

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE 22 JANUARY 2020

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2020
AT 1030 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA
SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM B1 1BB**

PRESENT:- Councillor Shabrana Hussain in the Chair;

Councillors Adrian Delaney, Mohammed Idrees, David Pears and Mike Sharpe.

ALSO PRESENT:-

Nigel Oliver	– Birmingham Property Services
Graham Arrand	– Senior Business Analyst, Finance
Rajesh Parmar	– Legal Services
Marie Reynolds	– Committee Services
Matt Hageney	– Partnership Manager, Parks
Sue Amey	– District Parks Manager
Liz Parkes	– Libraries – Education and Skills
Paul Ruffle	– Libraries – Education and Skills
Muhammad Zulqar Nain	– Dep. High Commissioner – London
Mr Kabir Uddin	– Small Heath Park
Mr Mashud Ahmed	– Small Heath Park

ELECTION OF CHAIR

- 1071 Due to the absence of the Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed (Chair) and Councillor Nicky Brennan (Vice-Chair), Councillor Mike Sharpe proposed to elect, and it was seconded by Councillor Mohammed Idrees that Councillor Shabrana Hussain chaired the Meeting.

NOTICE OF RECORDING

- 1072 The Chair advised, and the Committee noted, that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.civico.net/birmingham) and members of the press/public could record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.
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APOLOGIES

- 1073 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed (Chair) and Councillor Nicky Brennan (Vice-Chair) for their inability to attend the meeting and from Councillor David Pears for having to leave the meeting by 12:30 pm.
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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1074 The Chairman reminded Members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting. If a disclosable pecuniary interest was declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations would be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting.

Councillor Mike Sharpe declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of Alderson Disabled Ex-Servicemen's Homes Trust.

MINUTES

- 1075 **RESOLVED:-**

That part 1 of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Trusts and Charities Committee held on 13 November 2019 be noted and for the following inclusion:

Rajesh Parmar, Legal Services referred to Minute No. 1061 (Highbury – Proposed Match-Funding in support of Chamberlain Highbury Trust) and reported that the resolution should be amended to read:

That the Trust and Charities Committee approved the grant funding of £80,000 from Highbury Trust unrestricted funds subject to the CHT application of the lottery funding being approved.

GEORGE CADBURY FOR PUBLIC PARK – FRIENDS OF MANOR FARM PARK PROGRESS REPORT AND FUNDING

The following report of the Parks Service Manager was submitted:

(See document No. 1)

Nigel Oliver, Birmingham Property Services, made introductory comments to the report.

John Stewart and Lesley Patterson on behalf of Friends of Manor Farm Park and the Stakeholders Group attended the meeting and reported on the viability to restore the old farm buildings and lodge in Manor Farm Park, Northfield for use as a community facility which would include: meeting spaces for hire, exhibition space and a community enterprise-run café with toilets and would be run by a charitable organisation.

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As a means for this to be facilitated, the Friends Group would have to create a registered charitable trust that would need to apply to the Charity Commission to vary the terms of the trust deed to allow the site to be leased to a third party for the proposed activities to take place.

In response to Members comments the following points were captured:

- There would be the provision of public toilets at the facility for park users to use. There are no toilet facilities at present.
- The lodge has security fencing and the intention is to make the building weatherproof and secure, if the proposed charitable organisation takes control, they would be seeking to make use of the building as soon as possible.
- Once buildings are restored and renovated to a good standard, it was believed the running costs would be manageable and with the possibility of renting out buildings for meeting rooms and a café, there would be a stream of revenue to support the venture.
- A feasibility report had been undertaken by consultants on the cost of running such a facility and the Friends Group was confident that there was a business case to support the project.
- They were exploring the installing of a heat pump to reduce the running costs and carbon footprint of such a building.

Sue Amey, District Parks Manager, confirmed that she was responsible for parks and open spaces which included Manor Farm Park. She reported that they had worked well with the Friends Group for many years and was supportive of the project moving forward. She highlighted that any potential project would have to be submitted to a very robust full business case to meet the criteria for potential external funders to secure the external funding.

