

## Minutes of the Meeting of the NONSUCH PARK JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held on 4 February 2019

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### PRESENT -

Councillor Jill Whitehead (London Borough of Sutton) (Chair); ; Councillor Alex Clarke (Epsom & Ewell Borough Council), Councillor Chris Frost (Epsom & Ewell Borough Council), Councillor Peter Geiringer (London Borough of Sutton), Councillor Drew Heffernan (London Borough of Sutton) (as nominated substitute for Councillor Councillor Jenny Batt) and Councillor Mike Teasdale (Epsom & Ewell Borough Council).

In Attendance: Paul Airey (Nonsuch Voles) and Gerald Smith (Friends of Nonsuch)

Absent: Councillor Jenny Batt (London Borough of Sutton)

Officers present: Dominic Aslangul (Neighbourhood Manager), Amardip Healy (Chief Legal Officer), Mark Shephard (Head of Property and Regeneration), Brendan Bradley (Chief Accountant), Tony Foxwell (Senior Surveyor) and Sandra Dessent (Democratic Services Officer)

### 33 ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING (IF REQUIRED)

Two questions were asked by members of the public and it was agreed Officers would consider any actions to be taken outside of the meeting.

### 34 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Councillors in items on this agenda.

### 35 TRIBUTE TO PREVIOUS MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE

Following the passing of Nigel Petrie, Councillor Chris Frost paid tribute to his hard work and contribution as a member of the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee.

### 36 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee held on 29 October 2019 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

*Postscript Minute 30, Events in the Park: A £1,000 bond is in place, payable in the event of the applicant (representing the Town and Country Show) not meeting the requirements recommended by SAG (Safety Advisory Group).*

### 37 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee received a report detailing current and proposed arrangements for the Governance of the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee.

Members were advised that in order to achieve the objective of the review i.e. the efficient and effective use of resources, it was important to have a clear set of procedure rules for the running of the Committee. To highlight the significance of the review aims, Members were handed a copy of a recent local government paper detailing the lack of government investment and austerity measures that were likely to impact the delivery of leisure and cultural facilities in the future.

The review was welcomed and it was acknowledged that it was necessary to bring the management of the park into the 21<sup>st</sup> century for the benefit and continued enjoyment of all park users.

Whilst there were good examples of partnership working between Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and the London Borough of Sutton it was commented that the current arrangements meant that the management fell between two stalls and in order to maximise opportunities both authorities needed to work more cohesively. It was further noted that the majority of funding bids were dependant on match funding and it was therefore imperative that the Joint Management Committee explored new ways to increase income.

The Committee discussed current practices that could be improved and opportunities for increasing income and having considered the proposals the following recommendations were agreed;

- (1) A new inter authority agreement for the management of Nonsuch Park
- (2) That the Committee Procedure Rules of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council apply to the Joint Committee pending a new Joint Management Agreement
- (3) Implementation of the proposals for public participation attached at Annex 2 and a review to be carried out after a year
- (4) The nature and roles of local groups who wish to support and promote Nonsuch Park.
- (5) A standing invitation to Nonsuch Voles to attend Joint Management Committee meetings (with no voting rights).

- (6) To investigate with both Councils the ability to utilise existing arrangements each Council has in place to support the work of the Joint Management Committee.
- (7) Epsom & Ewell Borough Council to take forward a parking management scheme to address parking issues (along the lines of the Beddington Park trial).
- (8) Work to be commissioned on a draft strategic plan for Nonsuch Park encompassing a new 10 year management and business plan.

### **38 PLANNED MAINTENANCE REPORT 2019-20**

The Committee received a report requesting approval for the 2019/20 planned maintenance work and progress on the 2018/19 maintenance works.

It was noted that the works to the Public toilets had been prioritised for 2018/19 at a cost of £10,000 compared to £40,000 in previous reports. The Committee was informed that £10,000 covered the cost of rectifying the damp issue only and not as previously reported a complete refurbishment. It was anticipated therefore that further works would be required in approximately two years and it was agreed to regularly review and report back to the Committee.

The Committee acknowledged that the maintenance budgets only allowed for basic repairs and that further investment was needed to undertake any substantial projects. To that end it was emphasized the importance of producing a sound business plan for Nonsuch Park that reflected the necessary works and required expenditure.

Accordingly the Committee;

- (1) Approved the priority planned maintenance works for 2019/20, at an estimated cost of £67,025
- (2) Noted the update on the progress of 2018/19 priority planned maintenance works

### **39 NONSUCH JMC FINANCE REPORT AND BUDGET 2019-20**

The Committee was presented with a report detailing an updated forecast for 2018/19 and recommended precept to be levied on the constituent authorities.

It was noted that there had been a forecast deficit in quarter two which was due in the main to increased maintenance costs. It was anticipated that the deficit would increase by a further £28,800 in quarter three due to undertaking of urgent pothole repairs. It was further noted that the works were essential and could have triggered liability claims if not rectified.

It was further noted that whilst the income budget for 2019/20 was expected to increase by 2%, rental income from Flat 3 had not been included as letting opportunities were limited owing to type of lease being offered.

Having considered the forecasts detailed in Annex 1 of the report, the Committee:

- (1) Noted the latest 2018/19 forecast position
- (2) Agreed the revenue budget for 2019/20 as set out in Annex 1
- (3) Agreed to seek contributions of £101,400 from both Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and the London Borough of Sutton for the financial year 2019/20.

#### **40 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Committee resolved to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended) and that pursuant to paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the said Schedule 12A the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

#### **41 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes from the meeting of the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee held on the 24 September 2018 have not been published because the meeting was closed to the press and public on the grounds that the nature of the business to be transacted/nature of the proceedings dealt with information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

#### **42 PROPERTY MATTERS PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee agreed a way forward as set out in the Minutes.

Note: The details are considered officially sensitive at this time and the Minute for this item will be exempt from publication.

*The meeting began at 10.00 am and ended at 11.15 am*

COUNCILLOR JILL WHITEHEAD (CHAIR)