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EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS

Wednesday 13 April 2016 at 6.00 pm

Committee Room 1 - Epsom Town Hall

The members listed below are summoned to attend the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Committee Members

Councillor Liz Frost (Chairman)

Andrew Cooper, Epsom Downs Racecourse (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Rekha Bansil

Councillor Lucie Dallen

Simon Dow, Horserace Betting Levy Board

Simon Durrant, Epsom Downs Racecourse

Councillor Robert Foote

Councillor Jan Mason

Nigel Whybrow, Epsom Downs Racecourse

Councillor Clive Woodbridge

Yours sincerely

Clerk to the Conservators

For further information, please contact Tim Richardson, 01372 732122 or trichardson@epsom-ewell.gov.uk





AGENDA

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 10)

The Conservators are asked to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Conservators' Meeting held on 20 January 2016 (attached) and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

2. ITEMS OF INTEREST DISCUSSED BY THE TRAINING GROUNDS MANAGEMENT BOARD (TGMB) (Pages 11 - 12)

This report provides the Conservators with an update on items considered by the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST (Pages 13 - 16)

The Conservators are asked to note the current situation on issues raised previously and other items of interest.

4. **REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER** (Pages 17 - 18)

To receive the report of the Head Downskeeper.

5. HACK SAND TRACK, FOOT OF WALTON DOWNS

REPORT TO FOLLOW.

6. SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO ERECT ADVANCE WARNING SIGNS ON ASHLEY ROAD (Pages 19 - 22)

This report presents a request from Surrey County Council to erect new advance warning signs on Ashley Road near to the Equestrian crossing.

7. EPSOM GOLF CLUB - PROPOSAL FOR STEPS NEAR 16TH GREEN (Pages 23 - 28)

This report presents a request from Epsom Golf Club to erect a new set of steps leading from the 16th Green.

8. **PROPOSED EVENTS ON THE DOWNS** (Pages 29 - 40)

This report provides details of event requests for consideration by the Conservators.

9. EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 41 - 48)

To consider any issues arising from the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 9 March 2016.

10. OUTSTANDING REFERENCES (Pages 49 - 52)

This report lists references to Officers outstanding as at 13 April 2016.

11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Under Section 1 Paragraph (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Conservators may pass a resolution to exclude the public from the Meeting for Part Two of the Agenda on the grounds that publicity of the business would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings. This Section of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 applies to meetings of the Conservators by virtue of section 8(7) of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984.

12. EPSOM GOLF CLUB UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT

REPORT TO FOLLOW

This report will not be published because the meeting is likely to be closed to the press and public in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted/nature of the proceedings and/or for other special reasons.



Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS held on 20 January 2016

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (Chairman); Andrew Cooper (Epsom Downs Racecourse) (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Rekha Bansil, Councillor Lucie Dallen, Simon Durrant (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Councillor Robert Foote, Nigel Whybrow (Epsom Downs Racecourse) and Councillor Clive Woodbridge

In Attendance:

Absent: Simon Dow (Horserace Betting Levy Board) and Councillor Jan Mason

Officers present: Kathryn Beldon (Director of Finance and Resources), Sam Beak (Downs Manager), Bob Harding (Head Downskeeper), Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Officer), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager) and Simon Young (Head of Legal and Democratic Services)

23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators held on 7 October 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24 ITEMS OF INTEREST DISCUSSED BY THE TRAINING GROUNDS MANAGEMENT BOARD (TGMB)

The Conservators received a report providing an update on items considered by the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB). The following matters were considered:

- a) <u>Hatched area at the foot of Walton Downs</u>. The Conservators noted that the TGMB had considered that it had no reason to change its stance with regard to the Hatched Area, and had reconfirmed that it could not authorise the use of the Hatched Area for hack riding.
- b) Control of Dog walking. The Conservators were informed that a press release had been issued with regard to the control of dogs on the Downs, and that the issue had generated a significant amount of comment on Facebook. The Chairman and Nick Patton (Jockey Club Estates Training Ground Manager) had spoken on local radio regarding the need for dogs to be held on leads prior to noon daily.

Some media coverage had not recognised that the Downs was privately owned land, or that the restriction requiring dogs to be held on leads was only until noon daily. The Conservators noted that these key pieces of information would be reinforced through further communications.

The Head Downskeeper informed the Conservators that the Downskeepers were already informing Downs visitors of the requirement to hold dogs on leads and that a 'soft' approach was being taken to the matter. If repeat offences continued in the future, the possiblity of taking action under the Byelaws remained open to the Conservators.

In response to a question, the Conservators were informed that the local trainers' code of conduct required riders using the Downs to wear fluorescent jackets. There was general adherence to this, and they also commonly used flashing lights, to increase their visibility to other Downs users.

c) <u>Extension of Polytrack</u>. The TGMB intended to extend the Polytrack on Walton Downs to the full length for which it had been granted planning permission (an additional 1.5 furlongs). It hoped to undertake this work in March/April 2016.

25 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- a) Warning signs near traffic lights for the horse crossing in front of the Queens Stand. The Conservators were informed that the Training Grounds Management Board had approved a budget of £1,200 for the introduction of warning signs near the traffic lights.
- b) Access to the Tattenham Corner Road Crossing for pedestrians walking from Tattenham Corner Station. The Conservators considered comments on the pedestrian access in the area made by Surrey County Council Highways Service and noted that the location did not have a history of incidents or accidents. Following consideration, the Conservators did not identify any further action which they wished to pursue with regard to the crossing.
- <u>Dog control on the Downs</u>. Consideration of this matter was made under item 2 of the Agenda (Items of interest discussed by the Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB))
- d) <u>Combined Habitat Management Plan for the Downs</u>. The Conservators were informed that Peter Howarth, a Countryside Officer for the Borough Council had been commissioned to undertake a review of the Habitat Management Plan for Epsom Golf Club, and combine it with the Habitat Management Plan for the Downs. This would be undertaken later in the year once the weather had improved.

- e) <u>Satisfaction of the Highways Authority to works to the surface of Walton Road</u>. The Conservators noted that the Highways Authority representative had commented that it was satisfied with the works undertaken to the surface of Walton Road by the TGMB, and happy for the road hump to remain in place.
- f) The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon. The Streetcare Manager informed the Conservators that an invitation to host a Beacon on 21 April 2016 had been received from the Pageant Master for the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations.

The Conservators were informed that if it were agreed to host a beacon for the event, a gas fuelled beacon would be utilised, rather than one made from wood. This would remove several of the difficulties encountered when planning for the Queen's Golden Jubilee beacon in 2012. It was noted that the logistical arrangements for such an event would be managed by the Council's Operational Services Division.

The Conservators expressed support for the event in principle, and requested that more detailed information be provided to the Conservators and Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee for consideration prior to its approval by the Chairman and the Clerk to the Conservators.