Nigel Oliver reported that the requested additional funding of £18,260 was for essential works which had grown slightly in terms of scope and due to the need for the use of a lot of scaffold which had raised the cost, albeit the scope of work is the same as previously reported which was re-roofing the building and safeguarding the asset while a business case was developed.

Rajesh Parmar, Legal Services confirmed that any disposal of the site by way of a lease would have to be agreed by Full Council and the recommendation would only be made if there was a full business case which fully supported the proposal. Also, that it would be the interests of the Council as trustee and the Friends Group, in order to ensure that the project has a long-term future and the investment is not lost.

Following a question from Rajesh Parmar regarding the request for a “letter of intent” from the Committee, John Stewart explained that having been in contact with funding organisations regarding possible grants and loans in order to undertake some of the work, this was required from the Committee to indicate that there was an agreement in principle for the Friends Group to take over the asset

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on a long-term lease subject to the necessary consents and approvals being in place.

Following comments from the Chair and Members regarding funding issues, John Stewart stated that although aware of some funding available from the insurance funds and Section 106 money, they would be looking to make up the balance from third party grants and other investments.

He referred to the various ways in which they were looking to reduce costs which included; discussion with architects suggesting that work could be brought in at a lower cost and the installation of a heat pump that would attract revenue which they would be looking to explore.

The Chair put the following additional recommendation to the Committee:

- That the Committee writes a letter to the Friends of Manor Park in support of their application subject to a full decision being made by the full Council in due course along with the full business case for them to consider.

Upon being put to a vote and it was unanimously agreed:

The Chair put the following recommendations to the Committee and upon being put to a vote they were unanimously agreed:

1076

RESOLVED:-

The Trust and Charity Committee notes and approves:

- 2.1 That a letter being sent to the Friends of Manor Park in support of their application subject to a full decision being made by Full Council in due course along with the full business case being presented to them to consider.
- 2.2 that it continues to support the actions proposed by the Friends of Manor Farm Park set out in appendix 1;
- 2.3 that the provision of additional funds be approved in the sum of £18,260 to meet the full cost now assessed for the re-roofing of the Lodge noting that the funds will be drawn again from the insurance monies received following the destruction of the George Cadbury Barn;
- 2.4 notes that the Council through the Assistant Director of Property working with Acivico and Corporate Procurement Services will award the tender to undertake the works as set out within appendix 2;
- 2.5 authorises the City Solicitor to prepare, negotiate, execute, seal and complete all necessary legal documentation to give effect to the above decisions.

VICTORIA COMMON – INTRODUCTION OF CAR PARKING CHARGES

The following report of the Assistant Director – Street Scene was submitted:

(See document No. 2)

Matt Hageney, Partnership Manager, Parks, provided a comprehensive breakdown of the report and appendices which included responses to Members' comments previously raised.

In response to Members comments the following points were captured:

- Appendix 5 – business rates to be included/prudential borrowing cost amended
- Councillor Olly Armstrong's feedback was noted in the ward member responses whereby there had been a number of meetings with him and he was supportive of the scheme, as long as he could see the benefits that it brought in terms of the money being reinvested into the park, as well as addressing some of the issues.
- It was confirmed that officers had met with the Library staff and had consulted with them. It was highlighted that the car park was not large and if spaces were assigned to the library staff this could be open to abuse. They had tried to explore alternative parking options for the staff.
- Consultation invitations to ward councillors, stakeholders (local businesses/Grosvenor Shopping Centre – although keen to hear their views, no responses received.

Sue Amey, District Parks Manager, reported that the survey for the car park had been undertaken over the last year and there had been a great deal of feedback. It was highlighted that the main usage of the car park was not due to people visiting the park but mainly shop owners based in the High Street.

She stated that library staff using the car park would be charged 50p for the first hour and reported that often library staff during the day moved from one area to another and therefore were not there for the whole day, adding that they had tried to come up with a workable solution for the staff.

