering of specific individuals.
- 3.2 The security team have been doing what is within their powers to manage the situation. Unfortunately their requests for drivers to leave are often met with refusals.
- 3.3 Whilst the road is classified as a private road, it is used as a public highway which means that the Police have been able to assist to remove these cars when resources have allowed. However this cannot be a permanent solution, it is resource intensive and does not have a long term effect.
- 3.4 We are investigating measures to physically prevent the parking happening. This will be a capital cost to the Charity and will have an impact on the amount of repair and maintenance we can do elsewhere in the Park and Palace.
- 3.5 In the meantime we will continue to use our security and liaise with the Police to do what we can to actively manage the situation.

4. East Wing Restoration Project

- 4.1 BBC Proms - Whilst still in the final stages of the project, the East Court and Theatre were opened for us to deliver a very successful BBC Proms event on 1st September. We received many positive comments and were supported by our committed team of volunteers.
- 4.2 Works to the Theatre Proscenium Arch are now complete, and all scaffolding has been removed from the Auditorium. Works to the toilet block and Theatre Foyer are nearly complete and the final elements of decoration and repair in the East Court are well underway. Mechanical and electrical work is in full swing.

- 4.3 The Creative Learning Zone was granted Listed Building Consent by Haringey Council on 08 August 2018 and building will take place in early 2019. Learning activity will continue to take place in the Transmitter Hall and other parts of the Palace in the meantime.
- 4.4 As part of the wider interpretation strategy, the newly refurbished East Court will house an exciting and contemporary art installation. A Listed Building Consent application for this artwork has been granted by Haringey Council.
- 4.5 A third Listed Building Consent application is currently being prepared. Building on the decisions made on the East Wing, a site-wide Colour Strategy is being prepared. An initial report was circulated to SAC and CC members in September but the Colour Strategy will be further developed and presented to the Committees at their next meeting in January 2019.

5. Creative Learning

- 5.1 The Creative Learning team are currently developing projects that align with the opening of the East Court and Theatre, including: BBC Proms Learning Event (Theatre), Home for Christmas as part of the Christmas Carnival (East Court) and Little Inventors (Interpretation Structure).
- 5.2 Christmas Carnival - Creative Learning are programming activities that will welcome communities to the East Court with Christmas craft activities, festive themed talks, family sensory play, and carol singing showcasing community choirs based in Haringey.
- 5.3 Home for Christmas - is a series of commissions which forms part of the Christmas Carnival activities that asks artists to work with communities exploring 'notions of home' - a sense of belonging, people, places and things.
- 5.4 We have also been working on a project for families to interact with our history whilst spending time in the East Court, to align with the opening exhibition theme of aeronautics and invention. Working with Dominic Wilcox's company Little Inventors we will set families and schools world-wide an invention challenge. We envisage a resource that would fully embrace Alexandra Palace itself as a building, as an exemplar of inventiveness and as a beloved landmark of its community. It would celebrate the soaring spirit of the adventurers and aeronauts (travellers in hot-air balloons and air crafts) of the Palace's past to inspire the children of today to start on their very own inventive journey.
- 5.5 Open House 2018 developed into a two day event. On Saturday 22nd September staff-led talks and sneak-peak tours of the East Court and on Sunday 23rd a programme of 10 x volunteer-led tours took place of the basements and East Court. 216 visitors attended the tours and talks over the two days (72 on Saturday, 144 on Sunday).
- 5.6 Black History Month - Creative Learning is working in partnership with Tate Britain on a GLA funded project that links young creatives with artist Carlene de Sozer as she works on a piece dedicated to the inspirational BAME ((British English) black and minority ethnic) women from Alexandra Palace history.

6. West Yard Storage Building

- 6.1 Despite delays to the completion of the project we are now using the new storage area of the building in the West Yard.
- 6.2 Installation of windows and curtain walling is nearing completion and we are waiting a date for delivery of the external gates, to be programmed around the busy events schedule.
- 6.3 Some design issues are yet to be finalised, particularly with the drainage and the external ramp, which is expected to affect the North Yard until Christmas, however, the West Yard works, including office and North West Tower, should be complete by November.

7. Brand Refresh

- 7.1 The Board approved the Alexandra Palace brand refresh on 11th September. The new look and feel has been tested on events like The Great Fete and Fireworks and has received positive feedback.

8. Events and noise management

- 8.1 Kaleidoscope Festival was well attended on Saturday 21st July with a turnout of 8,000 people. 11 complaints relating to the event were received: two of these were due to noise during build-up for the event on 19th July and the sound check on 20th July. One complaint was followed-up by email after the event and another related to concerns that people might hang-around the Park after the event. The 7 complaints received on the day resulted in noise monitoring visits to the affected areas. In all cases noise levels were found to be within the limits of the Park Events Licence.
- 8.2 The Great Fete took place on 18th August. The Park welcomed thousands of people to enjoy music, food, dance and theatre workshops. There were 4 noise complaints received during the headline act. In all cases noise levels were found to be within the limits of the Park Events Licence. The Park was returned to its normal state by Monday 20th August with no lasting damage to the parkland.
- 8.3 The Fireworks Festival will take place on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November. Alexandra Palace Way will be closed from 8pm on Thursday 1st November and reopen at 7am on Sunday 4th November. The W3 bus will be on diversion over this period and surrounding streets will be closed, except for resident access, on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November. Following concerns raised by residents of Redston Road about last year's event, we have further clarified the access arrangements and enforcement process.

