

**The Alexandra Park and Palace Statutory Advisory Committee (APPSAC)  
Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024.**

**Location: George Meehan House, 294 High Road, London N22 8JZ.**

**Attendees**

- Elizabeth Richardson (Advisory Committee Member)
- Councillor Emine Ibrahim
- Councillor Emily Arkell
- Councillor Cathy Brennan
- Councillor Alessandra Rossetti
- Councillor Eldridge Culverwell
- Councillor Mark Blake
- Councillor Sarah Elliot
- Joyce Rosser

**Officers**

- Emma Dagnes OBE (Chief Executive Officer of Alexandra Park and Palace).
- Ayshe Simsek (Democratic Services Manager – London Borough of Haringey).

**Also attending:** Natalie Layton (Charity Secretary Alexandra Park and Palace).  
Serena Shani (Interim Principal Committees Co-ordinator – London Borough of Haringey).

It was noted by the Democratic Services Manager that there was only one Advisory Committee Member present. This would make the meeting in-quorate according to the meeting's own terms of reference. The Democratic Services Manager highlighted that the meeting was now an informal meeting, as no decisions could be agreed without representation from three or more Advisory Committee Members as per the meeting's terms of reference.

**1 Filming**

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

**2 Welcome and apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from:

John Crompton (The Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Residential Association),  
Councillor Elin Weston, Jason Beazley (Advisory Committee Member and Chair of SAC).

**3 Nomination of Chair for the meeting.**

Due to the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Alexandra Park and Palace Statutory Advisory Committee (SAC), and as per the constitution, the Democratic Services Manager sought nominations for the meeting Chair for the SAC. Cllr Ibrahim was nominated by Cllr Brennan and seconded by Cllr Arkell. The Committee agreed Cllr Ibrahim as the Chair for the present meeting.

#### **4 Declaration of interest.**

Cllr Ibrahim and Cllr Brennan, 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.

#### **5 Items for Urgent Business**

The Committee noted that a tabled document outlining the Alexandra Palace Summer Events 2025 had been tabled and would be discussed in more depth in Item 8.

#### **6 Minutes and Matters Arising.**

The Committee considered the tabled amended version of the minutes to The Alexandra Park and Palace Statutory Advisory Committee meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024. It was remarked that Elizabeth Richardson had given apologies for the last meeting, however the minutes did not record this.

The Committee then noted the:

- The Alexandra Palace Consultative Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July.
- The Alexandra Palace Trustee Board minutes held on 15<sup>th</sup> July.

As the meeting was not quorate the Committee would approve the minutes at the next meeting. **ACTION**

A question was raised as to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) expenditure and officers were asked to report back as to how CIL is allocated particularly in developments which are bordering Alexandra Palace and can be seen from their outdoor space. Agreed a response be provided before the next meeting. **ACTION**

#### **7. The CEO's General Update Report.**

The report was presented by The CEO of Alexandra Park and Palace. The Committee was asked to note work highlighted below.

##### **Planned Repairs and Maintenance.**

- The North East Office Building application was approved by Haringey and work on-site had progressed. Emergency works had been funded by Historic England and completion was expected in Mid-November. Further funding would be sought for fitting out the building.

- The Changing Places Facility launch took place. This was viewed as a big step in making the Palace and Park as accessible as possible for all parts of the community. The aim was to move towards the Gold Standard in 'Attitude is Everything' accreditation scheme. The facilities were located in the old Ice Rink entrance off the South Terrace.
- The need for bollards on 330 metres of Alexandra Palace Way was discussed. The CEO explained that the bollards stopped cars mounting the pavement and taking part in antisocial behaviour. However, the Committee's objection to the look of the plastic bollards originally used had been noted and new iron bollards had been sourced. These were yet unfunded however the officers were highlighting to Committee to ensure that there was no objection to the look and feel of the new bollards. No objections were raised. Work could now commence however no timescale had been agreed yet.
- The repairs to the North Yard Bridge nearest the CUFOS building were very significant. Remedial work would be carried out and discussed and approved with Trustees.

#### **Repairs and maintenance.**

- The Palace had employed a full-time bricklayer to improve the look of the exterior of the building.
- Over one hundred electrical distribution boards were upgraded as part of the Environmental Sustainability programme. Fire alarm panels were updated.

A question was raised about the safety of the site and the prevention of problems in the future. The CEO responded that as with all heritage sites funding was an issue as well as the volume of maintenance and repairs. She stated that her team did what they could with the resources they had.