Matt Hageney reported on the proposed traffic regulation order that would be in place before charging takes place and that they would be in touch with the enforcement team to set out a schedule of enforcement for the site and surrounding roads.

He highlighted that as part of the discussions with Committee they were looking at existing traffic issues surrounding the park and suggestions put forward by residents will be discussed with the Highways Engineer in order to look for the best solution. He added that they will be linking with the Highways Engineer and use their expertise to determine the extent of restrictions and then consult with the public as part of the formal consultation before any restrictions were to go forward.

Councillor David Pears made reference to the lack of information relating to the costing of traffic regulation orders and the need for enforcement around schools to reduce the risk to children and as result of this, subsequently make known that he did not support the recommendations in the report.

Matt Hageney reported that within Appendix 5 of the report the costing for the two traffic regulation orders was £15,000 which was one for the parking places and one for the surrounding roads. He added that the enforcement team will ensure that the enforcement and restrictions are in place at the time of going live and they will be on site for the scheme and the surrounding roads.

Matt Hageney referred to the consultation relating to the traffic regulation orders and stated that they could only formally consult on any proposed restrictions on surrounding roads. He added that if permission was given by the Committee, then they would link with the Highways Engineer to draw up proposals and then present them as part of the consultation which would be a formal consultation to the residents, of the surrounding roads.

Matt Hageney briefly explained the difference between an experimental traffic regulation order and a permanent traffic regulation order. He highlighted that with an experimental order provides flexibility to modify any restrictions within a twelve-month period based on residents' feedback. If after twelve-months there were no objections to them then they become permanent. He added that it was difficult to consult on something formally when there was not any input from the Highways Engineer or any real ideas from residents.

He highlighted that with the initial findings from the public consultation was the start as a first draft as a building block for restrictions going forward. He stated that the thought process behind this was that they wanted residents and park users support and from the informal consultation, it indicated that park users and residents were in support of charging, as long, as there were restrictions on surrounding roads protecting their properties but also the income derived would return to the park.

In response to a request from Councillor Mike Sharpe for four designated parking spaces for library staff, Matt agreed to explore the possibility.

The Chair put the recommendations to the Committee:

Upon being put to a vote it was 3 in favour and 2 against, therefore it was carried.

It was

1077 **RESOLVED:-**

The Trust and Charities Committee:

- 2.1 Notes that approval was given by the Committee to a report introducing charges for car parking at Cannon Hill Park in trust on 1 March 2017 and that the Business Case appended to the report 'Introduction of Charges for Car Parking in Major City Parks – The Place Directorate' included proposals for the rolling out of charges elsewhere including Victoria Common.

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- 2.2 Now approves the introduction of car parking charges at Victoria Common in line with the Full Business Case (in so far as it affects Victoria Common) taking the following into account:
- all revenue derived from car parking charges at Victoria Common will be used to offset the costs of maintaining Victoria Common;
 - any surplus revenue generated (over and above the total annual costs for Victoria Common), will be returned to the Trust and earmarked for Victoria Common;
 - the Parks Service will consult with the Trust about the use of surplus revenue for the future improvements to Victoria Common; the Parks Service will provide regular updates to the Trust on any such improvements;
 - undertaking any further consultation and obtaining all other approvals and consents, required to implement the scheme.
- 2.3 approved Birmingham City Council to undertake the proposed Works estimated at £0.07m to improve the security, layout and facilities at Victoria Common as detailed in Appendix 5, as well as ongoing maintenance of the car park and carriageway
- 2.4 delegates to the Assistant Director of Property authority to negotiate any agreements required to facilitate the proposals at 2.2 and 2.3 above, provided that all appropriate restrictions are included in the terms to the property safeguard at all times the interests of the Council acting as Sole Trustee
- 2.5 authorised the City Solicitor to make any further applications necessary for appropriate powers or approvals from the Charity Commission or other party or body as appropriate and to then prepare, negotiate, execute, seal and complete all necessary legal documentation to give effect to the above recommendations
- 2.6 notes the Highways Department of BCC will introduce an off-street Traffic Regulation Order to enable the introduction of parking charges at Victoria Common. The Traffic Regulation Order will be in place prior to the introduction of charges.