26 REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

The Conservators received and noted the report of the Head Downskeeper, which detailed recent events and works on the Downs.

27 REVIEW OF FEES & CHARGES FOR EVENTS ON THE DOWNS

The Conservators received a report providing a review of the fees and charges for events on the Downs, and proposing amendments to the Fees and Charges Policy.

The Downs Manager informed the Conservators that the report did not propose an increase to the charges for events on the Downs, as the majority of events were held for charitable purposes, and if an increase was made, it would likely discourage the organisers from holding them at all.

Following consideration, the Conservators approved the changes to the Fees and Charges Policy, as detailed in section 2 and the Annexe to the report.

28 CHANGES TO THE PROCEDURE FOR ISSUING METAL DETECTING LICENCES ON EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS

The Conservators received a report detailing a new procedure for the issue of metal detecting licenses on the Downs, and reviewing the charge for such licences.

The following matters were considered:

- Number of permits available. The Conservators were informed that all 20 permits for 2016 had been purchased within 2 hours of being made available, and that if further licenses had been available, these would have been purchased also. The Conservators considered the potential to increase the number of licenses from 20, and noted that whilst a large increase in the number of licenses would also increase concerns that the condition of the Downs could be damaged by inappropriate digging, a small increase would likely not create any problems. The Downskeepers monitored activity by people metal detecting on the Downs, and would be able to continue to do so if there was a small increase in the number of licences issued. The Conservators considered that an increase of 5 licences would be appropriate, but should be reviewed in October 2016 to consider any issues which had arisen as a result.
- Management of inappropriate digging. The Conservators considered that Metal Detectors using the Downs should be informed that if they dug in areas not permitted by their licence, their licence would be revoked. Officers were requested to review the wording of the licence to this effect.
- <u>Price of Licences</u>. The Conservators considered and supported the proposed increase in price of the Metal Detecting Licenses to £40 from January 2017.

The Conservators also discussed the potential for a future annual £5 increase in the cost of the Licence. Future increases in the price of the Metal Detecting Licence would be considered when the Licenses were next reviewed.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the changes to the procedure for issuing metal detecting licences as detailed in Annexe 1 to the report;
- (2) Agreed to increase the fee per Metal Detecting Licence to £40 for the 2017 calendar year;
- (3) Agreed to increase the maximum number of Metal Detecting Licences available to 25 with immediate effect, subject to a review of the number of licences being presented to the October 2016 meeting of the Conservators.
- (4) Requested Officers to review the wording of the Licenses, and amend it if necessary to make it clear that they would be revoked if the licence holder dug in non-permitted areas.

29 BUDGET 2016-17

The Conservators received a report seeking approval to the 2016/17 budget and to the amounts to be recovered from the constituent bodies.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

(1) Agreed the budget for 2016/17 as set out in Annexe 1 to the report, with a request for a 4% increase in precept from the constituent bodies as follows:-

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council: £222,770

Epsom Downs Racecourse: £111,380

Epsom and Walton Downs Training Board: £37,130

30 EPSOM DOWNS RACING SEASON 2016

The Conservators received a report informing them of the dates for race meetings in 2016 and presenting a request from Epsom Downs Racecourse for extensions to the periods permitted for fencing.

Simon Durrant informed the meeting that an evening music event would be held at the Racecourse following the racing on 30 June 2016, and that details of the event would be publicised within the next two weeks.

The Conservators noted that the extensions requested were the same as those granted in 2015. Simon Durrant informed the meeting that the extensions were necessary as the preparation and dismantling periods permitted by the Epsom and Walton Regulation Act 1984 did not overlap in the current calendar year, as they did in some years. Simon Durrant also informed the Conservators that the fencing for the Lonsdale Enclosure would include an entrance and an exit at all times, to enable its use as a hack riding area under the Act.

The Conservators noted the information contained within sections 7 and 8 of the report (relating to previous decisions and legal clarification), and following consideration:

- (1) Noted the dates of the 2016 racing season for Epsom Downs;
- (2) Granted consent under the Byelaws for the Downs for the start of the fencing period for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure and Lonsdale Enclosure to be brought forward to 16 May 2016, an extension of 4 days;
- (3) Granted consent under the Byelaws for the Downs to the extension of the fencing period for the Lonsdale Enclosure to 15 June 2016, an extension of 1 day;
- (4) Granted consent under the Byelaws for the Downs to the extension of the fencing period for the Lonsdale Enclosure to enable fencing to remain in place between the dates of 8 -14 August 2016, an extension of 7 days.

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31 HACK SAND TRACK, FOOT OF WALTON DOWNS

The Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services apologised that it had not been possible to provide a report regarding this matter to this meeting of the Conservators. A full written report would be presented to the next meeting, on 13 April 2016.

32 EPSOM GOLF CLUB UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT

The Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services apologised that it had not been possible to provide a report regarding this matter to this meeting of the Conservators. A full written report would be presented to the next meeting, on 13 April 2016.

33 OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

The Conservators received and noted the position of their outstanding references to officers.

The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.55 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIRMAN)

ITEMS OF INTEREST DISCUSSED BY THE TRAINING GROUNDS MANAGEMENT BOARD (TGMB)

Report of the: Chairman of the Conservators

<u>Contact:</u> Tim Richardson

Annexes/Appendices (attached): None

Other available papers (not

attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the Conservators with an update on items considered by the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board.

1 Items considered by the Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB)

- 1.1 The TGMB last met on 22 February 2016. The Chairman of the Conservators and Training Grounds Manager (Mr Nigel Whybrow) have provided the following report on items considered by the Board, for the Conservators' information.
 - 1.1.1 <u>Hatched area at the foot of Walton Downs</u>. The TGMB considered that it had no reason to change its current stance with regard to the Hatched Area, and reconfirmed that it could not authorise the use of the Hatched Area for hack riding.

The comments of the Hack Rider Representative with regard to the use of the Hatched Area (made at the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee on 9 March - see Item 09 of this agenda) will be reported to the next meeting of the TGMB for its consideration.

- 1.1.2 <u>Dogs on leads</u>. The TGMB were pleased to hear that the feedback regarding dogs on leads was so positive and would like to thank the Conservators, Downs Keepers and Rangers for their help and support as well as the public for their co-operation.
- 1.1.3 **Poly track extension.** The contractors arrived on site on 21 March and works are expected to take approximately 5 weeks to complete.
- 1.1.4 <u>Trainers' news.</u> Ralph (Jack) Smith who used to train at Epsom a few years ago (but moved away) has now returned to the Downs to train, and is renting Little Woodruffe Stables on Headley Road.

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MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS & OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Report of the: Clerk to the Conservators

Contact: Tim Richardson

<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached): None
Other available papers (not None

attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

The Conservators are asked to note the current situation on issues raised previously and other items of interest.