- The globe lights on the South Terrace were replaced with LEDs after a successful bid from Haringey's Green Team. It was noted that the lighting replicated the warm glow of the Victorian era.
- An 760kg ammonia cooling tank was replaced in the ice rink.
- Aesthetic works has been carried out at the Phoenix Bar and Pizzeria. The toilets had been replaced to resolve drainage issues and were the same style as the Theatre toilets. This style would eventually be rolled out across all the toilets on site. It was noted that an economy of scale would be achieved in terms of repairs.
- Repairs in The Phoenix & Pizzeria included the replacement of the wooden bar and sash windows were in the process of being restored. Significant savings had been achieved in restoring and not replacing the bespoke fixtures.
- Work commenced and scoped for a repair to the boundary wall of the boating lake.
- Other minor repairs were being undertaken to the doors in the East Court.

### **Park & Environmental Sustainability.**

- The Park's noticeboards had been refurbished and include a new site map.
- The Park's team and volunteers had improved areas in the park – including the wildflower display in the summer.
- The North London Hospice Owls trail project had also been a success.

### **Creative Learning.**

The CEO highlighted the below.

- The high levels of engagement with teachers and young people.
- The Community Radio project for young people was now on the Alexandra Palace website. More funding was being sought to grow the project further.
- Good media coverage had been achieved for the 150 Lifetimes Exhibition.
- Creative camps were held over the summer and were funded through external grants.
- Café Palais (an event for those with dementia), Singing for the Brain, a choir for vulnerable and elderly people were held over the summer. Nineteen residential homes were engaged, and the team were looking to expand the programme.
- The CEO highlighted that the Creative Learning workstream is almost totally reliant on external funding.

### **Events**

- Two days of fireworks are planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of November.
- The volume of noise complaints was relatively stable – there was no upwards or downward trend to note.

The Committee were reminded that the most up to date information was listed on the What's On pages on the Alexandra Palace website.

## **7 Suggestions for future agendas.**

A list of the Alexandra Palace and Park Summer Series 2025 was handed out and then discussed.

A question was raised about the Theatre and its usage and future plans. The CEO responded that this had been planned for a presentation at the Consultative Meeting, but she would run through this for the APPSAC.

The main points are summarised below.

- The CEO noted that the Theatre was going from strength to strength and contributing to the charity. The events were wide ranging and catering to all parts of the community.
- Later with Jools Holland was being hosted at Alexandra Palace and had been for the past three years. The CEO noted that bands who play with Later... tended to rebook the theatre and Palace for tours.
- Recent successes were:
  - An Inspector Calls which had 21,000 visitors – 92 schools visited.
  - The Glass Menagerie was critically acclaimed.
  - The World Squash Tournament was very successful and has rebooked for next year.
  - Alexandra Palace was to host to Friday Night is Music Night and the BBC Concert Orchestra.
  - Bibliobuzz – a literary festival for 9–12-year-olds. An event held in partnership with Library Services, which included workshops with children's authors.
  - Jamaica Love musical – would be rebooking next year for another run.
  - Disability Dance, Kids Week, and comedy events.
- Future events were discussed. The CEO noted that the Palace was becoming a gateway to the west end for plays and was getting a good reputation for music and comedy.
- A question was raised as to transport for young children attending events as a part of a school trip. The CEO clarified that it would be the school's remit to ensure that risk assessments and transports were organised.
- Transport for those less able to walk in light of the steep hill at Alexandra Palace was then discussed. The Chair raised that accessibility transport could be arranged for those attending events at the Palace. The CEO emphasised that this would be booked in advance. The Chair suggested that transporting event goers to the station may be a future opportunity.
- Discussion turned to the diversion of the W3. The Residents Working Group was in talks with TfL about communicating information better to bus users.
- The CEO asked the Committee to note the new metal arches constructed for concerts. These were scanners and part of the Palace's counter terrorism measures.
- Questions were raised about scheduled events in June and August as the tabled paper only included outdoor events in July. However, the CEO responded that the Palace was trying to consolidate all the outdoor events into the month of July. There would, however, be other events.
- A further question was asked about access to the gate at the top of Priory Road on the Fireworks Night event. The CEO responded that she would get back with information for the Committee from her team. **ACTION.**

**12. New items of urgent business.**

None.

**13. The Dates of Future Meetings.**

20th January 2025, 20:30

17th March 2025, 19:00

**Meeting closed at 19:49**