

**Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS  
held on 16 April 2018**

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**PRESENT -**

Councillor Liz Frost (Chairman); Simon Durrant (Epsom Downs Racecourse) (Vice-Chairman); Andrew Cooper (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Councillor Lucie Dallen, Simon Dow (Horserace Betting Levy Board), Councillor Robert Foote, Councillor Jan Mason and Nigel Whybrow (Epsom Downs Racecourse).

In Attendance: Conor Morrow (Lower Mole Countryside Management Service)

Absent: Councillor Rekha Bansil and Councillor Clive Woodbridge

Officers present: Kathryn Beldon (Clerk to the Conservators), Amardip Healy (Chief Legal Officer), Sam Beak (Downs Manager), Bob Harding (Head Downskeeper), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Officer)

**31 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators held on 22 January 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**32 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

The Conservators received a report providing an update on issues raised at previous meetings. The following matters were considered:

- a) **Public consultation on parking for non-racing events.** The Conservators noted that this consultation had now ended, and a report presenting the responses received would be presented to the next meeting.
- b) **Maintenance of the hack sand track, foot of Walton Downs.** The Conservators noted that no response had yet been received from the Horserace Betting Levy Board.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the updates on issues raised previously.

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

The Conservators noted an update on items considered by the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board. The following matters were considered:

- a) **Hatched area.** The Conservators were informed that the hatched area was currently closed for hack riding due to the ground conditions.
- b) **Woodland Trust site, Langley Vale.** The Conservators noted the concerns expressed by the TGMB with regard to the planning application submitted by the Woodland Trust for an access road, car park and (outline application for a) visitor centre. It was noted that applications had been submitted by the Woodland Trust to both Mole Valley and Reigate & Banstead Councils.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the updates on items considered at recent meetings of the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board.

**34 REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER**

The Conservators received a report of the Head Downskeeper updating them on recent issues and activities on the Downs. The following matter was considered:

- a) **Staffing.** The Conservators noted that the Downskeeper team was fully staffed (6 team members).

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the report of the Head Downskeeper.

**35 REPLACEMENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS JOINT BOX ON THE DOWNS**

The Conservators received a report setting out an application from BT to replace a telecommunications joint box on the Downs in the Tattenham Corner area. The works to complete this required approval from the Conservators under Downs byelaw 2. (i).

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Agreed to the proposal from BT as set out in Annexe 1 to the report, and granted consent for the necessary works under byelaw 2. (i).

**36 EVENTS ON EPSOM & WALTON DOWNS**

The Conservators received a report providing details of event requests for consideration.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Agreed the following events on the Downs:
  - Mole Valley Orienteering Club (Thursday 17 May 2018)
  - Downs Young Athletes Cross Country League (Sundays 21 Oct, 2 Dec 2018, 17 Feb, 3 Mar 2019)
  - Epsom College (Thursday 22 Nov 2018)
  - EDMAC Cloud Tramp (Saturday 4 August 2018)
  - Omni Terrier Derby (Sunday 26 August 2018)
  - Tadworth Athletics Club: Tadworth Ten (Sunday 6 January 2019)
- (2) Noted the Calendar of Events for 2018/19 as at Annexe 2 to the report.
- (3) Noted the fees and charges to be applied to each event.
- (4) Noted the review of the maximum number of events under each category per financial year and agreed that the numbers should remain unchanged as detailed in Annexe 4 to the report.

### **37 MINUTES OF THE EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The Conservators received a report presenting the Minutes of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 12 March 2018.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 12 March 2018

### **38 OUTSTANDING REFERENCES**

The Conservators received a report presenting the outstanding references as at 16 April 2018.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the outstanding references.

*The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.21 pm*

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIRMAN)