

Birmingham City Council

Trust and Charities Committee

13th June 2022



Subject: Highbury Estate – Update report from Chamberlain Highbury Trust

Report of: Assistant Director Property

Report author: Nigel Oliver

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :

1 Executive Summary

To update the Committee on activities by Chamberlain Highbury Trust on the Highbury Estate and to seek the award of a further grant to Chamberlain Highbury Trust.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the report from Chamberlain Highbury Trust set out as Appendix 1
- 2.2 To approve a grant of £26840 from the unrestricted funds of the Highbury Estate funds for the expenditure undertaken by Chamberlain Highbury Trust in the financial year 2022/23.

3 Background

- 3.1 The further grant funding is in support of the continuing operations of Chamberlain Highbury Trust in managing the Highbury Estate and in their actions in securing National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) monies.
- 3.2 The Highbury Trust holds the freehold interest of the land in trust as Sole Trustee and is empowered to undertake actions to properly manage the assets of the Trust including the making of awards to support the bids for a refurbishment of Highbury.
- 3.3 The Highbury Estate is held in trust as Registered Charity no 1039194 since 1994. Chamberlain Highbury Trust registered charity no. 1169845 has been set in place to best resolve the governance issues and to manage the Estate and seek external grants to enable the refurbishment of Highbury.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

- 4.1 There is currently no alternative to progressing matters via Chamberlain Highbury Trust as they resolve the former governance issues and represent the best opportunity to win new monies for the Estate. To properly support them financially in the meantime is an appropriate use of Trust funds. To do nothing is not an option.
- 4.2 To best safeguard the asset long term it is appropriate to continue to support Chamberlain Highbury Trust in the financial year 2022/23.

5 Appendices

- 5.1 Appendix 1 Report from Chamberlain Highbury Trust to Trusts and Charities Committee