1 Dog Control on the Downs – Minute 24 b)

- 1.1 A verbal update on progress with dog control on the Downs will be provided by the Streetcare Manager at the meeting.
- 1.2 Additionally, the Chairman has received correspondence from a local resident who visits the Downs regularly to walk dogs. The resident highlighted that the new dog walking signs request dogs to be held on a lead until 12.00 on Sundays, whilst racehorse training finishes at 9.30am. The resident also highlighted that this contradicted some old signs already on the Downs. The resident suggested that the requirement to hold dogs on leads until 12.00 would deter some walkers from visiting the Downs, and requested that this matter be considered by the Conservators. The Conservators' views on this matter are requested.

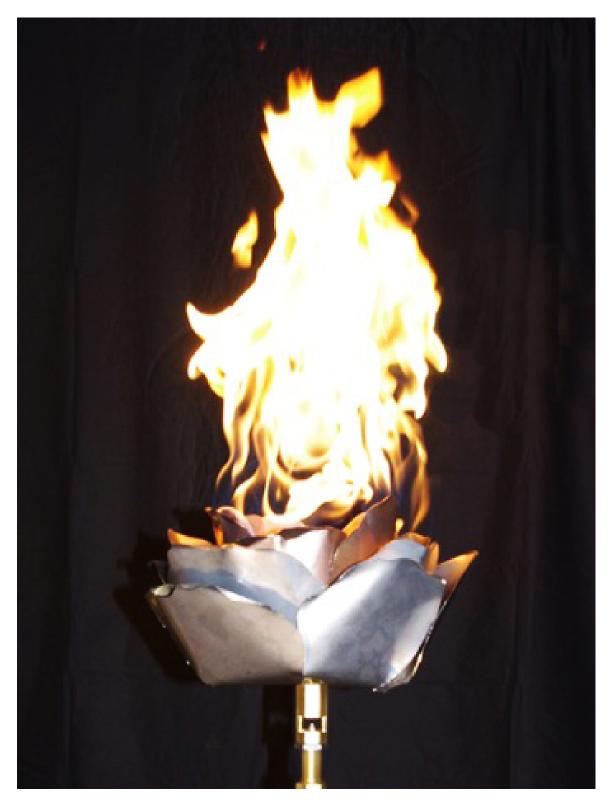
2 The Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon – Minute 25 f)

- 2.1 At the last meeting, the Conservators expressed support for the proposal to hold a Beacon lighting event in celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday on 21 April 2016, and requested that the views of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee be sought prior to the event being approved by the Chairman and Clerk to the Conservators.
- 2.2 The Consultative Committee did not identify any concerns with regard to the event when it considered the proposal at its last meeting, held on 9 March 2016.
- 2.3 Officers are in the process of confirming arrangements for the event, and Epsom & Ewell Borough Council has purchased a commemorative gas fuelled Beacon. An image of this is attached at <u>Annexe 1</u> for the Conservators' information.

3 Replacement of steel posts at access points to the Downs

- 3.1 On 19 December 2015 there was an incident involving a loose racehorse colliding with a metal RSJ post on Epsom Downs. Although there was no fatality, the horse involved sustained some significant injuries and was subsequently out of training for a period of time.
- 3.2 Following the accident, a number of representatives from the Racecourse, TGMB and Epsom and Ewell Borough Council (EEBC) met to explore the options in order to ensure this wouldn't happen again. It was agreed that the best course of action was to remove the metal RSJs and replace them with wooden posts. Having assessed the area it was also agreed that a metal gate would be replaced with a plastic PVC gate. The cost of the works would be split 3-ways between the Racecourse, the TGMB and EEBC. This funding has been identified from existing budgets.
- 3.3 A verbal update on the progress of this work will be given at the meeting.

Queen's 90th Birthday Beacon



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REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

Report of the: Head Downskeeper

Contact: Robert Harding

<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached): None Other available papers (not attached): N/A

REPORT SUMMARY

To receive the report of the Head Downskeeper.

1 Events

1.1 Events held during the period have principally been of the Cross Country and Road Race variety, and while several were held in appalling weather conditions, they have passed without concern to the Downskeepers.

2 Winter Work Programme

2.1 The Winter Work Programme is effectively at an end. The priority areas at Riflebutts Alley, Langley Vale and Middle Hill have been completed and a very productive winter has seen many additional projects accomplished. Worthy of mention is the thinning of woodland to encourage recreational use and the creation of deadwood habitat piles for ecological and educational purposes. Additionally the re-establishment of a viable coppicing programme holds great promise.

3 Hack Post Refurbishment

3.1 Work to refurbish hack posts has been highly successful, with the sign posting much improved. The materials used were all reclaimed wood and the sign writing has been carried out in-house by the Downskeepers.

4 Dog Control

4.1 The new Dogs on Leads initiative went live on Monday 25 January. Notwithstanding the need for Downskeepers and Gallops staff to remain vigilant, the response from Downs users has been very encouraging. The training community have expressed their gratitude to all and have been impressed by the way this ground breaking scheme has been embraced by the vast majority. The Head Downskeeper wishes to express his thanks to the Rangers who patrolled the Downs during the formative days of the programme, informing Downs users of the changes.

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Notes

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO ERECT ADVANCE WARNING SIGNS ON ASHLEY ROAD

Report of the: Downs Manager

Contact: Sam Beak

Urgent Decision?(yes/no) No

If yes, reason urgent decision

required:

<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached): <u>Annexe 1</u> – Photographs of the proposed signs

and suggested locations

Other available papers (not

attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report presents a request from Surrey County Council to erect new advance warning signs on Ashley Road near to the Equestrian crossing.

RECOMMENDATION (S)	7,0,00
(1) That the Conservators consider and approve a proposal from Surrey County Council to erect new advance warning signs on Ashley Road near to the Equestrian crossing.	

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Equestrian crossing on Ashley Road has regularly been the focal point for concern especially regarding the safety of the trainers and their horses using it.
- 1.2 A significant number of reports have been received by the Downs Manager and the police relating to motorists jumping the lights or speeding whilst approaching the crossing. This behaviour increases the risks to the trainers and the racehorses as they approach the crossing and whilst using the crossing.
- 1.3 Due to the increased risk to the trainers and the racehorses using this particular equestrian crossing, representation has been made by the Jockey Club Estates Training Ground Manager to Surrey County Council Highways Department.
- 1.4 A proposal has been received from Surrey County Council to erect new warning signs in the vicinity of the equestrian crossing.

2 Proposals

- 2.1 Surrey County Council have agreed to install four pairs of advance warning signs as seen in the photograph attached at <u>Annexe 1</u> to help address the concerns raised.
- 2.2 These signs will be attached to existing lamp columns where available to minimise the cost of installation. Two sets of signs will require the installation of a new post as there are no existing lamp columns to attach to.
- 2.3 Surrey County Council is seeking permission from the Conservators to install the signs at the suggested locations in Annexe 1.

