

MINUTES OF MEETING Alexandra Park and Palace Statutory Advisory Committee HELD ON Thursday, 14th September, 2023, 7.00 - 8.00 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Emily Arkell, Cathy Brennan, Rossetti, Elin Weston and Sarah Elliott

ALSO ATTENDING:

John Crompton, Elizabeth Richardson, Jason Beazley, Kodi Sprott, Emma Dagnes and Natalie Layton

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Cllr Elliott nominated Jason Beazley and this was seconded by Cllr Weston–

RESOLVED that Jason Beazley continue to act as chair of the Advisory Committee & observer to the board.

2. SAC REPRESENTATIVE AS TRUSTEE BOARD OBSERVER

RESOLVED that Jason Beazley be appointed as SAC representative as trustee board observer.

3. FILMING AT MEETINGS

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

4. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Joyce Rosser (WERA) and Councillor Ibrahim.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business. It was noted that the Chair requested an agenda item to discuss the functions of the committee at the next meeting.

7. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Chair had met with Emma Dagnes (CEO OF AP&P) following the last meeting to consider the comment that the Board was not obliged to follow advice of SAC (item 3 of the minutes). An induction session for SAC members had also taken place prior to the SAC meeting to review the committee's functions. Chair would like to bring this back to the next meeting. **Action NL**

In the Attendees Present section – genders were stated for residents and not councillors. It was requested that these gender titles be removed. **Action KS**

RESOLVED:

That subject to the above change, the minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2023 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

8. CEO'S GENERAL UPDATE REPORT

Emma Dagnes, CEO of Alexandra Palace and Park introduced the report on activities at Alexandra Park and Palace as laid out on pages 7-18 of the agenda pack.

The following was noted:

- SAC members were encouraged to report incidents of crime and disorder in Alexandra Park, to the police – rather than to Visitor Services as the Security Team did not have the same powers as the Police and in an emergency the Police response was likely to be quicker.
- Cllr Arkell noted that there had been several complaints about anti-social behaviour outside the Starting Gate Pub. Residents had originally been concerned that these were people leaving Alexandra Palace (AP). The CEO explained that for large events held at AP, specifically positioned security and traffic marshals were placed around Bedford Road to remind people to leave quietly. It would be highly difficult to enforce customer behaviours any further past this area. However AP staff were aware of these issues and AP could potentially give some advice to the Pub. The Chair explained that it wasn't only the Pub but the neighbouring off-licence which sold alcohol to people who congregated on the green opposite of the pub. The CEO advised residents to take the matter up with the licensing team who may be able to advise residents and ward councillors.
- North East Office Building repairs would not affect events in the East Wing, the Team were very experienced in managing restoration projects in a live venue.
- Regarding the new counter terrorism measures, specifically the bag drop operation in the Grove car park, a complaint had been received that it was a long way to walk to and from the bag drop location into the venue. As a result, the location of the bag drop had later been moved to the Dive car park. In addition to the bag drop operation, body scanning was also being implemented along the South terrace as customers entered the event.
- Subject to a successful funding bid, Bibliobuzz Book Awards would extend to a literacy festival event, this would also be expanded to reach a wider audience of younger children.

- The car park charging scheme had been implemented and well received. Committee Members were reminded to submit their vehicle registration number for parking on site when coming to meetings.
- A committee member commended the renewal works to The Palm Court bus shelter.
- The Young Creatives Network continued to flourish, there had also been a positive meeting with Cllr Brabazon (Cabinet Member) on how to reach further groups.
- It was noted by a member that following the last meeting in April, there was a lack of lighting in the Grove carpark. This would be fed back to the team.

Action NL

- It was noted by a member if it would be possible to mark the events on the sheet which would expect more than 10,000 people. It was explained that these events could be distinguished as the location would be all areas. Alexandra Palace wouldn't put the capacities of events in the public domain. The team sent out a lot of communication when there are large, presentations were also brought to these meetings.

RESOLVED.

This report was noted.

9. PLANNING UPDATES REPORT

Emma Dagnes, CEO of Alexandra Palace and Park introduced the report,

- A significant sum of money had been granted by National Heritage Lottery fund for the People's Picture by Helen Marshall - this would be formally announced next week. Individuals would be able to log on to the portal and upload their story and photo which the artist would choose from to include in the mural. Other strands would be built into this project, including programmes around curation and engagement with older people. The piece of art would be both permanent and digital so people could click on a person's photograph and read about their story.
- Comments could be raised on the potential telegraph pole. BT open reach have surveyed the site and proposed a route. The trust would not be paying for this.

RESOLVED –

The content of this report was noted and provide any advice or feedback to the trustee board.

10. ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

- With access to tickets, if people were unable to purchase online tickets or through the box office they could contact the visitor services team.. Further clarification would be added to the policy.

- On Page 29, proof of eligibility, it was noted that there should be capacity to put something in this around discussing accessibility requirements before tickets for events were purchased. This would be clarified with the policy team.
- It was suggested there should be a note which confirmed Alexandra Palace and Park do not retain data without permission. This could be reflected in the wording in the clause.
- It would be useful to have further clarification on contact details regarding accessibility requirements for each individual section.
- General thank you from members for an extremely thorough document, enormous ramifications for the venue.

RESOLVED

To consider the draft Alexandra Place Accessibility policy attached at appendix 1 and provide advice/recommendations to the Trustee Board.

11. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Agreed members email addresses to be shared and can contact the chair outside of meetings to add items to the agenda.

12. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of urgent business.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates for future meetings were noted.

30th November 2023
29th January 2024

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date