

ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE
JOINT MEETING OF THE STATUTORY ADVISORY AND
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES
22nd NOVEMBER 2016

Agenda Item: 6

Report Title: Chief Executive's Update

Report of: Louise Stewart, Chief Executive, Alexandra Park and Palace

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Purpose:

This report provides information to the Statutory Advisory and Consultative Committees on planning and policy issues in relation to Alexandra Park and Palace. It also provides additional information on the events programme and a range of activities of the Charitable Trust.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A

1. Recommendations

1.1 To note the content of the report and advise the Alexandra Park and Palace Board where relevant.

2. Strategic Vision

2.1 Consultants have been appointed to work with Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust to develop the Strategic Vision. The consultants are BOP Consulting, working with Grant Associates (Landscape Architects) and Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios (Architects).

2.2 Work is currently underway to review previous studies and consultation findings and consult with staff, the Board of Trustees and strategic stakeholders.

2.3 Public consultation on the Vision is planned as part of the work in 2017. The format of this will be developed nearer the time. The work is expected to complete by summer 2017.

3. East Wing Restoration Project

3.1 A verbal update on the project will be provided at the meeting.

4. West Yard Storage Project

4.1 The initial Planning Application for the West Yard storage project (no. HGY/2016/1574) was amended to change the previous function space in the new building to ancillary office space. The Trust Board considered this change on the 19th July 2016, along with an update that the roof terrace had been omitted from the planning application. It is expected that this amendment will be considered at the Planning Sub Committee on the 12th December 2016.

5. Commercial Director's Update

5.1 The SACCC were consulted on an application for an outdoor premises licence at a special meeting on 29th September. A verbal update on progress will be given at the meeting.

5.2 Fireworks Festival - a post event verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

5.3 The table below summarises past and confirmed future public events for the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2016. All special requirements are discussed in detail at production meetings and at Advisory Group meetings where appropriate. There is additional information provided in the table below. It is our intention to supply this information in future so that the committees are aware of any special requirements impacting on use of the Park and Palace, such as events with road closures or additional structures etc.

| Event | Event Type | Date (tenancy) | Date (event open) | Special requirements |
|------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| Knit & Stitch | Exhibition | 02.10.16 - 09.10.16 | 05.10.16 - 09.10.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden |
| Amma | Live event | 10.10.16 - 13.10.16 | 10.10.16 - 13.10.16 | |
| Prime Impact | Exhibition | 19.10.16 - 23.10.16 | 21.10.16 - 23.10.16 | |
| Classic Car | Exhibition | 26.10.16 - 30.10.16 | 28.10.16 - 30.10.16 | Road closures in operation (10:00 - 15:00) |
| Freight show | Exhibition | 01.11.16 - 02.11.16 | 02.11.16 | |
| 80th Anniversary | Live event | 02.11.16 | 02.11.16 | Mast will remain lit until after Fireworks |