3 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 3.1 There are no implications for the Conservators as a result of this proposal.
- 3.2 All costs of installation will be met by the Training Ground Management Board as agreed with Surrey County Council.

4 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

4.1 Under the Epsom & Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 there is a byelaw which states that:

A person shall not, without consent of the Conservators, on the Downs enclose any part of the Downs or erect any building shed or other structure thereon or construct any roads or parking places

A person shall not, without consent of the Conservators, on the Downs dig or take any stem chalk soil or other materials or take any turf, sods, trees, flowers, shrubs, plants or grass or use any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground

4.2 Surrey County Council is requesting the consent of the Conservators to carry out the proposed works as detailed at <u>Annexe 1</u>.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 Surrey County Council has submitted a proposal to install four pairs of advance warning signs near to the equestrian crossing on Ashley Road.
- 5.2 The Conservators are requested to consider the proposed works as detailed at Annexe 1 and decide whether approval should be given.

AGENDA ITEM 6 ANNEXE 1





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EPSOM GOLF CLUB - PROPOSAL FOR STEPS NEAR 16TH GREEN

Report of the: Downs Manager

Contact: Sam Beak

Urgent Decision?(yes/no) No

If yes, reason urgent decision

required:

Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 - Request for Sleeper Steps near 16th

Green of Epsom Golf Course

Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report presents a request from Epsom Golf Club to erect a new set of steps leading from the 16th green.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

(1) That the Conservators consider and approve a proposal from Epsom Golf Club to erect a new set of steps leading from the 16th green.

Notes

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Epsom Golf Club has approached the Downs Manager with a proposal to erect a new set of sleeper steps leading from the back of the 16th green. The proposal is attached at Annexe 1.
- 1.2 The existing area has no steps and relies on golfers climbing a steep bank at the rear and side of the 16th green in order to proceed to the 17th tee area.
- 1.3 The Golf Club have confirmed that a number of golfers have previously slipped on this bank and in periods of wet weather it becomes increasingly more slippery to climb therefore increasing the risk of slipping and possible injury.
- 1.4 The erection of some steps will aid golfers walking from the 16th green to the 17th tee and will reduce the risk of slipping.

2 Proposals

2.1 The intention is to erect a set of 6 steps each 3ft wide and covered with green anti-slip matting.

- 2.2 The Golf Club is requesting permission to erect these steps near to the 16th green. Photographs of the intended site can be found in Annexe 1.
- 2.3 The Conservators are requested by Epsom Golf Club to approve the proposal for the steps.

3 Financial and Manpower Implications

3.1 There are no implications for the Conservators as a result of this proposal.

4 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

4.1 Under the Epsom & Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 there is a Byelaw which states that:

A person shall not, without consent of the Conservators, on the Downs dig or take any stem chalk soil or other materials or take any turf, sods, trees, flowers, shrubs, plants or grass or use any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground

- 4.2 Epsom Golf Club is requesting the consent of the Conservators to carry out the proposed works as detailed at <u>Annexe 1</u>.
- 4.3 Following consultation with the Planning Department, it has been suggested that planning permission will not be required as there will be minimal digging out of soil needed to carry out the works. The Planning Department have stipulated that the steps must be made of natural materials with the exception of the anti-slip matting.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 Epsom Golf Club has submitted a proposal to erect a new set of six steps covered with green anti-slip matting to the rear of the 16th green.
- 5.2 The Conservators are requested to consider the proposed works as detailed at Annexe 1 and decide whether approval should be given.

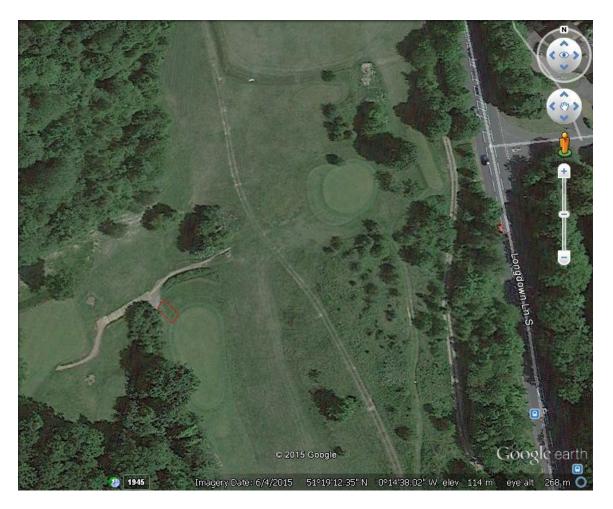
Epsom Golf Club

Request for Sleeper Steps to and From 16th Green

Due to the recent wet weather, the severity of the slope and a couple of slips by golfers, we would like to ask permission to erect some steps adjacent to the back left of our 16th green. The plan would be to put in 6 steps 3ft wide and covered with green anti slip matting to eradicate the problem of a possible injury. The following photo shows the area where we want to erect these steps, and also shows how slippery the area is.



The picture below shows an overhead view of the area. The area in question is denoted by a red rectangle (not to scale) towards the bottom left hand corner of the image. Longdown Lane South is to the right of the picture and the junction is the one that leads towards Epsom Downs Station.



Just as an example the picture below illustrates what the steps will like once erected



PROPOSED EVENTS ON THE DOWNS

Report of the: Downs Manager

Contact: Sam Beak

Urgent Decision? No

If yes, reason urgent decision

required:

Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 – Event route maps

Annexe 2 - Calendar of events

Other available papers (not

attached):

Event Management Strategy agreed on 27

June 2011

Charging Policy for Events agreed on 28 June

2012

Review of Events on the Downs agreed on 23

January 2014

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides details of event requests for consideration by the Conservators.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

- (1) That the Conservators consider the following proposals to hold events on the Downs:
 - EDMAC Cloud Tramp Event (Saturday 6 August 2016)
 - OMNI Terrier Derby (Sunday 28 August 2016)
 - Epsom College Cross Country Event (Thursday 24 November 2016)
 - Tadworth 10 (Sunday 8 January 2017)

and decide whether they wish to grant approval for these events.

- (2) That the Conservators note the Calendar of Events for 2016/17.
- (3) That the Conservators note the fees and charges to be applied to each event subject to the event being approved.

Notes

1 Event Applications

- 1.1 There have been event applications received from four groups/organisations for forthcoming events on the Downs. Route maps for each of these events are included at Annexe 1, and an event calendar is included at Annexe 2.
- 1.2 All applications have been made by organisations which have run the same or similar events in previous years. The table below details these events.

