

## Minutes of the Meeting of the NONSUCH PARK JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held on 17 October 2022

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### PRESENT -

Councillor Christopher Woolmer (London Borough of Sutton) (Chair); Councillors Peter Geiringer (London Borough of Sutton), Colin Keane (Epsom & Ewell Borough Council), Louise Phelan (London Borough of Sutton) and David Reeve (Epsom & Ewell Borough Council)

Absent: Councillor Kate Chinn (Epsom & Ewell Borough Council)

Officers present: Jackie King (Interim Chief Executive), Mark Shephard (Head of Property and Regeneration), Andrew Bircher (Head of Policy and Corporate Resources), Brendan Bradley (Head of Finance), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager), Tony Foxwell (Senior Surveyor), Ian Wolstencroft (Contract Officer London Borough of Sutton), Mark Dalzell (Parks Manager, London Borough of Sutton) and Dan Clackson (Democratic Services Officer)

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### 10 ELECTION OF MEMBER TO PRESIDE AS CHAIR

In the absence from the meeting of Councillor Christopher Woolmer (Chair), the Committee elected to appoint Councillor David Reeve to preside as Chair of the meeting.

Councillors Christopher Woolmer (Chair) and Louise Phelan were not present at the meeting at this time.

### 11 QUESTION TIME

No questions were received from members of the public.

### 12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made by Councillors in relation to items on the agenda.

### 13 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Following matter was considered by the Committee:

- a) **Reason for previous absence:** Councillor David Reeve wished to confirm that his absence from the previous meeting of the Committee was due to illness. This was noted by the Committee.

The Committee confirmed as a true record the Minutes and the Restricted Minutes of the Meeting of the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee held on 20 June 2022 and authorised the Presiding Chair to sign them.

Councillors Christopher Woolmer (Chair) and Louise Phelan were not present at the meeting at this time.

#### 14 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report accompanying an update to the Work Programme for the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee following the last meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Councillors Christopher Woolmer (Chair) and Louise Phelan were not present at the meeting at the start of the discussion of the item, and entered the meeting during the discussion of the item.

The following matters were considered by the Committee:

- a) **Visitor survey:** The Streetcare manager provided a verbal update to the Committee on the Visitor Survey that will be required to under-pin the updated Park Management Plan and Strategic Park Business Plan.
- b) **Covid memorial bench:** The Committee noted that the Nonsuch Park Covid memorial bench would soon be installed. It was noted by the Committee that the Covid memorial benches are an Epsom and Ewell Borough Council initiative, with one bench per ward, and that the Nonsuch Ward bench was to be located in Nonsuch park, with approval from Sutton Council, as it would be seen by a large number of people who visit the Park. The Committee noted there are policies in place with regard to the placement of flowers and paraphernalia on benches in the Park.
- c) **Priority of item 5 (bylaws) of the Programme:** It was agreed by the Committee that item 5 (bylaws) of the 'Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee – Additional Work Programme Items 2022' (appendix to the report) be moved to high priority. It was agreed by the Committee that a set of proposed new bylaws would be brought to the next meeting of the Committee for consideration. The Committee noted the areas that would be addressed by the proposed bylaws, including cycling and the scattering of ashes within the Park.
- d) **Removal of bollard at Sparrow Farm Road entrance to the Park:** The Streetcare Manager explained that the bollard located at the Sparrow Farm Road entrance intended to restrict entry for motor-vehicle users also undesirably restricts entry for bicycle and mobility scooter users. She explained that keeping the bollard will require strong evidence and a trial

is to be conducted in which the bollard will be removed. If the trial provides evidence that suggests a need for a bollard, then it shall be returned.

- e) **Park events:** The Committee considered the possibility of increasing the number of events held in the Park. Suggestions included a possible joint event with Epsom & Ewell for the Cheam Charter Fair, or a Christmas Fair at the Park. This was noted by the Streetcare Manager.
- f) **Car park stewardship at Park Run events:** The Committee agreed that, prior to Park Run events expected to draw large numbers of visitors arriving by car, a letter signed by the Chair be provided to Park Run event organisers requiring the presence of additional stewards to manage visitor parking and prevent parking in unauthorised areas.
- g) **Letter of thanks to Nonsuch Voles:** It was agreed by the Committee that a letter of thanks, signed by the Chair, would be provided to the Nonsuch Voles in appreciation of their work for the Park.
- h) **Committee Charitable status update:** The Head of Policy and Corporate Resources provided a verbal update to the Committee on the attainment of a charitable status for the Committee. It was noted by the Committee that further legal expertise would be sought to ascertain the possibility and viability of gaining a charitable status.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved to:

- (1) **Review the updated Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee Work Programme (appendix to the report) and progress made to date.**

## 15 OFFERING OF THE CHAIR TO THE CHAIR

Immediately at the conclusion of the discussion of the COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME report (item 4 of the agenda), Councillor David Reeve (Presiding Chair) offered the chair to Councillor Christopher Woolmer (Chair), who had become present at the meeting.

Councillor Christopher Woolmer (Chair) offered apologies from himself and on behalf on Councillor Louise Phelan for their late arrival and explained that their lateness was due to an unexpected car issue. This was noted by the Committee.

## 16 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Committee passed a resolution to exclude the public from the meeting for Part Two of the Agenda on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 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.

**17** PROPERTY UPDATE

The decision for this item is recorded in a separate (not for publication) restricted Minute.

**18** VERBAL UPDATE: PARK TOUR

The Streetcare Manager provided a verbal update on the proposed Park tour for Committee Members and Officers.

The following matters were considered by the Committee:

- a) **Map, guide and vehicle for Park tour:** The Committee considered the possibility of a Park map, Wildlife guide, and vehicle being provided for Members and Officers on the tour.
- b) **Emergency Information:** The Committee considered that the address and postcode of the Park and the location of defibrillators within the Park be written on the Park entrance boards to provide important information for use in emergencies.

*The meeting began at 10.15 am and ended at 11.49 am*

COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER WOOLMER (CHAIR)