

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

In attendance *

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

NOMINATED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS

*Ms. J. Hutchinson	:	Alexandra Residents' Association
Mr P. Wastell	:	Alexandra Residents' Association
*Ms. M. Myers)	:	Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association
*Ms J. Baker	:	Palace Gates Residents' Association
Ms P. Lacroix	:	Palace View Residents' Association
Ms S. Rees (deputy)	:	Palace View Residents' Association
*Mr. D. Frith	:	The Rookfield Association
Mr. F. Hilton (deputy)	:	The Rookfield Association
*Mr. D. Liebeck (Chair)	:	Warner Estate Residents' Association
*Mr H. Aspden	:	Warner Estate Residents' Association

APPOINTED MEMBERS

*Councillor S. Oatway	:	Alexandra Ward
Councillor A. Demirci	:	Bounds Green Ward
*Councillor S. Beynon	:	Fortis Green Ward
*Councillor M. Whyte	:	Hornsey Ward
Councillor J. Bloch	:	Muswell Hill Ward
*Councillor A. Dobbie	:	Noel Park Ward
Councillor J. Patel	:	Council Wide appointment
Councillor J. Portess	:	Council Wide appointment

* indicates Member present

Also in attendance:

Councillor B. Hare
Councillor J. Oakes

Denise Feeney – Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association

Mr D. Loudfoot – General Manager Alexandra Palace
Mr K. Holder – Consultant Development Manager
Mr M. Evison - Park Manager Alexandra Palace
Mr C. Hart – Clerk to the Committee – LB Haringey Non Executive Committees Manager

**MINUTE
NO.**

SUBJECT/DECISION

APSC15. | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

	<p>Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Ms Lacroix and Councillor Portess, and for lateness and possible non attendance from Councillors Demirci and Patel, who were attending a Licensing Sub-Committee of the Local Authority (which had been scheduled to take place prior to this meeting date being confirmed).</p> <p>NOTED</p>
<p>APSC16.</p>	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Nil Items.</p>
<p>APSC17.</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP: TO NOTE ANY CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</p> <p>The Clerk to the Committee – Mr Hart advised the meeting that Councillor Portess had been appointed by the LB Haringey at its Full Council meeting on 16 July 2007 to the remaining vacancy of Council wide appointee on the Statutory Advisory Committee.</p> <p>NOTED</p>
<p>APSC18.</p>	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>(i) Alexandra Park and Palace Advisory Committee – 3 July 2007</p> <p>Mr Hart advised that a revised set of minutes had been tabled which had picked up on some minor typing errors since the minutes had been circulated.</p> <p>The Chair asked if there were any points of accuracy.</p> <p>Mr Frith advised that the minute (reference APSC13) was incorrect in its sentiments as it had not fully stated Mr Frith's views which he had asked to have formally recorded.</p> <p>Mr Frith went on to explain that he wanted to request the Board to advise the Advisory Committee how they intended to implement the measures they intended to take in accordance with their response of 14th November 2006.</p> <p>The Chair (in response to Mr Frith's request) advised that it might be appropriate to resubmit this reference to the Board for their meeting on 30 October 2007.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the minutes of the Alexandra Park and Palace Advisory Committee held on 3 July 2007 be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings subject to the following amendment:</p> <p>APSC 13 - that in respect of the points of Advice and Recommendations</p>

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

put to the Board in Autumn 2006, and the subsequent response of the Board to those recommendations on 14 November 2006, the Advisory Committee request the Board to reconsider the advice and recommendations of the SAC and its responses, and advise the Advisory Committee how they intended to implement their responses.

Matters Arising

Mr Aspden referred to the circulated map – ref in page 5 of the minutes and thanked officers for its supply. In response to clarification to whether the formal letter to the Charity Commission had been included with the minutes of the meeting Mr Hart confirmed that this was the case.

Mr Aspden also commented that the 2 other recommendations put to the Board on 16 July 2007 had been responded to and thanked officers for the efforts now that the bus stop had been reinstated.

NOTED

- (ii) Alexandra Palace and Park Board – 16 July 2007

The Chair asked if there were any points of clarification or comment.

Councillor Oatway expressed concern (especially in the light of the previous item) that the Board only appeared to “note” the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. She felt that the Board should be required to address the issues and fully debate the advice and recommendations of this Committee which are minuted as being referred to the Board. This comment was echoed by a number of those present.

The Chair responded that as an Observer at Board meetings he would continue to draw the Board’s attention to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and that he would ensure that these sentiments were conveyed to the Board on 30 October 2007.

Mr Loudfoot confirmed , in response to a query from Mr Aspden, that the minuted discussions related to a deputation from the Cricket Club to the Board which had outlined embryo proposals by the club for the expansion of the buildings at the club as well as the increased usage of the grounds by schools, including by the proposed new Heartlands School. This was not yet a concrete proposal and the Cricket club would be reviewing its concepts and intentions prior to making a formal submission.