Event	Organiser	Date	Time	No. of participants	Category of event	No. of years previously held on Downs
EDMAC Cloud Tramp Event	EDMAC	Saturday 6 Aug 2016	16.00 – 18.00	30	U	17
OMNI Terrier Derby	OMNI Colour Presentations Ltd	Sunday 28 Aug 2016	09.00 – 16.00	80	В	13
Cross Country	Epsom College	Thursday 24 Nov 2016	13.45 – 16.15	500	С	15+
Tadwort h 10	Tadworth Athletic Club	Sunday 8 Jan 2017	09.30 – 14.00	650	С	22

- 1.3 The EDMAC Cloud Tramp event takes place on land designated for the club's activities and within the allocated times permitted for the club. The numbers are so low that little disruption is expected and so the event has been rated as category U. The event has previously taken place on the Downs over the past 17 years.
- 1.4 The OMNI Terrier Derby event is expected to have very little if any impact on the Downs and other users of the Downs. Although the number of participants is relatively low the event itself does attract a much larger number of spectators and so has been rated as category B (see table above). This event has each previously taken place on the Downs over the past 13 years.

- 1.5 The Epsom College Cross Country Event is a larger event and has been rated as category C. The event has run on the Downs for over 15 years and the organisers are very proactive to ensure minimal disruption to other users on the Downs.
- 1.6 Tadworth 10 is the largest of these events and has been rated as category C. The event has run smoothly on the Downs for the past 22 years and the organisers are very proactive to ensure minimal disruption to other users on the Downs.
- 1.7 The Downskeepers and Simon Dow have not been consulted, but as all events have previously taken place on the Downs without issue, it was considered that any discussion could take place during the meeting of the Conservators. The important matter of staying on designated paths and not straying onto Training Grounds will be stressed to all organisers.
- 1.8 All organisations have sent through the necessary paperwork, which includes copies of their public liability insurance and risk assessments. Maps of each route for the events are attached at Annexe 1.

2 Calendar of events

- 2.1 The calendar of forthcoming events is attached at <u>Annexe 2</u>. The events shown in <u>bold and underline</u> are for consideration by the Conservators at this meeting.
- 2.2 The Event Management Strategy sets out suggested limits on the number of events to be held on the Downs each year, and these are detailed in the tables below, alongside the number of events currently approved and those waiting to be approved:

Category	No of Events currently approved April 2016 – March 2017	No of Events waiting to be approved April 2016 – March 2017	Total no. of events if approved	Suggested Limit
Α	3	0	3	10
В	0	1	1	10
С	0	2	2	5
D	1	0	1	On Application
S	0	0	0	On Application
U	10	1	11	On Application

3 Future Events

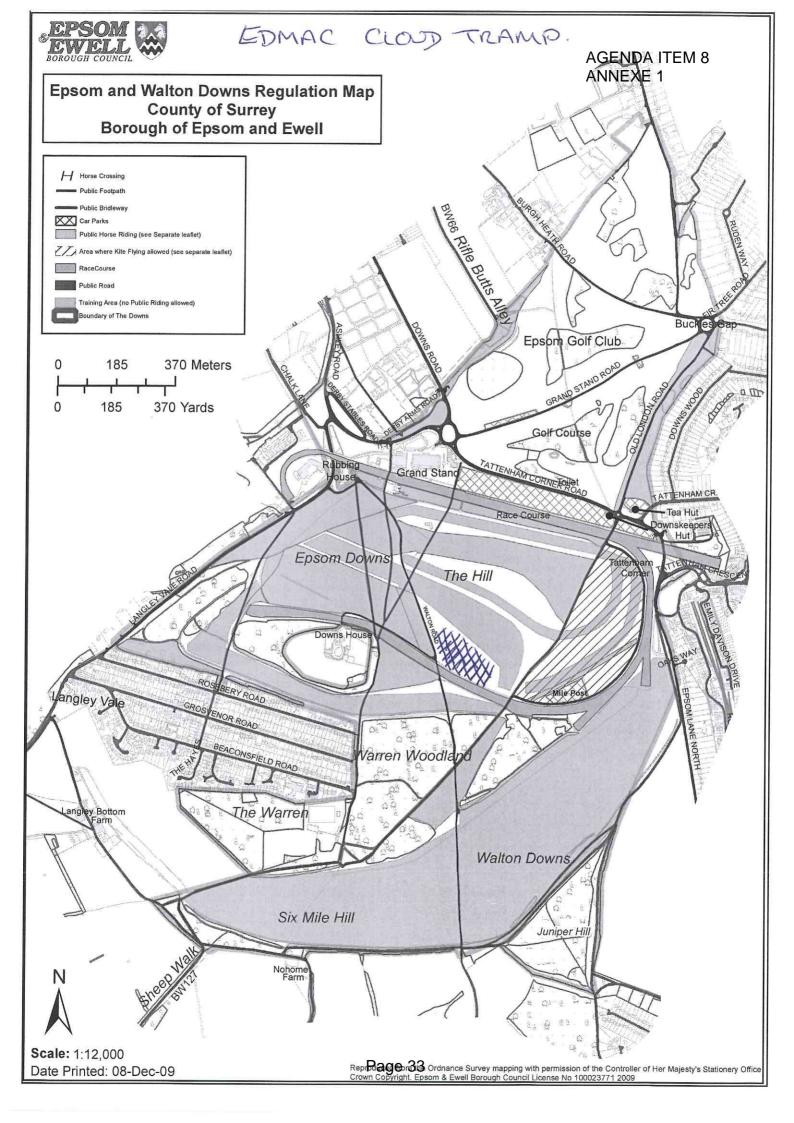
3.1 At the meeting on 28 June 2012, the Conservators adopted a new charging policy for events on the Downs. This was reviewed and updated on 23 January 2014.

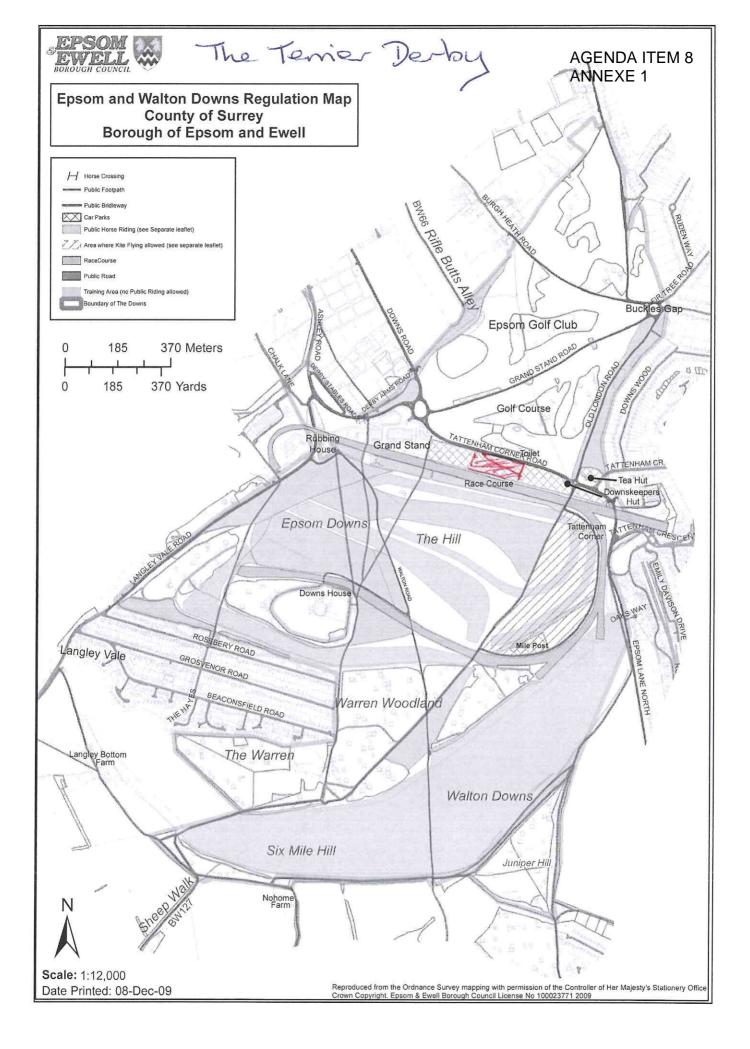
- 3.2 For the purposes of this report, three of the four applications received would be subject to a hire charge and refundable reinstatement bond for the events detailed in the applications. The EDMAC Cloud Tramp event will not be subject to any charge as it is expected to have so little impact and disruption on the Downs and falls within the permitted area for model aircraft flying.
- 3.3 Following the fees and charges policy, the table below illustrates how the charges will be applied to each of the applicants received:

