

## **ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE** **CHARITABLE TRUST BOARD**

**18 JULY 2017**

**Report Title:** Chief Executive's Report

**Report of:** Louise Stewart, Chief Executive Officer, Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust (APPCT)

**Report Authorised by:** Louise Stewart, Chief Executive Officer, Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust (APPCT)

Contact Officer: Natalie Layton, Executive Assistant, APPCT  
Email: [Natalie.layton@alexandrapalace.com](mailto:Natalie.layton@alexandrapalace.com) , Telephone: 020 8365 4335

### **Purpose:**

This report updates the Board of Trustees on current issues and projects at 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 information.

### **2. Business Plan**

2.1 The 2017/18 Trust Business Plan was approved by the Board at the previous meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and the quarter 1 progress report is included at item 19 on the agenda for this meeting. The Business Plan is publicly available on the Alexandra Palace website.

### **3. Governance**

3.1 On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 the scheduled Annual Trustee induction was held.

3.2 Board members attended a workshop on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017 on the progress of the Governance Review.

#### **4. Strategic Vision**

- 4.1 On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 the Board attended a workshop with BOP consulting to be updated on the progress of the Strategic Vision work.

#### **5. East Wing Restoration Project**

- 5.1 The Trust Board agreed on 21 March 2017 to proceed with the Main Works of the East Wing Restoration Project. However the scope of the project has changed to keep expenditure within the budget available. The focus of the current project will be on the Theatre, Theatre Foyer, North East Tower and East Court. The Board agreed that the restoration of the former TV Studios would be deferred. The external landscaping works were also deferred.
- 5.2 The team are developing a new timetable for the studios project. The ambition is to deliver an interactive celebration of the proud history of broadcasting and the BBC at Alexandra Palace as well an exploration of cutting edge broadcasting and technology.
- 5.3 The HLF Activity Plan, for learning and participation to engage the public in the project and our history, has not been affected by these decisions.
- 5.4 A Planning and Listed Buildings Tracker is used to monitor the progression of the need to discharge conditions. Regular liaison is undertaken, especially with the Principal Conservation Officer and Historic England.
- 5.5 Recent discussions have taken place with Haringey Council's Economic Development Team in respect of skills and training.
- 5.6 Completion of the East Wing is expected in the summer of 2018.

#### **6. West Yard Storage Project**

- 6.1 Planning permission and Listed Building Consent was granted on the 18 January 2017.
- 6.2 Works have been delayed with the contractor experiencing design delays with the main steel frame. Completion is expected to be at the end of 2017.
- 6.3 Discussions with the Planning Authority have progressed with the discharge of conditions including materials to being used. There are no current changes to the Planning permission or Listed Building Consent received.
- 6.4 The most obvious activity in the next quarter will be the presence of a large crane on site. Neighboring properties will be communicated with to explain why, when and for how long the crane will be present and the safety measures in place.

## **7. Commercial Director's Update**

### **Events**

#### **7.1 Park Premises Licence**

7.1.1 The local Licensing Authority (Haringey Council) granted the Alexandra Park Grounds licensing application on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in principle. We are currently awaiting the finalised conditions.

7.1.2 In its decision the Licensing Committee acknowledged the concerns raised by the local community during the hearing and had been satisfied that the conditions imposed were appropriate and proportionate.

A park monitoring framework is being compiled and will be tested at events in July.

#### **7.2 Quarter 1 Events**

7.2.1 In Q1 we have now hosted two of our own in-house events. Springfest, the German Beer festival inside the Palace, was a great Success. StrEATlife - over May bank holiday weekend was our first free event of the summer and the second StrEATlife took place over 17-18 June. There have been no notable negative comments on social media and no noise complaints.

7.2.2 The Country Living exhibition was a new event for the Palace and was a huge success, attended by over 15,000, and received great feedback from both exhibitors and visitors.

#### **7.3 Future Events**

7.3.1 The Summer Festival will be taking place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July with some additional activity taking place on Sunday in the Grove (theatre performance) and the south slopes (outdoor cinema). This is a free to enter event although some of the activities are ticketed. Help supporting this event through the SAC local resident communication channels would be much appreciated.

