

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

TRUSTS AND CHARITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held at Loxley House on 26 JULY 2013 from 2.00pm to 3.58pm.

- ✓ Councillor John Hartshorne (Chair)
 - ✓ Councillor Liaqat Ali
 - ✓ Councillor Glyn Jenkins
 - ✓ Councillor Carole-Ann Jones
 - ✓ Councillor Thulani Molife
 - ✓ Councillor Tim Spencer
 - ✓ Councillor Roger Steel
 - ✓ Councillor Sam Webster
 - ✓ Councillor Steph Williams
- ✓ indicates present at meeting

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Stuart Knight	-	Director of Strategic Asset and Property Management)	Development
Barry Dryden	-	Senior Finance Manager)	Resources
Noel McMenamin	-	Constitutional Services Officer)	
Malcolm Townroe	-	Solicitor)	
Tracy White	-	Senior Assistant)	

1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Thulani Molife as Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2013/14.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Spencer – non-Council.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

4 MINUTES

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2013 as a true record and they were signed by the Chair.

5 CHARITABLE TRUSTS' ANNUAL REPORTS 2012/13

The Committee considered the the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources' report. Barry Dryden, Senior Finance Manager, highlighted the following:

- (a) the 2012/13 annual reports and financial statements for the Highfields Leisure Park Trust and Harvey Hadden Stadium Trust had been independently examined by the Council's Internal Audit service and were ready for consideration and approval. The Bridge Estate Charity audit by Rogers Spencer was not yet complete, and the draft accounts were included in the report for noting;
- (b) the Harvey Hadden Stadium Trust grant from the Council was reduced by £33,206 and this was offset primarily through reducing energy consumption and support services expenditure;
- (c) the Highfields Leisure Park Trust grant from the Council was reduced by £5,473 and this was offset in part by a combination of premises and transport efficiencies;
- (d) the Bridge Estate Trust had increased its contribution to the Council's General Fund by £209,324, an increase of 16.4%. The Trust had also purchased a major investment property at Listergate, financed by a combination of the Trust's surplus monies and long term borrowing. Audit fees had been reduced through the appointment of new auditors, but management costs had increased with more accurate recording of time spent on governance issues.

The Committee was pleased with the report presentation and the trusts' overall performance in 2012/13. Councillors raised no substantive issues with the Harvey Hadden Stadium Trust and Highfields Leisure Park Trust annual reports and statement of accounts, other than replacing Councillor Morley with Councillor Steel in the report sections dealing with Trusts and Charities Committee membership.

The Committee and others in attendance raised the following issues in discussion on the Bridge Estate Trust:

- (e) Stuart Knight, Director of Strategic Asset and Property Management, confirmed that it was the Bridge Estate's responsibility to maintain the ornamental lamp-posts on Trent Bridge, and was not part of the city-wide street-lighting Private Finance Initiative. A programme of repair and maintenance was being prepared. Councillors supported enhanced lighting for Trent Bridge, and among their suggestions were the use of LED lighting and comparing lighting enhancements on bridges in other cities;
- (f) it was confirmed that the City Council and County Councils were jointly responsible for keeping the bridge clean, and that there was an established seven-year cycle of painting and freshening up the bridge's appearance;
- (g) Mr Dryden explained that governance costs had increased in part because it was now a requirement to conduct a Property valuation for all Trust-held

properties every year, rather than as part of a rolling programme over a longer period;

- (h) councillors asked to have a tour of the Bridge Estate asset portfolio arranged for the autumn of 2013.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve the Highfields Leisure Park Trust Annual Report and financial statements for the financial year 2012/13;**
- (2) approve the Harvey Hadden Stadium Trust Annual Report and financial statements for the financial year 2012/13;**
- (3) note the draft Bridge Estate Trust Annual Report and financial statements for the financial year 2012/13;**
- (4) request the Director of Strategic Asset and Property Management to liaise with the Constitutional Services Officer to arrange a tour of the Bridge Estate asset portfolio.**

6 TRUSTS AND CHARITIES IDENTIFIED WITHIN NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

The Committee considered the the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources' report. Barry Dryden, Senior Finance Manager, highlighted the following:

- (a) the Committee was responsible for overseeing a host of smaller charities. These had diminished in value and profile over the years, but it was still necessary to ensure that proper governance arrangements were in place, in accordance with the constitution of each organisation;
- (b) the George Pendry Fund and Nottingham Aged Persons Trust each had 2 Council appointee vacancies. The Committee proposed to appoint Barry Dryden to both organisations, and noted that Constitutional Services colleagues were working to identify nominees for the outstanding vacancies;
- (c) a number of smaller education trusts had been amalgamated into a single Nottingham Education Trust Fund, and further consolidation work was being considered.

The Committee raised the following issues in discussion:

- (d) in response to a councillor's question, Mr Dryden explained that trusts and charities' membership arrangements and requirements were not uniform, but depended on the constitution of individual organisations;
- (e) Mr Dryden also confirmed that the trustees of the individual trusts and charities were ultimately responsible for their operation, and that there was no over-arching liability for members of this Committee.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the list of trusts and charities identified within Nottingham City Council;**
- (2) to approve the appointment of Barry Dryden to the George Pendry Fund and Nottingham Aged Persons Trust;**
- (3) to delegate approval of the appointment to the remaining vacancies on the George Pendry Fund and Nottingham Aged Persons Trust Fund to the chair of this Committee.**

7 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED to meet on the following Fridays at 2pm:

<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
27 September*	31 January
29 November	28 March

***This meeting has been rearranged for Wednesday 25 September 2013 at 10.30am.**

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining items in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

9 BRIDGE ESTATE CHARITY – EXTENSION OF 2 LEASES AT GLAISDALE PARKWAY, OFF GLAISDALE ROAD

RESOLVED to extend the period of the leases on the terms set out in the report.

10 SALE OF PROPERTIES IN LACE MARKET AND CREATIVE QUARTER

The Chair of the Committee agreed that this item, although not on the agenda, could be considered as a matter of urgency in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was necessary to act quickly to secure a successful commercial outcome.

RESOLVED to approve the sale of the properties on the terms set out in the report.