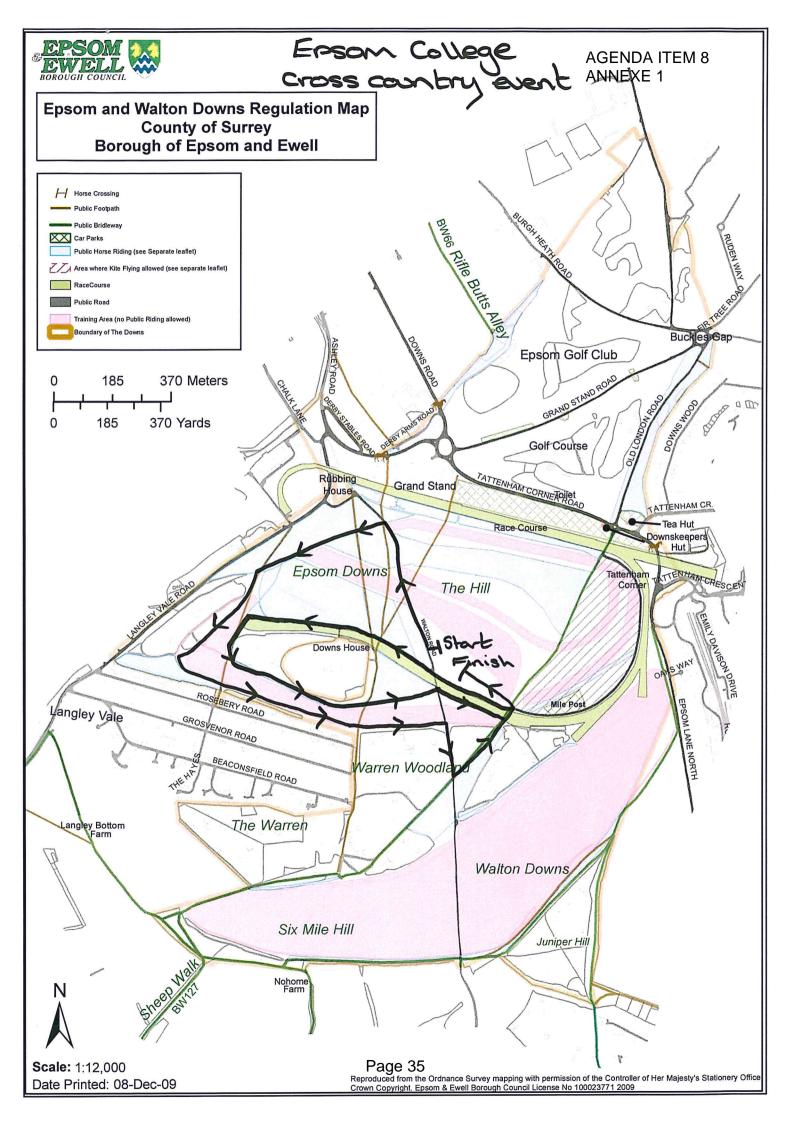
Event	Date	No. of participants	Category of event	Hire Charge £	Refundable Reinstatement Bond £
EDMAC Cloud Tramp Event	Saturday 6 Aug 2016	30	U	0	0
OMNI Terrier Derby	Sunday 28 Aug 2016	80	В	40	25
Cross Country	Thursday 24 Nov 2016	500	С	250	25
Tadworth 10	Sunday 8 Jan 2017	650	С	325	32.50

4 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 4.1 The Conservators are asked to consider the full event applications that have been received and to note the 2016/2017 Calendar of Events.
- 4.2 The Conservators are also asked to note the charges to be applied to each event subject to approval being granted.