Full details are attached at appendix 1

8.4 Table of noise complaints calendar Year to Date:

Month	Event	No. of complaints
July	Kaleidoscope Festival	11
August	The Great Fete	4
Total number of complaints received to date (2018/19 1 st Apr-31 st Mar)		15

9. Red Bull Soapbox

- 9.1 The Red Bull event is returning on the weekend of 6th - 7th July 2019.
- 9.2 This time, however, the organisers are proposing a delay of 2 hours to the start and finish time of the event in order to alter the demographic slightly and attract more 16-24 year olds to the event. This means the event will start at 2pm/2.30pm and end at 8pm/8.30pm, instead of 12pm to 6pm.
- 9.3 The team have assessed the event management implications of this and it is proposed that, if the event is to end 2 hours later, it would be preferable for the event to be held on a Saturday, rather than a Sunday.
- 9.4 This means that Alexandra Palace Way will be closed an evening earlier than previous years, from 9pm on Thursday 4th July 2019 (instead of noon on Friday 5th July) but in turn, the road would reopen slightly earlier at 8am on Sunday 7th July 2019 (instead of 5am on Monday 8th July 2019).
- 9.5 The event management assessment has not yet concluded but the new later start time will still be necessary if the event remained on the Sunday.

10. Legal Implications

- 10.1 The Council's Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and has no comments.

11. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Fireworks Road Closure and Access arrangements

Appendix 1 to CEO's Report to SAC/CC

ROAD CLOSURE DETAILS

Alexandra Palace Way:

Alexandra Palace Way closed: 20:00 on Thursday 2nd until 07:00 on Sunday 4th November.

Bedford Road:

Bedford Road parking controls: 09:00 on Friday 2nd until 07:00 on Sunday 4th November.
Bedford Road closed: 15:00 – 23:00 on Friday 2nd and 14:00 – 23:00 on Saturday 3rd November.

Buckingham Road:

Buckingham Road closed from junction with Palace Gates Road and Park Avenue: 21:20 – 22:20 on Friday 2nd and 20:20 – 21:20 on Saturday 3rd November.
During these times a diversion will be in place via Durnsford Road and Bounds Green Road.

No access will be available during these times to residents on the following roads:

- Bridge Road
- Dorset Road
- Saint Michaels Terrace
- Terrick Road

VEHICLE ACCESS PERMITS

Buckingham Lodge:

Buckingham Lodge residents will be issued with x2 vehicle access permit if they need access to their car park from 16:00 – 22:00 on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November.

Additional vehicle access permits:

If you are a resident of the following roads, you will require a permit for access between 14:00 - 23.00 on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| • Baden Road | • Park Avenue North |
| • Clovelly Road | • Priory Avenue |
| • Danvers Road | • Redston Road |
| • Linzee Road | • Warner Road |

For properties on the roads listed above x2 vehicle access permits per property have been included with this letter to allow access for residents to park.

If you have any questions please call 020 8365 2121 between 09:00 – 17:00 Monday to Friday.

Additional parking suspensions:

There will also be parking suspensions in place at key points on the following roads.
Please check signs on roads for timings and dates.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| • Albert Road | • Park Avenue |
| • Alexandra Park Road | • Park Road |
| • The Avenue | • Station Road |
| • Buckingham Road | |
| • Newland Road | |
| • Nightingale Lane | |
| • Palace Gates Road | |

PARK ACCESS AND TRANSPORT INFO

Park Closures:

The majority of the park will be closed from 20:00 on Thursday 1st November until 07:00 on Sunday 4th November; this will also include Alexandra Palace Way.

Open areas:

The Grove will remain open as normal throughout the build-up and event periods. The children's playground area will remain open on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd from 07:00 – 12:00noon. Please see map attached.

Event Site Access:

You must have a ticket to access the park during event times. Ticket holders can access the park for the festival via the nominated entrance gates.

Please note the following gates will not be open during the event for safety reasons to manage the flow of customers onto site:

- Newland Road
- North View Road
- Springfield Avenue

Set up and breakdown periods:

The build period will start on Monday 29th October. We will ensure that there is minimal disruption to the park during this time. Breakdown will begin after the event close on Saturday.

We will open the park at 07:00 on Sunday 4th November, please note that on this day we will be cleaning the park and it may be necessary to close small areas to facilitate this.

Noise Disturbance

Fireworks can be noisy at times, but we will ensure that where possible noise levels from the event as a whole are kept to a minimum (and on any event to within the permitted limit).

There will be independent sound monitoring at key points throughout the park. If you would like to report a noise problem or any other issue during the event please contact us on 020 8365 2121.

Transport:

The W3 bus will be on diversion from 20:00 on Thursday 1st November until 07:00 on Sunday 4th November whilst the park is closed. Please visit our website or visit www.tfl.gov.uk for more information.

During this time, there will be no through access across the Park for the W3 bus or to Alexandra Palace station.

There are no planned diversions for the 184 bus.

Alexandra Palace station will be very busy from 17.00 each night of the Festival. The Piccadilly Line from Wood Green will be running a regular service

Fireworks Festival - Map of Alexandra Park

