

Agenda item:

Duncer Alwike

Alexandra Park & Palace Informal Joint Meeting of the Statutory Advisory Committee and Consultative Committee Alexandra Park and Palace Statutory Advisory Committee

on 6th March 2012

Report Title: Report on Fabric Repair Programme and Listed Building Consent application

Report of: Duncan Wilson, CE Alexandra Park and Palace

1. Purpose

To advise the SAC and CC on progress with the fabric repair programme and on a recently submitted LBC application.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committees note the fabric repair progress, considers the LBC application and advises the Trust accordingly.

Report Authorised by: Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Duncan Wilson

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The major fabric repairs are as agreed with English Heritage in the context of our successful grant application programme. We have been awarded £252k of an estimated £472k, the balance to be funded by APPCT in 2012-13. The programme includes structural repair of the SW terrace facade (colonnade), theatre roof repairs and replacement of defective roofs North and South of the Ice Rink foyer.
- 3.2 The LBG application relates to temporary removal of wooden posts and cast iron panels on the SW terrace in front of the Bar and Kitchen.

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. Background

Donald Insall Associates have inspected the South Terrace facade and found it to be defective in respect of the pairs of steel I beams holding up the first storey arches of the colonnade, and the first floor slab which is made of clinker concrete. This has leached onto the beams and brick work and may have caused the degradation. The beams and slab need replacement, which will entail temporary propping. This work will be carried out in the spring and autumn.

New roofs on either side of the ice rink foyer will also be constructed at this time.

The LBC issue is to tidy up the area outside the Bar and Kitchen (SW corner of the Terrace) by removing a raised bed and wooden bollards placed there in the 1980's. I will show slides of the area at the meeting, but our conservation architects have assessed the scheme as of little heritage value except for the reuse of historic material incorporated – cast iron panels formerly part of the race course grand stand. These will be stored for reinstatement or use elsewhere. At present we are asking for permission to remove and reinstate by January 2013, pending the development of an improved design for the area which we envisage would be the subject of a future application.

7. Recommendations

That SAC/CC members note the elements of the fabric repair programme, and endorse to the Board the LBC application in relation to the SW corner of the Terrace.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 The Trust's solicitor has no comments on this report.
- 8.2 The Council's Head of Legal Services notes the contents of the report, and endorses its recommendations having regard to the statutory duty placed on the Council to uphold, maintain and repair the Palace.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1 The requirement on APPCT to provide matched funding for the English Heritage grant is within next year's budget estimates.
- 9.2 The Council's Chief Finance Officer notes the contents of the report.

10. Use of Appendices/Tables/Photographs

None appended