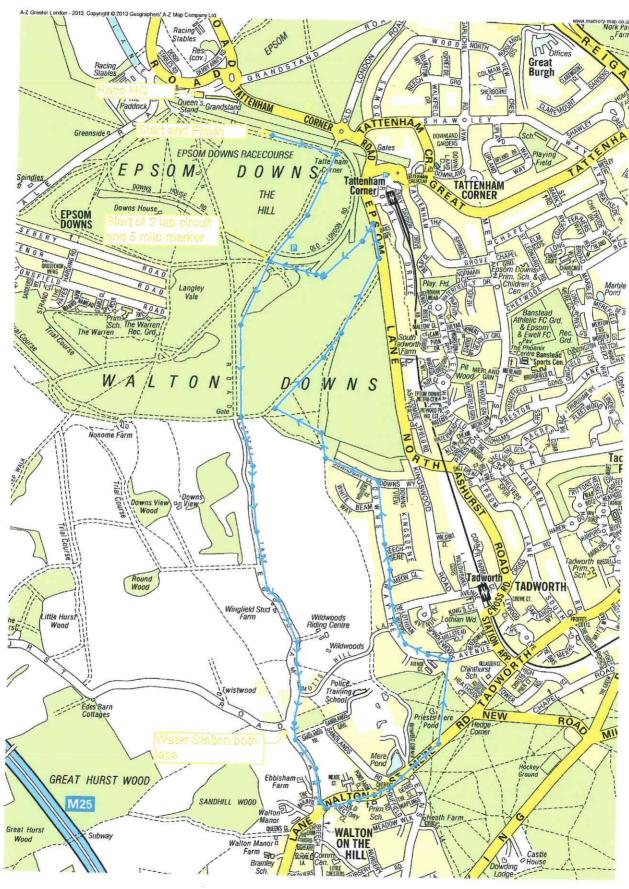








TADWORTH TAGENDA ITEM 8 ANNEXE 1



2016/17 Events Calendar for Epsom & Walton Downs

	Name of Event	Organiser	Date of Event	Time of Event	No of Participants	No of Organisers/ Spectators	Category of Event	Area affected (Maps provided below)
Page 37	Pigeon Liberation	Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 23/04/2016	09.00 -10.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
	Pigeon Liberation	Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 30/04/2016	08.30 -09.30	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
	Sponsored Walk	Rotary Club of Banstead	Sunday 08/05/2016	08.00 – 16.00	70	20	А	BW 33, BW127, BW47, FP32, FP49, across Summer Gallops and across the Hill
	Pigeon Liberation	Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 14/05/2016	07.00 -08.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
	Round the Borough Bike	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Sunday 15/05/2016	10.30 – 15.00	75 - 100	3	А	Cycle paths and bridleways. The majority of this event takes place elsewhere.
	Pigeon Liberation	Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 21/05/2016	09.00 -10.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
	Pigeon Liberation	Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 11/06/2016	07.00 -09.30	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park

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Name	e of Event	Organiser	Date of Event	Time of Event	No of Participants	No of Organisers/ Spectators	Category of Event	Area affected (Maps provided below)
Pigeon Liberat		Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 25/06/2016	07.00 -08.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
Race F	or Life	Cancer Research UK	Sunday 26/06/2016	05.00 – 16.00	4000	8	D	Grass/foot paths inside the racecourse and South of Downs House creating a loop
Pigeon Liberat		Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 13/08/2016	07.00 -08.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
Pigeon Liberat		Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 20/08/2016	07.00 -09.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
Pigeon Liberat		Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 27/08/2016	08.00 -09.00	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
Pigeon Liberat		Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Saturday 03/09/2016	08.30 -09.30	n/a	2	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
Round Boroug	l the gh Walk	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Saturday 03/09/2016	12.30 – 15.00	50- 100	3	А	Public footpaths and bridleways. The majority of this event takes place elsewhere.
	C Cloud Event	EDMAC	Saturday 6/08/2016	16.00 – 18.00	30	7	U	Epsom Downs permitted area for model aircraft flying near to the Hill

Name of Event

OMNI Terrier

Cross Country

Tadworth 10

Derby

Events in hold and underline are subject to approval from	om the Ensom & Walton Downs Conservators

Time of

Event

09.00 - 16.00

13.45 - 16.15

09.30 - 14.00

Date of

Event

Sunday

28/08/2016

Thursday

Sunday

08/01/2017

24/11/2016

Organiser

OMNI Colour

Presentations

Epsom College

Tadworth

Athletic Club

No of

Organisers/

Spectators

400

110

50

Category

of Event

В

С

С

Area affected

(Maps provided below)

By 2 Furlong Marker on the outside of the

Racecourse

Walton Road, paths around Downs House,

the Hill and paths running parallel to Langley Vale Road

Old London Road, Walton Road crossing Six Mile Hill, Walton Downs leading up to

Epsom Lane North

No of

Participants

80

500

650

EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Report of the: Clerk to the Conservators

Contact: Tim Richardson

Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 - Minutes of the meeting of the

Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative

Committee held on 9 March 2016.

Other available papers (not

attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

To consider any issues arising from the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 9 March 2016.

1 Items for the attention of the Conservators

- 1.1 The Minutes from the meeting of Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 9 March 2016 are attached as the <u>Annexe</u> to this report. The following issues discussed by the Consultative Committee are highlighted for the attention of the Conservators:
 - Minute No. 11 a) Parking for Events. A report regarding this matter will be presented to the June 2016 meeting of the Conservators.
 - Minute No.11 g) Hack Sand Track. A report regarding this matter is included as Item 5 of this agenda.
 - Minute No.13 a) Hatched Area. The comments of the Hack Rider Representative will be reported to the next meeting of the TGMB for its consideration.

Public Document Pack

AGENDA ITEM 9 ANNEXE 1

6

Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE held on 9 March 2016

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (Chairman); Simon Durrant (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Alex Stewart (Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society) and Nigel Whybrow (Training Grounds Management Board)

In Attendance: Caroline Baldock (Epsom Equestrian Conservation Group), Richard Balsdon (College Ward Residents' Association), Teresa Cass (Woodcote Residents' Association), Angela Clifford (Epsom Civic Society), Andrew Cooper (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Bob Eberhard (Epsom and Ewell Cycle Action Group), David Lambert (Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club), Roger Marples (Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club) and Conor Morrow (Lower Mole Countryside Management Service)

<u>Absent:</u> Councillor Jean Steer, Hugh Craddock (British Horse Society), Nick Harrison (Tattenhams Residents' Association) and Mark Harvey (Epsom Golf Club)

Officers present: Frances Rutter (Chief Executive) (Items 11 b) - 17 only), Sam Beak (Downs Manager), Bob Harding (Head Downskeeper), Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Officer), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager) and Simon Young (Head of Legal and Democratic Services) (Items 10 - 11 b) only)

10 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 28 September 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

The Committee received and noted a report providing updates on matters raised previously. The following items were noted:

a) Car parking for events. The Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services provided the Committee with a summary of the legal situation regarding car parking on the land adjacent to the Derby Arms Public House which was designated as a Hack Area upon the Signed Map for the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 (the Act), and coloured with yellow-hatching in the Deposited Map for the same Act.

The Committee was informed that there were provisions within the Act to enable the area to be utilised by the Racecourse for parking for racing events. The Act did not provide specific provisions to enable parking on the area for non-racing related events, but the Committee was informed that this did not mean that such use could not be permitted.

The Committee was informed that use of the area for car parking could be permitted by the Council if the use related to Section 17.2 of the Act, or by the Conservators under Byelaw 2(i)(f) for other uses.

The Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society representative requested that in future, requests for the use of the area for car parking be considered via the appropriate procedure prior to it taking place.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the Committee that due to the location of the area (being adjacent to Derby Stables Road, Downs Road and the B290) not being ideal as a Hack Area, it could be argued that the impact of its occasional use for car parking had not been significant.

b) <u>Dog control</u>. The Committee received an update on dog control on the Downs, following the Conservators' agreement that all dogs should be held on a lead whilst on the Downs prior to noon, daily. The Streetcare Manager informed the meeting that the new arrangements were working well.

Following a question from a representative, the Committee was informed that dogs were requested to be held on a lead prior to noon on Sundays (on which Training hours finished at 9.30am) to enable a more concise, simple to understand message to be made.