SMALL HEATH PARK – INSTALLATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE MONUMENT

The following report of the of the Assistant Director – Street Scene was submitted:

(See document No. 3)

Nigel Oliver, Birmingham Property Services, made introductory comments to the report.

Muhammad Zulqar Nain, Deputy High Commissioner reported on the design of the monument to commemorate international languages within Small Heath Park.

It was noted that the monument was based on the Shahid Minar which was erected in other parts of the world in commemoration of the International Mother Language Movement, which is an annual event that takes place on 21 February annually. The event commemorates in 1952 when students in Dhaka demonstrated on mass for the recognition of Bengali as their national language. The event is an opportunity to pay respects to those who lost their lives and to promote the freedom to speak one's mother tongue, peace and cultural diversity.

Muhammad Zulqar Nain referred to the Planning Application being submitted to Planning Committee on 30 January 2020 for the installation of the monument. He reported on the contribution of funding that had been received in the region of £40,000 and confirmed that once planning approval was obtained, believed that more communities and organisations would make financial contributions and that the ball park cost would be in region of £120,000. He referred to the planting of trees and confirmed that they would be looking to plant 20 trees.

He confirmed that Small Heath Park had been chosen due to the local communities that lived nearby and were supportive of the project. He added that the project had been presented to the Public Arts Group whereby they approved of the concept. He referred to the height of the monument suggesting that it should be in the region of 6 or 7 metres as it would be accommodating many languages.

Nigel Oliver confirmed that the height of the monument was yet to be decided by the Planning Department.

Muhammad Zulqar Nain referred to the engagement that had taken place with local councillors and various local communities and support had been received from Jess Phillips, MP.

He referred to the maintenance of the monument and explained that there would be a maintenance plan in place and there would be volunteers to check whether the work was being carried out.

Councillor Mike Sharpe highlighted the importance of engaging with all the communities within the neighbouring areas.

Muhammad Zulqar Nain confirmed that they had engaged with the Friends of the Park which was a representation of local communities.

Sue Amey, District Parks Manager, suggested that while supporting the project in principle subject to certain provisos to include a robust public consultation document, demonstrating the wider support for the scheme essentially for it going forward. She added that if it was successful and the monument was put in place then most possibly there would be public support with the maintenance.

Rajesh Parmar, Legal Services stated that further clarification on the ongoing maintenance was required as although maintenance would be undertaken by the organisation promoting the project, there would be the need for formal arrangements to be in place with the Parks Department because for any reason

the maintenance ceased, there needed to be an assurance that the Council would step in and maintain the monument for the foreseeable future.

Rajesh Parmar questioned whether there was a contingency budget in place to cover any financial issues associated with the monument that could be quite costly in the future or would there be a reliance on the City Council to provide support.

Muhammad Zulqar Nain stated that they would continue to be pro-active in raising funds to support the monument.

Rajesh Parmar questioned whether the Parks Department could provide assurance to the Trust that the long-term maintenance would be met by the organisation promoting it, or by the City Council, in order that there would be no financial impact on the trust in moving forward and whether that would be formulated in an agreement.

Sue Amey stated that based on past experiences, she would expect suitable assurances to be in place and some form of an agreement in terms of an exit strategy and what the outcome would look like if for whatever reason the group decided to walk away. She added that she was unable to comment on the discussions that had taken place so far as she had not been party to them. She further added that if the project was successful the Council would be looking for an agreed schedule of works regarding maintenance.

A general discussion ensued whereby Members expressed the need to question the relevant Parks Manager and to be made available to them the live Planning Application in order that a more informed decision could be made.

Rajesh Parmar referred to the recommendations within the report and stated that not all could be considered today.

He confirmed that a formal decision would have to go to the Council as Trustee by which time there was a need to see if Members were recommending that this project goes forward. If it goes to full Council as Trustee there would be the requirement to see the full Planning Application which hopefully would be approved.

There would also be the need for information from the local Parks Manager in order to ascertain the impact the monument would have and there should be formal arrangements in place to ensure such maintenance requirements are covered in the long-term, and a commitment given by the City Council, that they would take over should the promoting organisation be unable to maintain those maintenance obligations.

He therefore reported that only recommendations 2.1 and 2.2 to be considered at this stage if Members were minded to approve:

It was

1078

RESOLVED:-

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The Trust and Charities Committee:

- (2.1) Were in favour of the proposal, subject to: the satisfactory resolution of the planning application, the on-going consultation and assurance as to the future maintenance so as to enable the erection and dedication of the monument on land in Small Heath Park
- (2.1a) That the Parks Manager, Small Heath Park be requested to attend the next meeting to provide additional background information, and for details of the Planning Application be made available to the Committee, and
- (2.2) As soon as the above outstanding matters are properly resolved to advance the recommendation of the Trusts and Charities Committee to the next available meeting of the Council as Trustee for approval, if required.

Recommendations 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 be deferred.

BARTLEY GREEN LIBRARY – GRANT OF LEASE

The following report of the Integrated Service Head – Libraries was submitted:

(See document No. 4)

Nigel Oliver, Birmingham Property Services, made introductory comments to the report.

In response to Councillor David Pears comments' relating to the leases, Nigel reported that purpose of the report was for the Trust to be set up with sufficient powers in order to grant longer leases.

It was

1079 **RESOLVED:-**

The Trust and Charities Committee authorised:

- 2.1 That applications made to the Charity Commission to obtain either an Order or Scheme for the better management of the trust assets including a power of disposal including the disposal by way of a lease for up to 30 years;
- 2.2 from an early date to be agreed, the grant of a tenancy of up to three years to the 'Bartley Green Library Hub', a local community organisation, who will assist in the operation of the Library;
- 2.3 that the recommendation of the Trust and Charities Committee be advanced to the next available meeting of the Council as Trustee for approval;
- 2.4 delegates to the Assistant Director of Property authority to secure appropriate valuation and marketing advice in line with statutory

requirements of the Charities Act 2011 for the disposal of the property and negotiate the terms of any disposal.

STIRCHLEY LIBRARY – GRANT OF LEASE

The following report of the Integrated Service Head – Libraries was submitted:-

(See document No. 5)

Nigel Oliver, Birmingham Property Services, made introductory comments to the report.

At the request of Councillor Mike Sharpe, Liz Parkes, District Manager, Community Libraries, reported on the new operating model that the Community Library Service had moved to in April 2017.

She highlighted that the service had to become more innovative and needed to be more community driven and subsequently referred to the support received by the Friends Groups and other community groups in Stirchley and Bartley Green in supporting the library service. She stated that community libraries worked very well as they were one of the few places that were left out in the communities and it was a welcoming environment for people to visit and access digital as well as council services. She added that by working with the different organisations within the library they were now able to provide a service 7 days a week and was fully supportive of the way the service had developed over time.

She confirmed that books were still a very major provision in the library and subsequently explained the reservation system across the service and highlighted that they still had over a 1m issues of books per year.

Rajesh Parmar referred to paragraph 4.4 of the report – Stirchley Art Room CIC and questioned why they were applying for a lease on the first floor and would they be paying a commercial rent.

Liz Parkes responded by referring to the poor condition of the first-floor rooms which had not been used by the library for a long period of time and subsequently referred to the work undertaken by the group to improve the rooms.

Regarding the group being charged a commercial rent, she confirmed that there was the need to enter into a conversation with the group however they were applying for funding to refurbish the first-floor area and hoped that this would be seen as some sort of offset.

She confirmed that the access to that part of the building was separate to the main public access. She highlighted that there was a staircase whereby Stirchley had been successful in obtaining a lottery grant, and a feasibility study was being undertaken to look at the access to the area and the best uses for the first-floor space.

She advised that Councillor Mary Locke was most supportive of the art room and while the group were helping by allowing the library to open more hours and

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therefore not only was the first floor being utilised, but also the ground floor which was enabling further library access as well.

Rajesh Parmar reported that initially the recommendation was for the grant of a three-year lease and then for a longer lease there would be consent from the Charity Commission required.

He therefore questioned whether Members were comfortable with a three-year lease and then for that recommendation to be considered at full Council for approval of that disposal. He stated that then sometime in the future, there would be another report once the powers were there and a further report would go to full Council regarding a long-term disposal.

It was

1080

RESOLVED:-

The Trust and Charities Committee authorised:

- 2.1 That applications made to the Charity Commission to obtain either an Order or Scheme for the better management of the trust assets including a power of disposal including the disposal by way of a lease for up to 30 years;
- 2.2 from an early date to be agreed, the grant of a tenancy of up to three years to the 'Stirchley Art Room CIC', a local community organisation, who will assist in the operation of the Library;
- 2.3 that the recommendation of the Trust and Charities Committee be advanced to the next available meeting of the Council as Trustee for approval;
- 2.4 delegates to the Assistant Director of Property authority to secure appropriate valuation and marketing advice in line with statutory requirements of the Charities Act 2011 for the disposal of the property and negotiate the terms of any disposal.

YOUNG ACTIVE TRAVEL TRUST GRANTS

The following report of the Assistant Director – Transport and Connectivity be submitted:-

(See document No. 6)

Paul Ruffle, Senior Travel Demand Management Officer presented the report and specifically referred to paragraph 4.3 of the report detailing the criteria against which applications for funding would be assessed.

He subsequently presented to Committee the three applications for consideration which were:

Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School	Bicycle Shed	£ 1,000
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Moseley School & 6 th Form	Residential/Parent Awareness campaign	1,000
Oasis Academy Hobmoor School	Scooterbility	1,000

Councillor David Pears expressed the excellent work and wished that there were more schools participating.

Paul Ruffle stated that in previous meetings, Members had requested visits and suggested that they liaise with the Committee Manager regarding the schools they would like to visit and he would endeavour to make the necessary arrangements.

It was

1081 **RESOLVED:-**

The Trust and Charities Committee:

- (i) approved the applications for funding from the schools listed at point 4.6 below, totalling £3,000.00, and
- (ii) noted the remaining balances available to the Young Active Travel in Birmingham Charitable Trust for future disbursement.

HIGHBURY TRUST ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2018/19

The following report of the Chief Financial Officer was submitted:

(See document No. 7)

Graham Arrand, Senior Business Analyst, Finance made introductory comments to the report.

Nigel Oliver reported that the normal cycle for valuations being undertaken on the property was between 5 to 7 years. He confirmed they had now got instruction for the valuation to be undertaken which would be carried out by external agents, adding that they were looking to check out authority levels to see whether this could be achieved quicker and cheaper internally.

It was

1082 **RESOLVED:-**

The Trust and Charities Committee:

- 2.1 Acted on behalf of the Trustee, Birmingham City Council (BCC) approved the Annual Report and Accounts for 2018/19.

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- 2.2 Acted on behalf of the Sole Corporate Trustee authorised officers in Corporate Finance to submit all appropriate and necessary documentation to the Charity Commission in respect of recommendation 2.1.
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ALDERSON TRUST ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2018/19

The following report of the Chief Financial Officer was submitted:

(See document No. 8)

Graham Arrand, Senior Business Analyst, Finance made introductory comments to the report.

It was

1083 RESOLVED:-

The Trust and Charities Committee:

- 2.1 Acted on behalf of the Trustee, Birmingham City Council (BCC) and noted the Annual Report and Accounts for 2018/19.
- 2.2 Authorised officers in Corporate Finance to submit all appropriate and necessary documentation to the Charity Commission in respect of recommendation 2.1.
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ELFORD ESTATE CHARITY REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2018/19

The following report of the Chief Financial Officer was submitted:

(See document No. 9)

Graham Arrand, Senior Business Analyst, Finance provided a comprehensive breakdown of the report and accounts.

In response to Councillor David Pears' comment relating to Debtors (77) and whether it was long-term whereupon Graham agreed to investigate.

It was

1084 RESOLVED:-

The Trust and Charities Committee:

- 2.1 The Trust and Charities Committee acted on behalf of the Trustee, Birmingham City Council (BCC) approved the Annual Report and Accounts for 2018/19.
- 2.2 The Trust and Charities Committee acted on behalf of the Sole Corporate Trustee authorised officers in Corporate Finance to submit all appropriate and

necessary documentation to the Charity Commission in respect of recommendation 2.1.

CHAIRS ACTION - Highbury Essential Works – Additional Trust Funds, Matchfunding Historic England Award

The following report of the Assistant Director of Property was submitted:

(See document No. 10)

Nigel Oliver, Birmingham Property Services, reported to the Committee to approve the actions undertaken by the Chairman between meetings to provide additional funds for the repair at Highbury.

It was noted that the additional funds were required to match-fund a proposed additional fund offered to the Trust by Historic England and the top up was required, due to the cost of the works which was continuing to increase as areas were uncovered within the building.

It was reported that Historic England had asked the Trust to fund £20,000 which would secure the total of £244,000. This was considered a reasonable request to provide additionality to the works and would allow them to move forward.

The works were still subject to sign off - but the contract was now ready to be signed. With the Chairman's action it was a way forward to sufficiently raise the contract.

It was

1085 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Trust and Charities Committee approved the following actions taken by the Chairman (under Chairman's Action):

Decision – That the Chairman

- 2.1 Agreed that £20,000 from the Highbury Trust unrestricted funds can be used as match-funding to secure the award of funds from Historic England.
 - 2.2 Agreed that the award of funds from Historic England of £244,148 be accepted.
 - 2.3 That the negotiation of the terms for the Award be delegated to the Assistant Director of Property working with Acivico and Procurement to award the tender and undertake the works at Highbury.
 - 2.4 Authorised the City Solicitor to prepare, negotiate, execute, seal and complete all necessary legal documentation to give effect to the above decisions.
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CALTHORPE PARK – LEASE OF PLAY CENTRE FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY PURPOSES

The following report of the Assistant Director – Neighbourhoods was submitted:

(See document No. 11)

Nigel Oliver, Birmingham Property Services, confirmed that the report had been submitted to the previous committee meeting and subsequently apologised for the error in the report which referred to the 'Active Wellbeing Society' and should have referred to the 'Health and Wellbeing Service' of the City Council.

He confirmed that it did not change the request of the report which was to gain powers for the Trust, but the material change, this was agreed with the service that it would be corrected at the next available opportunity re-presenting the report with the correct service occupant.

The service occupant has confirmed that they were supportive of the changes being proposed which would enable leases to be granted to local voluntary groups and will continue to safeguard the property by occupation until those leases were able to be made.

It was

1086 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Trust and Charities Committee:

- (i) That approval of the recommendations of the report had been agreed at the Trust and Charities Committee meeting dated 13 November 2019 and;
- (ii) That the updated information relating to the error in the report with 'Active Wellbeing Society' being replaced with the 'Health and Wellbeing Service' of the City Council had been noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 1087 The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 18 March 2020 at 1030 hours in Committee Room 2, Council House.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

- 1088 There was no other urgent business raised.
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AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

1089 **RESOLVED:-**

The Chairman moved that:-

“In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chairman jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.”

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

1090 **RESOLVED:-**

That in view of the nature of the business to be transacted which includes exempt information of the category indicated the public be now excluded from the meeting:-

Private Minutes of the last meeting – Exempt paragraph 3
