

Alexandra Palace & Park Board

on 21st June 2011

Report Title: Park Update

Report of: Mark Evison, Park Manager,

Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform the Alexandra Palace and Park Board of various matters relating to the park and its tenants.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board notes the contents of the report.
- 2.2 That the Board considers the advice of the joint informal meeting of the Advisory and Consultative Committees and the formal resolutions of the Advisory Committee and decides whether to accept or reject that advice, namely,
- 2.2.1 That the Board should object to the Coronation Sidings Development.
- 2.2.2 That the Board should agree to the replacement of the roof of the Muswell Hill pedestrian bridge.

Report Authorised by: Andrew Gill, Interim General Manager.....



Contact Officer: Mark Evison, Park Manager, Alexandra Palace & Park, Alexandra Palace Way, Wood Green N22 7AY Tel No. 020 8365 2121

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 This report provides an update on general park management issues and an overview of progress regarding the tenants.
- 3.2 The Coronation Sidings development and a proposal for the Muswell Hill Entrance were considered by the Advisory and Consultative Committees and their advice is that the Board objects to the first and agrees to the second.
- 4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)
- 4.1 N/A
- 5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
- 5.1 N/A

6. Park Management & Grounds Maintenance

- 6.1 The Grounds Maintenance Contractor recently undertook a customer survey regarding the park and their service.
- The survey was web-based and was circulated to all members of the Advisory Committee and Consultative Committee (38 individuals in total). Members representing groups such as resident's associations were encouraged to pass the link on.
- 6.3 Eleven individuals responded to the questionnaire.
- The comments were largely positive, almost all responses were either satisfactory, good or very good.
- 6.5 Where respondents left particular comments they were generally to highlight their feelings about dog fouling and littering by park users.

7. Park Tenants

- 7.1 The extension to the Islands Building by the 345 preschool is now complete. At the time of writing they were due to move back in after the May half-term. The building is now much improved and provides a great setting for local children.
- 7.2 The Grove Café seems to be suffering from targeted vandalism and antisocial behaviour overnight. The local police are aware of the incidents and a new 24-hour park patrol officer is monitoring the area during the routine patrols.

8. Planning Matters

- 8.1 The Board resolved at the meeting of 9th May to make a submission to the planning department in relation to the proposed Coronation Sidings development. The letter submitted by the Interim General Manager is attached as appendix 1.
- 8.2 The Informal Joint Meeting of the Advisory and Consultative Committees and the formal meeting of the Advisory Committee considered this matter on 31 May and resolved as follows:
 - The joint informal meeting agreed to ask the Board to object to the development.
 - The formal Advisory Committee resolved to recommend the Board strongly object to the planning application on the grounds that the view from the park will be blighted by such a large structure.
- 8.3 A second proposal to replace the roof of the Muswell Hill pedestrian footbridge was also considered by both meetings and in general the proposal was agreed. Although the direct costs of this project will not be charged to the Trust, the planning application and associated officer time will be.
- 8.4 A sketch of the proposal is attached as appendix 2.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 That the Board notes the contents of the report.
- 9.2 That the Board considered the advice of the joint informal meeting of the Advisory and Consultative Committees and the formal resolutions of the Advisory Committee and decides whether to accept or reject that advice on the following two subjects:
 - 9.2.1 That the Board should object to the Coronation Sidings Development
 - 9.2.2 That the Board should agree to the replacement of the roof of the Muswell Hill pedestrian bridge.

10. Legal Implications

- 10.1 The Trust solicitor's advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report.
- 10.2 The Acting Head of Legal Services has no comments on this report.

11. Financial Implications

- 11.1 A planning application for the Muswell Hill footbridge will incur officer time and costs of a few hundred pounds, it is planned that this will be funded by the existing park maintenance budget.
- 11.2 The London Borough of Haringey's Chief Financial Officer notes the contents of this report.

12. Use of Appendices/Tables/Photographs

Appendix 1: Submission regarding the Coronation Sidings planning proposal.

Appendix 2: Sketch of Muswell Hill footbridge proposal.