

BURSLEDON WINDMILL JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Friday, 11 December 2020 (10:16 am – 11:30 am)

PRESENT:

Representing Eastleigh Borough Council - Councillors Neubauer and Banks, Ross McClean, Local Area Manager

Representing Hampshire County Council – Councillors Neubauer and Banks

Wayne Irish, Advisor

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rupert Kyrle, Councillor Judith Grajewski, Councillor Keith House and Mrs Sutton

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th of February 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

Councillor Broadhurst noted that the proposed letter to Hampshire County Council regarding repairs had been drafted and had not yet been dealt with due to the pandemic.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2020/2021

The Chairmanship of the Joint Management Committee alternates annually between the two authorities. For the year 2020/2021 the Chairman should be appointed from the County Council members of the committee.

It was agreed that no Chair be appointed in this meeting, as there were no County Council members present.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2020/2021

The Vice-Chairmanship alternates annually between the two authorities. For the year 2020/2021 the Vice-Chairmanship should be appointed from the Borough Council members of the Committee.

RESOLVED –

That Councillor Broadhurst be appointed Vice-Chair of the Joint Management Committee for the 2020/2021 municipal year.

4. CURATOR'S REPORT

Emma Banks, the Community Manager representing the Hampshire Cultural Trust, presented a report on activities at or relating to Bursledon Windmill, which covered the period January 2020 to November 2020.

For the first two weekends of March 2020 visitor numbers to the Windmill were high, most likely due to special events being held. The national lockdown forced a closure of Bursledon Windmill at the end of March 2020. Prior to the windmill reopening, a Covid-19 risk assessment was carried out, and measures introduced as necessary. These included hand sanitiser stations, increased signage and all team members attending a training session.

The site reopening on the 25th of July, seeing over 700 visitors from July through to October. Outdoor events were especially popular.

In June a condition inspection report was carried out. The windmill closed at the end of October to allow some of the suggested repairs to be carried out.

5. FINANCE REPORT

Consideration was given to the Financial Report presented by Emma Banks from Hampshire Cultural Trust, which provided an overview of Bursledon Mill's performance during Q2 against the 2020/21 budget.

Report gave a reforecast budget because of the pandemic, showing that it should be 25% of what the budget was originally intended to be.

Visitor Services Assistant received 100% of their salary, thanks to the furlough scheme and topping up from the windmill.

Acknowledged that Events had overspent according to the budget, but that by having increased events more income was brought in, and future budgets will be adjusted to acknowledge this.

Larger spending on central costs to cover PPE and other sanitising necessities.

Bursledon Windmill secured a grant of £10,000 from the Government Business Support Grants, to support them through the pandemic.

Hampshire Cultural Trust was able to secure additional funding due to Covid-19. This included the Government Business Support Grant, the Cultural Recovery Fund, and the National Heritage Lottery Fund Emergency Fund.

The Eastleigh Borough Council annual grant was discussed, and it was agreed that more communication was needed around any changes in the 2021/2022 figure.

6. WINDMILL REPAIRS UPDATE

The mill was inspected on the 16th of May by Luke Bonwick, and the report was discussed.

A contractor has been commissioned for removal of the stocks and sails. Work will begin in the week beginning the 14th of December, provided the weather is acceptable. The chain gear will also be replaced at this time, and issues with the turning wheel have been included in the quoted price for the work.

Neighbours have been informed that work will be taking place and there will be a crane present.

Concern was raised over the waterproofing of the windmill, and a discussion was had over repairs which had been suggested in 2018.

Small, routine tasks such as greasing the cogs was raised as something which could be included as ongoing maintenance, and this has been done.

A review of the operational manual and maintenance program will happen whilst the sails are off the mill.

Concerns were raised over the end cap of windshaft, which has been made but not yet fitted. It was suggested that a temporary fit may be beneficial to provide protection for another winter and asked whether this could be included in the forthcoming repairs.

A request has been submitted for Hampshire County Council to fund repairs in 2021/22. This has been submitted and a decision is awaited.

7. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on the 25th of February 2021, on Microsoft Teams.