| Event | Event Type | Date (tenancy) | Date (event open) | Special requirements |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Fireworks | Park events | 01.11.16 - 06.11.16 | 04.11.16 - 05.11.16 | Road closures in operation from Thursday 3 RD November (20:00 - 07:00) to 07:00 hours on Sunday 6th November Full Comms plan in place |
| Twenty one pilots | Concert | 10.11.16 - 13.11.16 | 10.11.16 - 13.11.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden. Early walk up. Additional overnight external security will be provided. Comms in place |
| Careers Fair | Exhibition | 16.11.16 | 16.11.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden |
| Flume | Concert | 16.11.16 - 17.11.16 | 17.11.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden |
| Panic at the disco | Concert | 18.11.16 - 20.11.16 | 19.11.16 - 20.11.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden |
| Chase N status | Concert | 25.11.16 - 26.11.16 | 26.11.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden |
| Club de Fromage | Ice rink event | 26.11.16 | 26.11.16 | |
| Organ concert | Silent film evening | 27.11.16 - 28.11.16 | 28.11.16 | |
| Skepta | Concert | 01.12.16 - 02.12.16 | 02.12.16 | Marquee in place on outdoor beer garden. Additional security provisions in place following SAG advice. |
| Antiques | Exhibition | 02.12.16 - 04.12.16 | 04.12.16 | |
| Mosconi cup | Sporting | 05.12.16 - 10.12.16 | 07.12.16 - 09.12.16 | |
| Beauty & the Beast Panto on ice | Ice rink event | 08.12.16 - 12.12.16 | 09.12.16 - 12.12.16 | |
| Darts | Sporting | 11.12.16 | 15.12.16 | Main entrance via Rose Window Drones may be used to capture footage |
| Vanilla Ice on ice | Ice rink event | 20.12.16 - 22.12.16 | 20.12.16 - 22.12.16 | Reduction of public ice skating sessions |
| Vegan Show | Exhibition | 06.01.17 - 08.01.17 | 07.01.17 - 08.01.17 | |
| Life on Mars- a tribute to Bowie | Ice rink event | 08.01.17 | 09.01.17 | |
| Snooker | Sporting | 10.01.17 - 24.01.17 | 15.01.17 - 22.01.17 | |
| Model engineering | Exhibition | 18.01.17 - 22.01.17 | 20.01.17 - 22.01.17 | |
| ping pong | Sporting | 25.01.17 - 30.01.17 | 28.01.17 - 29.01.17 | |
| Excursions | Exhibition | 26.01.17 - 28.01.17 | 28.01.17 | |
| Tool fair | exhibition | 30.01.17 - 02.02.17 | 01.02.17 - 02.02.17 | |

| Event | Event Type | Date (tenancy) | Date (event open) | Special requirements |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Two door cinema club | Concert | 08.02.17 - 10.02.17 | 09.02.17 - 10.02.17 | |
| Antiques | Exhibition | 11.02.17 - 12.02.17 | 12.02.17 | |
| Main malls closed | Building work | 13.02.17 - 28.02.17 | 13.02.17 - 28.02.17 | |
| RYA | Exhibition | 01.03.17-05.03.17 | 04.03.17-05.03.17 | |
| MA healthcare | Exhibition | 13.03.17-14.03.17 | 13.03.17-14.03.17 | |
| Underworld | Concert | 16.03.17-17.03.17 | 17.03.17 | |
| London Festival of Railway Modelling | Exhibition | 23.03.17-26.03.17 | 25.03.17-26.03.17 | |
| Woman's Institute Fair | Exhibition | 27.03.17-01.04.17 | 29.03.17-01.04.17 | |

5.4 Ice Rink

5.4.1 Beauty & the Beast Panto on ice - public sessions are now sold out. 80% of the school shows are already sold out.

5.4.2 Vanilla Ice, a 90s pop artist, will be performing 'Vanilla Ice on ice' from 20th - 22nd of December.

5.4.3 Club de Fromage will continue on the last Saturday of every month and the next event date is 26th November 2016.

6. Park Update

6.1 Go Ape adventure course: The *Tree Top Junior* course is almost finished, the last item remaining is the entry-stockade. The conversion of the animal building in to a reception cabin is progressing well. Construction of the adult course (*Tree Top Adventure*) will begin soon and the current plan is to launch the new facility in the New Year.

6.2 Sustrans Quietway proposal: Members of the Advisory and Consultative Committees met with Sustrans officers in October to discuss the work that may be required to upgrade the existing cycleway. Their input will help form the initial designs which will be considered by Transport for London in a few months time.

6.3 Awards and Accolades: Alexandra Park was entered into the 'large park over 25 hectares' category of the London in Bloom competition 2016. The Park achieved a gold award and was declared category winner for the second year running. Also, the Park was one of ten winners voted for by the public in 'the People's Choice Award' which is a national competition.