- c) <u>Surface of Walton Road satisfaction of Highways Authority to works</u>. The Committee noted that the Highways Authority was satisfied with the works.
- d) <u>Fixed-point photography for the Downs</u>. The Committee noted that Officers hoped that a local camera club would be willing to undertake the photography.
- e) Access to Tattenham Corner Road crossing for pedestrians walking from Tattenham Corner Station. The Committee noted the comments of the Highways Authority, and that the recent works to reverse the railings, undertaken by the Racecourse had significantly improved access.
- f) Cars advertised for sale on the Downs. The Woodcote Residents' Association representative reported that cars containing 'for sale' signs were being parked on the Downs. It was further reported that there appeared to be a number of vehicles being parked on the Downs all day for the sole purpose of advertising. The Woodcote Resident's Association representative asked whether any action could be taken to restrict these

activities from happening. It was noted that the Downs Manager would discuss the matter with the Council's Planning Enforcement Officer.

g) <u>Hack Sand Track</u>. The Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society representative noted that the Conservators had been due to receive a report regarding the Hack Sand Track at the foot of Walton Downs at their two most recent meetings, but that in both cases, the report had been postponed, and was now due for their meeting on 15 June 2016. The representative enquired whether the Hack Rider representatives could be involved in its content, due to the time which had elapsed since they had last held a meeting with officers regarding the matter.

The Chairman informed the Committee that the report had been delayed due to the volume of workload faced by Officers.

h) Post Derby clean-up – number of skips utilised. The Epsom Civic Society representative informed the Committee that she had received enquiries from local residents as to whether less skips had been utilised for the 2015 Derby clean-up. Simon Durrant informed the Committee that these comments had been noted.

12 REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

The Committee received and noted the report of the Head Downskeeper. The following matters were discussed:

- a) <u>Hack posts review</u>. The Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society expressed his thanks for the improvements made to hack posts by the Downskeepers. It was noted that a meeting would be arranged with the Hack Rider Representatives to discuss 'no access' hack rider posts.
- b) <u>Winter work programme coppicing</u>. The Lower Mole Countryside Management Service representative expressed his congratulations for the work undertaken to re-establish coppicing on the Downs, which had been very successful.
- c) <u>Byelaw Boards for the Downs</u>. Following a question, the Committee was informed that a sign audit for the Downs had been completed, and that further byelaw signs would be considered by Officers alongside this.

13 ISSUES CONSIDERED BY THE CONSERVATORS

The Committee received a report providing a summary of items of interest considered at the meetings of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators held on 7 October 2015 and 20 January 2016. The following item was noted:

a) <u>Hatched Area at the foot of Walton Downs</u>. The Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society representative requested that in future information be given as to why the Hatched Area was not suitable for hack riding, what

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action was needed to make it suitable for hack riding, and who's responsibility it was to undertake such works.

14 THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY BEACON

The Committee received a report with information regarding a proposed beacon lighting ceremony and supporting event on Epsom Downs on 21 April 2016 to commemorate the Queen's 90th Birthday.

Officers anticipated that it would be a smaller-scale event than that held for the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2012 and that attendee numbers would be much lower. The Borough Council had purchased a commemorative gas-fuelled Beacon for the celebration, and this would be available for use at future events. The availability of public toilet facilities was being considered, and Officers would also speak to the Rubbing House and Derby Arms Public Houses regarding the matter.

It was noted that Epsom Golf Club had been consulted on the proposed event, and was happy with the proposal.

Following consideration of the report, the Committee didn't identify any suggestions or concerns regarding the proposed Beacon lighting ceremony on Epsom Downs on 21 April 2016.

15 ISSUES RAISED BY THE HACK RIDERS REPRESENTATIVES

No items were raised for consideration by the Hack Rider representatives.

16 ISSUES RAISED FOR CONSIDERATION

The following items were raised by representatives to the Committee:

- a) Planning permissions for advertising on the Downs. Following a question regarding the planning permissions granted to the Racecourse for advertising signs on the Downs, Simon Durrant informed the Committee that the Racecourse was able to use small advertising signs for its race day events. The Committee was informed that if signs were found on the Downs outside of these periods, they could be reported to the Racecourse for investigation and removal.
- b) Equestrian crossing of Downs Road near the horse margin. Following a question regarding whether an equestrian crossing would be installed on Downs Road, the Committee was informed that this location was within the District of Mole Valley, and outside the boundary of the Downs. It was also noted that transport infrastructure arrangements for the Woodland Trust's neighbouring Centenary Wood site were yet to be put in place, and that these would likely be the Highway Authority's priority for the area.
- c) Restoration of Chalk Downland success of scrapes on the Downs. The Lower Mole Countryside Management Service representative informed

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the Committee that scrapes undertaken last year had been successful in enabling kidney vetch to grow there. It was hoped that this would encourage a population of Small Blue butterflies to use the area to lay their eggs.

17 ITEMS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CONSERVATORS

The Committee felt that no items from the meeting would require verbal representation to the Conservators.

The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.50 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIRMAN)

OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

Report of the: Clerk to the Conservators

<u>Contact:</u> Tim Richardson

<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached): <u>Annexe 1</u> - Outstanding references

Other available papers (not

attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report lists references to officers outstanding as at 13 April 2016.

RECOMMENDATION (S)	Notes
(1) That this report be noted.	

EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS 13 APRIL 2016

OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

Ref. of Item (Min. no / meeting date)	Title and nature of issue	Position at last meeting	Current position
19/04/2006	Signposting of the Downs	5 Code of Conduct signs in position on the Downs.	Further signposting requirements for the Downs to be considered at a future meeting of the Conservators.
19/04/2006	Additional hack riding area, foot of Walton Downs	Condition of ground did not allow it to be opened for use by hack riders in the view of the TGMB.	Condition of ground considered at each meeting of the Training Grounds Management Board.
25/10/2010	Maintenance of sand track	Report to next meeting of the Conservators.	See Item 05.
19/04/2012	Combined Habitat Management Plan for the Downs	The Epsom and Walton Downs Habitat Management Plan 2015-2020 was considered and approved at the meeting in April 2015. It was noted that this would be integrated with the Epsom Golf Course Habitat Management Plan once that had also been reviewed, to create a single Plan document. Peter Howarth (Countryside Officer for Epsom & Ewell Borough Council) has been commissioned to undertake a review of the Golf course Habitat Management Plan.	Report to October 2016 meeting, following completion of survey work.
13/10/2014, Minute 19 a)	Epsom Golf Club – unauthorised development & other matters	Officers to pursue the matters with Epsom Golf Club.	See <u>Item 12</u> .

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EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS 13 APRIL 2016

15/04/2015, Minute 50	Review of Dog Control arrangements on Epsom and Walton Downs	Proposal for new signs by TGMB agreed. Chairman and Clerk authorised to agree wording of signs.	See <u>Item 03</u> .
7/10/15, Minute 20	Memorial benches on the Downs – review of policy	Report to April 2016 meeting	Report to October 2016 meeting.
20/01/16, Minute 28	Review of number of metal detecting licenses	A review of the number of metal detecting permits available to Downs users will be considered in October 2016, following the decision to increase the number from 20 to 25.	Report to October 2016 meeting.