NOTED

APSC19. FUTURE OF THE ASSET – UPDATE (VERBAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, ALEXANDRA PALACE, AND CONSULTANT TO THE BOARD) TO ADVISE THE COMMITTEE ON PROGRESS.

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

The Chair asked for a brief introduction of the report.

Councillor Oatway asked if Mr Holder, Consultant Development Manager, would clarify his current role in relation to the Board and Charitable Trust as there had had been some misconceptions within the public arena.

Mr Holder advised that he was appointed and employed on a consultancy basis as Consultant Development Manager to the charitable trust with a remit to ensure that the trustees' requirements, both under the 2004 Order, and otherwise, were met in respect of the implementation of the proposed lease and project plan with the proposed lessee, the Firoka Group. For the record Mr Holder advised that he was not employed by nor worked in any capacity for the Firoka Group. Mr. Holder confirmed that all other matters concerning the Charity's asset were now dealt with by David Loudfoot.

Councillor Oatway thanked Mr Holder for his clarification. Councillor Oatway noted that the Advisory committee were in the habit of just receiving verbal reports. Given the gravity of the current situation she felt that Members should have received a written report to consider, and asked that, in future, this be provided in advance of the meeting. This sentiment was shared by Councillor Whyte.

Mr Holder and Mr Loudfoot advised that whilst this was possible the Committee had to recognise that any written report was likely to be out of date by the time it was despatched given the speed at which matters might develop. However Mr. Holder agreed to consider the presentation of written reports provided there was recognition that substantial verbal amendments may need to be made during the presentation to the Committee.

The Chair, whilst accepting that this may be the case, thought it would be appropriate to have a written report prior to the meeting, in the knowledge that this may need to be updated or corrected at the meeting.

The Chair then asked Mr Holder for an introduction.

Mr Holder stated that he had been away on holiday and not in Court to hear the judicial review and subsequent judgment. He had been informed by those who had attended the Court hearing that the judge had concluded that the consultation process had been flawed as it did not comply with the description of the process provided by the Minister during the passage of the Order through Parliament. The Charity Commission had not carried out the full consultation process in accordance with the commitment given by the Minister (to the select committee). The judge highlighted the failure to disclose a (redacted) copy of the lease and project agreement to interested parties during the consultation process. The order had therefore been quashed. Mr Holder however stated that until there was a full transcript of the judgment he was not in a position to comment further.

The Chair thanked Mr Holder for this statement.

The Committee then discussed the outcome of the Judicial Review and the judgment, as well the implications for the Trust and the Council, and the role of the Advisory Committee – the main points raised were as follows:

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

- The Members of the Committee needed to have sight of a full transcript of the judgment in order to have a clear understanding of the actual decision;
- The Committee should have disclosed to it copies of the project agreement and lease with the removal of any commercially sensitive information only;
- The likelihood of any appeal against the judgment and/or any revised consultation process to be embarked upon in light of the judgement;
- The reasons for the costs order against the Trustees and any further action to be taken by them in this regard in the light of the (unconfirmed) criticisms by the Judge of the actions of the Trust's Solicitors ;
- The fact that the letter sent to the Charity Commission by the Chair of the Advisory Committee (on its behalf) in relation to the "representation" process (as stated by the board to interested parties, including this committee at the time, rather than as a "consultation" process) had not been acknowledged, and that no response had been addressed to this committee by the Charity Commission in any direct manner to any of the "representations" which this committee had made;
- That the Advisory Committee had previously requested copies of the lease and project agreement and that it be noted that the Chair – in his capacity as an observer at Board Meetings and a solitary elected Councillor representative had received a full copy of the lease but had been unable to share its contents with this committee;
- That the judgement had clearly stated that the consultation process adopted by the Charity Commission had been flawed and that this committee wished to ensure that any new consultation process would be dealt with in a proper manner;
- The current position of the Firoka Group and whether they would maintain an interest in the project or the implications if they should withdraw ;
- The decision of the Special Board meeting on 10 October, 2007, that the Board had noted the judgment, reaffirmed its strategy specifically appertaining to further negotiations with the Firoka Group, and confirmed its intention to continue negotiations with the Firoka Group should the Firoka Group wish to proceed but that the Board would not renegotiate or revise the existing project agreement and lease as agreed by the Board in July 2006;
- That a notice to complete had been served by the Firoka Group, expiring on 17 October 2007, and that the Board would not know until that notice had expired what were the Firoka Group's intentions ;
- In response to clarification from Councillor Whyte Mr Holder confirmed that the negotiated lease and project plan specifically related to negotiations between the Board and the Firoka Group and was not something that any subsequently selected partner could simply adopt and was only relevant to the 2 identified parties;
- That the Advisory Committee would in the future also advise the Charity Commission as to its views (as expressed to the Board) during the course of any future consultation or representation process;
- Confirmation by Keith Holder of the overall process embarked on by the Charity Commission during the previous process detailing the advertisement in The Times and Local press, advertisements on notice boards within the Palace and Park, and Libraries in Haringey, during the 5 week period from late November to early January 2006; and
- The need for either a special meeting of the Advisory Committee or of the

