

# BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

<b>TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE 2 DECEMBER 2020</b>
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2020  
AT 1030 HOURS AS AN ON-LINE MEETING**

**PRESENT:-** Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed in the Chair;

Councillors Adrian Delaney, Shabrana Hussain, Mohammed Idrees and David Pears.

**ALSO PRESENT:-**

Nigel Oliver – Birmingham Property Services  
Graham Arrand – Senior Business Analyst, Finance  
Rajesh Parmar – Legal Services  
Paul Ruffle – Senior Travel Demand Officer  
Phil Wright – Committee Services

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**NOTICE OF RECORDING**

- 1125 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](http://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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**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 1126 The Chair 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.

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**APOLOGIES**

- 1127 No apologies were submitted.
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**MINUTES**

Councillor David Pears indicated that he had submitted an apology for the last meeting which had not been recorded in the minutes.

1128 **RESOLVED:-**

That, subject to the above correction, the public section of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Trusts and Charities Committee held on 30 October 2020 be noted.

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**MATTERS ARISING**

1129 There were no matters raised.

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**CROPWOOD ESTATE - HUNTERS HILL COLLEGE**

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

(See document No. 1)

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

Nigel Oliver and Rajesh Parmar, Legal Services, responded to comments and questions from Members of the Committee by making the following points:-

- No work had been undertaken to establish the market value of the site and such a valuation would come forward to the Committee in due course.
- The Trust land was being used by the Education Authority to undertake a statutory function and the future of the school was being considered, as part of the wider service, as it was not viable with a reducing roll.
- If closure was agreed it would take place at the end of the current academic year in August 2021 and the land and buildings could be disposed of with any financial gain going back to the Trust to further its objectives.
- The site was split between a vacant building, Cropwood House, and more modern buildings used by the School. The School had been closed whilst repairs had been undertaken but had since reopened.
- Suitable advice for the Trust would be obtained for which no cost had been established but funds were available in the Trust's accounts which may cover such costs.

Councillor Mohammed Idrees proposed, and it was agreed, that officers arrange a Committee site visit to the Cropwood Estate.

It was:

1130

**RESOLVED;-**

(i) That the Committee;-

1. Notes that the Educational Service's formal consultation on the future of Hunters Hill College and continued education provision from this site is underway with an end date of 10th December 2020, and that while no decision has yet been reached it is appropriate for the Trust to consider the potential impact on the trust and its assets and to ensure the Trustees can be properly advised on all possible future options.
2. In compliance with statutory requirements of the Charities Act 2011, instructs the Assistant Director of Property and the City Solicitor to procure appropriate independent external expert property and governance advice and report its findings to the next Committee meeting.
3. Requires the People Directorate to properly safeguard all assets on the site and fully support the processes set out in 2 above.

(ii) That officers arrange a Committee site visit to the Cropwood Estate.

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**YOUNG ACTIVE TRAVEL TRUST GRANTS**

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

(See document No. 2)

Paul Ruffle, Senior Travel Demand Officer, made introductory comments relating to the report.

In response to comments from Councillors David Pears and Shabrana Hussain relating to enforcement outside schools, Paul Ruffle explained that engagement with the local community took place before enforcement outside schools was undertaken by officers and then West Midlands Police who concentrated on the blocking of drives and parking on the pavement.

In response to further questions and comments from Members of the Committee Paul Ruffle explained how schools could apply for funding and the commitments they would have to make before such applications could be agreed. He also explained the promotion of the scheme via a newsletter to schools. He stressed that the schemes to reduce reliance of the use of vehicles to take pupils to school were 'owned' by the schools and their communities.

At the request of the Committee, Paul Ruffle undertook to supply Members of the Committee information on Modeshift STARS scheme and a list of participating schools.

It was:

1131 **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) That the applications for funding from the schools listed at paragraph 4.6 of the report, totalling £3,990, be approved; and
  - (ii) That the remaining balances available to the Young Active Travel in Birmingham Charitable Trust for future disbursement be noted
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**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2020/21 – QUARTER 2 (TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2020)**

The following report of the Chief Financial Officer was submitted:

(See document No. 3)

Graham Arrand, Senior Business Analyst, Finance, made introductory comments relating to the report highlighting the impact of Covid pandemic and in response to a comment from Councillor David Pears about the effect of the pandemic on people and the expectation of an increase in requests for funding from various charities, he explained that there had been two applications at the grant awards panel last time and two for the panel scheduled after the Committee meeting. He added that the panel was trying to support as many organisations as possible.

1132 **RESOLVED:-**

That the latest income and expenditure position of Trusts and Charities as at 30 September 2020 be noted.

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**FUTURE MEETING DATES**

1133 **RESOLVED;-**

That the Committee meet on the following dates:-

Thursday 28 January 2021 at 1030 hours

Thursday 25 March 2021 at 1030 hours

Thursday 22 April 2021 at 1030 hours

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**OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

1134 There was no other urgent business raised.

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**AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

1135 **RESOLVED:-**

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

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**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

1136 **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

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**PRIVATE**

**MINUTES**

1137 **RESOLVED:-**

That private section of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Trusts and Charities Committee held on 30 October 2020 be noted and, subject to the amendment in the public section of the meeting, the minutes as a whole be confirmed and signed.

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**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

1138 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

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**OTHER URGENT BUSINESS (EXEMPT INFORMATION)**

1139 There were no matters of urgent business raised.

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The meeting ended at 1127 hours.

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CHAIRMAN