7.3.2 On the basis of event safety it is proposed to close Alexandra Palace Way to all public vehicles for the Summer Festival. Access to the car parks will still be maintained. The exception will be the W3 Bus which will continue to run along Alexandra Palace throughout the day.

7.3.3 We are working with experienced operators to deliver two new temporary leisure attractions in the summer: a zip wire, which will operate from the Palace to the Park and a large inflatable obstacle course installed in the Great Hall over the August Bank Holiday.

#### **7.4 Event forward schedule:**

The table attached at Appendix 1 summarises the public events scheduled until the end of Q3 (end of December). All special requirements are discussed in detail at production meetings and at Safety Advisory Group meetings as appropriate. Updates since the last report are highlighted in bold.

## **Security**

- 7.5 Following the tragic incident that took place in Manchester, Alexandra Palace, along with all other venues, has reviewed its security procedures.

## **Ice Rink**

- 7.6 The skating courses for Q1 for children from 3 years up to adults are well subscribed.
- 7.7 The Ice Rink has both senior and junior British champion dance pairs training here and competing internationally as representatives of Alexandra Palace. Their success has been supported by input from Jayne Torvil and Christopher Dean.
- 7.8 Alexandra Palace Ice Rink is seeking ways to accommodate additional business from Lee Valley and Queensway ice rinks over the summer as both rinks are temporarily closing for repairs. This includes both skating coaches and ice hockey teams.

## **8. Park update**

- 8.1 Park Maintenance is going well, low rainfall and cool temperatures during Spring have helped the Park dry out. Horticultural Students from Capel Manor College have been assisting with work on the bedding displays.
- 8.2 Consultants have been engaged to undertake a desk review to investigate the issues with springs and wet patches. Some testing has been carried out to ascertain the source of the water. One area, on the old race course, has been fenced off to keep people and dogs out in order to prevent contamination of the samples.
- 8.3 The tree inspection and work programme continues. London plane trees are under threat from *Massaria disease of plane*. This relatively new issue causes large branches to fall within a short timescale following infection. The plane trees in the Park are now inspected more frequently and there will be more frequent branch removals in response to protect Park users and property. There were no trees lost during storm Doris in February. Although it may appear that a lot of tree cutting and felling takes place where it is safe and there is space to do so, dead trees are left standing for their wildlife value.
- 8.4 The work with Park tenants continues. Scheduled lease renewals and rent reviews have been taking place, health and safety management monitored and issues such as safeguarding reviewed. A full report on leasehold property, requested by the Board, is contained within the exempt report on this agenda.
- 8.5 The Friends of the Park have been assisting with visitor counting surveys over the past few months. The data collected assists in refining the methodology we use to calculate the number of visitors to the Park. Data for the first quarter of 2017 show the visitor numbers were up by 12%.

## **9. Learning and Participation**

### **9.1 School Workshops**

Spring and Summer are the busiest in terms of workshops for schools. Between April and the end of June the Palace welcomed 387 pupils from 7 schools across the borough with a further 8 visits booked before the end of the Summer term. These visits include 3 Reception classes from Rhodes Avenue and each class from St Paul's and All Hallows using the Park to practice basic map reading skills.

Work is underway planning for scaling up the delivery of the learning programme from September in line with the target of 5,000 pupils per year by 2019.

### **9.2 Big Schools Day**

On 20<sup>th</sup> June the Learning & Participation team took over the Palace for the first Big Schools Day for over 1,000 pupils (Year 5,6 & 7) from 19 schools across the borough. Through this event we have engaged with 9 new schools including Ferry Lane, Hornsey School for Girls and Mulberry Primary School. The day showcased different careers within television and was delivered in partnership with BAFTA Kids and Microsoft.

### **9.3 Easter Activities**

The Learning and Participation team worked with a local artist to deliver 4 days of creative heritage workshops in the Palm Court during the Easter holidays. These included making a giant collage using images of the Palm Court architecture and making clay animals using images of monkeys, parrots and bears from the Alexandra Palace archive as inspiration.

Over the 4 days we had 147 adults and 211 children attending. The activity was hugely successful with overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and children. Parents commented on how beautiful and peaceful the space was, many experiencing Palm Court for the first time.

### **9.4 Haringey Weekend of Play**

As part of the borough wide Weekend of Play (28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April) Alexandra Palace ran drop-in orienteering inspired by Victorian activities in the Park and Palace. Using the Park Information Centre as the base families dropped in before using map reading skills to find markers hidden around the Grove. Throughout the day over 60 people took part in the activities with positive feedback from all who participated.

### **9.5 Dementia Friendly Activities**

L&P has been developing relationships with local day care centres and dementia friendly groups through a number of different activities such as archive collage making sessions, reminiscence sessions and sensory walks in the Park. We aim to nurture these relationships through more regular activities and longer term projects and events as we move towards the opening of the East Wing in 2018.

- Dementia Café – Hornsey Housing Trust

10 people with dementia and their carers participated in a collage making session using images from the Palace's archive. Drawings and photos of the Palace throughout history took participants on a journey, many of them reminiscing of times spent at the Palace, particular hairstyles and dresses they used to wear and memorable events like the Queen's coronation. Participants were encouraged to make their own version of the Palace resulting in surreal and magical representations of Ally Pally.

- Spring Sensory Walk

In celebration of Dementia Awareness Week (15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May), the L&P team hosted three Spring Sensory Strolls in the Park exploring the heritage of both the Park and Palace and Park and engaging the group on a sensory level. 28 people with dementia and their carers attended throughout the week from a number of different care centres.

## 9.6 Corporate Volunteering

To mark XL Caitlin (A global insurance company) 'Global Day of Giving', 26 people from their London office volunteered their time to give back to the local community. Activities included tours of the Park (delivered by the Friends of the Park), litter picking and tours of the Victorian Theatre. The feedback on the day from the organiser and people taking part was extremely positive, for many of them this was their first visit to the Park and Palace.

## 9.7 National Volunteer Week

To thank the Palace's team of volunteers the Learning & Participation team ran an event for National Volunteer Week on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. 15 active volunteers attended for a briefing about changes to the volunteering programme and to feed their ideas into the ongoing plan.

## 9.8 Placements

To support the work of the Learning & Participation department, the team have recruited a BA Events Management Student from Leeds Beckett University and an MA Museum Studies student from UCL.

## 10. Archive and Interpretation

The team have been promoting the work of the team and developing new relationships, including:

- Presentation to Hornsey Historical Society (as part of L&P engagement).
- Liaison with Central St Martins Culture Curation & Criticism students on live project with L&P
- Talk on digitisation to Friends of the Park.
- Liaison with University of Lincoln on their Hidden Heritage project – initial scoping for 3D scanning of stage machinery in the Theatre.
- Contributing to the Summer Festival with historic content theming.

- Meeting with FAPT members and talk on digitisation

## **11. Legal Implications**

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

## **12. Financial Implications**

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

## **13. Use of Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Forthcoming events schedule

## APPENDIX 1 – Forthcoming events

Event	Event Type	Date (tenancy)	Date (event open)	Special requirements
Fat Freddy's Drop	Concert	02.06.17-03.06.17	03.06.17	
ABTT Theatre Show	Exhibition	04.06.17-08.06.17	07.06.17-08.06.17	
DRL (Drone) – London	Sport	10.06.17-14.06.17	12.06.17-13.06.17	Drone Racing (Inside the Palace)
Haringey Boxing	Sport	15.05.17-18.05.17	15.05.17-18.05.17	
Street Food & Craft Beer Festival (StrEATlife)	Park	16.06.17-19.06.17	17.06.17-18.06.17	Music on the Beach/Catering Units along the South Terrace and Beach
<b>International Yoga Day</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>17.06.17-18.06.17</b>	<b>18.06.17</b>	<b>Situated in the Lower Field, free for guests to attend – estimated 3000 guests over the day</b>
The Maccabees	Concert	28.06.17-02.07.17	29.06.17-1.07.17	
<b>Karting on Ice</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>01.07.17</b>	<b>01.07.17</b>	<b>Small group of 30 visitors</b>
<b>Junior Hockey Camp</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>02.07.17</b>	<b>02.07.17</b>	<b>Small group of 50 people</b>
Red Bull	Live	06.07.17-10.07.17	09.07.17	The public access road shall be closed between the hours of 12:00 hours (midday) on Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July to 05:00 hours on Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Figure Skating Camp</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>16.07.17</b>	<b>16.07.17</b>	<b>Small group of 50 people</b>
Street Food Summer Festival (StrEATlife)	Park	21.07.17-23.07.17	22-23.07.17	Music on the Beach and in the Park, additional activities taking place inside and outside the venue along with street food vendors in the Park
<b>Karting on Ice</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>05.08.17</b>	<b>05.08.17</b>	<b>Small group of 30 visitors</b>
Street Food Summer Festival (StrEATlife)	Park	18.08.17-20.08.17	19-20.08.17	Music on the Beach and in the Park, additional activities taking place inside and outside the venue along with street food vendors in the Park
<b>Junior Hockey Camp</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>19.08.17</b>	<b>19.08.17</b>	<b>Small group of 50 people</b>
<b>Junior Hockey Camp</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>26.08.17</b>	<b>26.08.17</b>	<b>Small group of 50 people</b>
<b>Junior Jockey Camp</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>27.08.17</b>	<b>27.08.17</b>	<b>Small group of 50 people</b>
<b>Foodies Festival</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>23.08.17-30.08.17</b>	<b>26.08.17-28.08.17</b>	<b>Situated in the Lower Field, acoustics back ground music, chef demonstrations.</b>
Interpol	Concert	01.09.17	01.09.17	
Antiques	Exhibition	02.09.17-03.09.17	03.09.17	
Luna Cinema	Outdoor	15.09.17	15.09.17	



	South Slope			
<b>Event</b>	<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Date (tenancy)</b>	<b>Date (event open)</b>	<b>Special requirements</b>
<b>Asiana Wedding Show</b>	<b>Exhibition</b>	<b>08.09.17-10.09.17</b>	<b>09.09.17-10.09.17</b>	<b>Due to West Hall event guest will access the Great Hall via the Rose Window throughout both event open days</b>
<b>Progress Wrestling</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>10.10.17</b>	<b>10.10.17</b>	
Crafting At Ally Pally	Exhibition	14.09.17-17.09.17	16.09.17-17.09.17	
Luna Cinema	Outdoor South Slope	16.09.17	16.09.17	
Phoenix	Concert	30.09.17	30.09.17	
<b>Knitting &amp; Stitching Show</b>	<b>Exhibition</b>	<b>08.10.17-15.10.17</b>	<b>11.10.17-15.10.17</b>	
<b>Mind, Body, Soul &amp; Yoga Show</b>	<b>Exhibition</b>	<b>18.10.17-22.10.17</b>	<b>20.10.17-22.10.17</b>	
<b>Crystal Fighters</b>	<b>Concert</b>	<b>28.10.17</b>	<b>28.10.17</b>	
<b>Fireworks</b>	<b>Live Event</b>	<b>02.10.17-05.10.17</b>	<b>04.11.17-05.11.17</b>	
<b>Don Broco</b>	<b>Concert</b>	<b>11.11.17</b>	<b>11.11.17</b>	
<b>War on Drugs</b>	<b>Concert</b>	<b>14.11.17</b>	<b>14.11.17</b>	
<b>Antiques</b>	<b>Exhibition</b>	<b>18.11.17-19.11.17</b>	<b>19.11.17</b>	
<b>Enter Shkari</b>	<b>Concert</b>	<b>25.11.17</b>	<b>25.11.17</b>	
<b>Royal Blood</b>	<b>Concert</b>	<b>20.11.17</b>	<b>20.11.17</b>	
<b>Woodcraft Folk Junior Hockey Camp</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>25.11.17</b>	<b>25.11.17</b>	<b>Estimated 700 visitors</b>
<b>Parov Stelar</b>	<b>Concert</b>	<b>01.12.17-02.12.17</b>	<b>02.12.17</b>	
<b>Christmas Panto</b>	<b>Ice Rink</b>	<b>04.12.17-11.12.17</b>	<b>04.12.17-11.12.17</b>	<b>12 sessions in total – Moved dates so not to clash with Darts Visitors – 750 visitors per session</b>
<b>Darts</b>	<b>Sports</b>	<b>09.12.17-04.01.18</b>	<b>14.12.17-02.01.18</b>	<b>22 sessions in total – excluding Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Eve</b>