6.4 Park Works: A scheme of tree safety work is planned to take place before Christmas. This includes removing deadwood, pruning works and some felling. New aerators have been installed in the boating lake to maintain the quality of the water.

6.4.1 Work continues within available resources to make the Park more resilient towards events. Prior to the Fireworks event the middle path on the south slope was widened and trees pruned at the fairground car park to prevent branch damage by large vehicles.

6.5 Surface Water management. At the time of writing work has begun on a number of swales (shallow ditches) to capture and direct the surface water springs in the Park. The water will run across the paths in shallow channels to reduce erosion and the consequential muddy conditions. The success of the new swales will be monitored over the winter months and adaptations made in future if necessary.

7. Learning and Participation

7.1 Between April and October 2016, 1,036 pupils have visited the Palace with a further 620 pupils booked to attend by the end of the year. The Learning & Participation (L&P) Team have already exceeded last year's pupil visitor figures (1,651 pupils). Working closely with the sales team, dates are now being offered to schools up to 6 months in advance, this has encouraged teachers to book early for visits as we are now already fully booked until January 2017.

7.2 To mark 80 years since the world's first high definition regular television on 2nd November, the L&P Team partnered with BAFTA to run 2 workshops for 210 pupils from local schools hosted by Lindsay Russell (Blue Peter) and Ben Shires (Officially Amazing). To maximise the impact of the event, numbers from each school were capped at 35 pupils meaning 7 classes from schools across the borough had the opportunity to take part. Of the schools attending 2 had not previously engaged with the Park and Palace, a further 3 are recent users from January 2016, the remaining 2 are regular users of the learning programme. This is the first time the Palace has run an event for multiple schools.

7.3 In the October half term the Palace ran free family activities over two days (linking in with national Big Draw) inspired by trains which have brought thousands of visitors to the Park and Palace since 1873. Using archive photos of the Park and Palace as inspiration families created a timeline showcasing 150 years of extraordinary activities. Families were also encouraged to think about the Park and Palace post 2018 and suggest activities that they felt would attract thousands of visitors; suggestions included a funicular from Wood Green, Indoor Trampoline Park and a city farm. The activities were promoted through contacts at local schools and via local online networks as well as on the Alexandra Palace website and within 7 days of going live all 6 sessions (3 sessions each morning) were fully booked via Eventbrite. Attendance numbers over the 2 days were high with 49 families taking part in the activities. Feedback during the activities was very positive with many parents asking about similar activities during other school holidays.

7.4 As part of the Palace's Fireworks Festival the L&P Team partnered with 30 pupils from Haringey Sixth Form College to create props for the Day of the Dead Parade. Students from across the college (Art, Fashion and Dance) are working with a carnival artist to create sugar skulls and masks as well as planning their own costume and make-up. The college's second year Media students have been taking photos and filming

throughout the project and formed part of the parade. They will be creating a short film of their experiences which will be uploaded and promoted by both organisations.

7.5 For this year's Open House (17th September) the Palace ran tours of the basement for visitors to see the original Victorian storage rooms and the bunk beds and workshop machinery from the First World War. To ensure the safety of our visitors, groups were kept to a maximum of 15 people with a guide and steward escorting each tour with all attendees wearing hard hats and high visibility vests. The Eventbrite booking went live on the 1st September (as per the Open House requirements) and all 195 spaces were fully booked within 45 minutes with a waiting list created. The tours were a success with 100% of responses saying they had enjoyed their visits. Planning is underway to increase the numbers of tours from 2017 onwards to include the Park, Palace and the East Wing when it opens in 2018.

7.6 With the newly appointed Head of L&P (Sarah James) the team have been working on revising the Activity Plan to create a holistic approach to learning across both the Park and Palace. The programme will launch in January 2016 following internal consultation with staff in December and meetings across the borough to secure partnerships with cultural, creative and academic institutions.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 The Council's Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and has no comments.

9. Financial Implications

9.1 The Council's Chief Financial Officer has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and has no comments.

10. Use of Appendices

None.