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

	<p>Urgency Panel of the Committee following further decisions of the Board in relation to the future of the asset in the forthcoming weeks.</p> <p>In conclusion it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. That the Advisory Committee recognise the need to have sight of the transcript and judgment of the Judicial Review in order to be able to comment further on the Judge's decision and his comments;ii. That the previous concerns of the Advisory Committee (as detailed) be noted in terms of the failure to disclose the lease and project agreement, which had been requested by the Advisory Committee, which appears to have been recognised by the Judge as amounting to a fatally flawed process;iii. That future reports by the appropriate officers on the future of the asset to the Advisory Committee be in written form, recognising the fact it require updating at the meeting itself;iv. That a meeting of the Urgency Panel of the Advisory Committee be convened before the date of next proposed committee meeting in February 2008 to consider developments in respect of the future of the asset, with a full meeting of the Advisory Committee to be convened (for the same date immediately after the Urgency Meeting) to endorse any matters or to be informed of the deliberations of the Urgency Panel.
<p>APSC20.</p>	<p>HERITAGE LOTTERY FUNDED LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE (REPORT OF THE PARK MANAGER) - TO UPDATE ON PROGRESS</p> <p>The Chair asked for a brief introduction of the report.</p> <p>In a succinct introduction to the circulated report Mr Evison gave a brief update of each of the areas of HLF work and answered points of clarification. Mr Evison TABLED plans submitted by the operators of the Grove, and Lakeside Cafes in relation to plans for low level fencing, and awnings which they intended to install in the near future. The Local Authority Planning Service confirmed that the proposals did not require planning permission.</p> <p>In discussing and welcoming the proposals the Committee asked that it be supplied with a more detailed design drawing once submitted to the General Manager. The Committee also asked that it be impressed on the Lakeside Café operator that the area under the outside awning be made a non-smoking area.</p> <p>The Committee discussed a number of issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The decrease by 4 spaces of car parking at the Muswell Hill entrance and the issue of parking (in the car park area outside Safestore) by commercial vehicles, and continuing issues re Buckingham Lodge residents parking arrangements;• The issue of speed restrictions on Palace and Park roads and if some action could be taken whether by means of Police enforcement or otherwise;• The success of the Information Centre and the steady stream of visitors during the summer period and the efforts of 3 volunteers who were

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

	<p>members of this Advisory committee, and the Committee's thanks to those volunteers for their efforts;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The habitat management's report on rare butterflies and other wildlife • The matter of the conservation area's shabby and somewhat tatty appearance and the need for improvement and some TLC; • The need for improvement to the Redston Road entrance and pond area and the mystery of who dredged the pond or unblocked its' outlet. • That the HLF programme was reaching its conclusion and that there would be a programme of work to maintain and upkeep the park, the general comment being that those concerned should be complimented on the outcome and the results much appreciated and welcomed. • That an audit of tree planting and cutting was due to be finalised and that this would then be acted upon. <p>The Chair then summarised and it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the contents of the report be noted; ii. That the detailed plans of proposals to the Grove, and Lakeside Cafes be circulated to the Advisory Committee for their information; and iii. That the 3 volunteers at the Information Centre who are members of the Advisory Committee be thanked for their efforts in helping the Park Manager.
<p>APSC21.</p>	<p>FORTHCOMING EVENTS (REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, ALEXANDRA PALACE) TO ADVISE THE COMMITTEE ON FORTHCOMING EVENTS TO THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR.</p> <p>The Chair asked for a brief update.</p> <p>Mr Loudfoot advised the Committee that the main overnight event scheduled for 22 March 2008 was 'Slamming Vinyl' which was during the Easter period, and that the 'Cinderella – Holiday on Ice ' was scheduled for 10-16 December 2007.</p> <p>In response to clarification re the annual Fireworks display event Mr Loudfoot advised that the arrangements were being finalised and invitations would be issued by the early part of the week commencing 22 October 2007.</p> <p>Ms Baker commented on the event the previous week which she had attended and that the food was of very poor quality, lacking in both taste and appearance, endorsed by the Chair from reports he had received..</p> <p>In response Mr Loudfoot advised that he would ensure the catering manager was made aware of her complaint.</p> <p>NOTED</p>
<p>APSC22.</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p>

**MINUTES OF THE ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2007**

	<p>(i) Ms Hutchinson raised the issue of the crossing points at the front of the Palace which were hazardous and dangerous, and she asked if there were any plans for improvement.</p> <p>In response Mr Loudfoot advised that he would look into the issue and report back in the future</p> <p>Ms Myers also referred to the difficulties at the Grove bus stop and the crossing hazard there. In response Mr Loudfoot advised that he would look into the issues and report back in the future.</p> <p>NOTED</p>
APSC23.	<p>TO NOTE THE DATE OF MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2007/2008 AS FOLLOWS: 5 FEBRUARY 2007</p> <p>There being no further business to discuss the meeting ended at 21.25hrs.</p>

David Liebeck

Chair