

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Wednesday 16 May 2018

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS APPOINTED TO OUTSIDE BODIES IN 2017/18**

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 One of the recommendations of the Constitution Improvement Working Group, endorsed by Council on 15th December 2009, was that Councillors appointed to serve on outside bodies with a significant role or budget should be required to provide a short written statement to full Council at the end of the year summarising their work.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

Council is asked to receive the reports from Councillors appointed to outside bodies (appendix 1).

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Representation
 4. Total current budget for this head: £1,067,790
 5. Source of funding: 2018/19 Revenue Budget
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not Applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: This report does not require an executive decision
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): This report is provided for the benefit of Members of the Council and to provide transparency.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

3. COMMENTARY

3.1 The Constitution Improvement Working Group in its third report, presented to full Council on 15th December 2009, recommended -

“That the Members appointed as the Council’s representatives on outside organisations with a significant role and budget, should be required to provide a short annual written report to the final Council meeting or PDS in each Municipal Year.”

3.2 This recommendation was duly approved by full Council, and reports have been requested from a number of Members who have served as the Council’s representatives during 2017/18 on outside bodies with significant roles and budgets -

Clarion Housing Group – London & East Regional Scrutiny Board: Cllr Chris Pierce

Design and Heritage Champion: Cllr Nicholas Bennett

Mytime Active Board: Cllrs Nicholas Bennett & Robert Evans

Bromley Youth Music Trust Board of Directors: Cllr Kate Lymer (to follow)

Community Links Bromley: Cllrs Peter Fortune and William Huntington-Thresher (to follow)

3.3 The reports are attached in **Appendix 1**.

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|---|---|
| Non-Applicable Sections: | Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Financial/Personnel/Legal/Procurement |
| Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer) | None |

**Design and Heritage Champion
Cllr Nicholas Bennett JP**

There were fewer calls on my time with regard to planning matters in 2017-18 but I was delighted to support the successful application for cash match funding in order to receive a Heritage at Risk Grant from Historic England to secure repairs and stabilisation of brickwork at the Medieval Manor in Scadbury Park.

The Council is a member of Urban Design London, a most valuable forum for Transport, Environment and Planning officers and Members with an interest in these areas. All councillors are welcome to attend at no charge.

During the past year I have participated in the following sessions:

- 13th June 2017* History of London's Suburbs and Town Centres
- 15th June 2017* Creating the Enjoyable Street
- 14th July 2017* Design and the Historic Environment
- 15th July 2017* Housing site visit at Cane Hill, Croydon
- 11th January 2018* London Plan Briefing
- 14th March 2018* Zone 2 and Beyond; What's next for Town Centres?
- 29th March 2018* Croydon Growth Zone Walking Tour

The municipal year 2016-17 including the commemoration of the Battle of the Somme, this year has seen unveiling ceremonies by Her Worship the Mayor of memorial stones to the two Bromley residents who were awarded the VC. I was delighted to attend that for Lt Commander Geoffrey Saxton White on January 29th at the Bromley War memorial was sorry not to be able to attend the unveiling for Private Herbert Columbine at Penge Memorial on March 22nd.

This year's Remembrance Day will be the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One and I hope to work with interested organisations and individuals to ensure that, in addition to the annual service of Remembrance, we can commemorate this special anniversary in other ways.

Next year sees the 100th anniversary of the first '*Just William*' story by local author Richmal Crompton. The '*Just William*' Society will be holding their annual meeting in Bromley and it is hoped that other events will be organised to celebrate the event.

**Mytime Active Board
Cllr Nicholas Bennett**

Governance

The past year, 2017/18, was the first full year in post for the new Chairman of Trustees, Mark Oakley, who succeeded Dennis Barkway on his retirement in December 2016. Mark is Senior Partner in Judge Priestly and was previously Vice Chair. The transition has been smooth and positive for all concerned.

In May 2017, Cllr Robert Evans was nominated by the Council to take up one of the Council nominated positions the Board, joining Cllr Nicholas Bennett. He brings valuable experience in both sport and working with children and young people as well as using his connections across the borough to help strengthen partnership working. Cllr Bennett, who has served two separate terms of four years in the past twelve years as a Trustee has indicated that he will stand down after the May elections to enable a new member to be nominated by the Council to the Trust.

The new Chairman has established a new style of Board meeting, where a more informal, workshop style session is held for 90 minutes, allowing Trustees to deepen their understanding and inquiry into one or two key matters. This is followed by a short break and then the main Board meeting where formal business is conducted matters of governance as well as escalation from the Audit and Risk sub-committee on which Cllr Bennett sits. This approach is valued by the Trustees for using their time more efficiently and allowing for more productive debate.

Having surveyed the views of Trustees at the start of his tenure in January 2017, the Chairman is leading a second process of Board self-appraisal in April 2018.

Regional approach

Mytime Active has reinvigorated its mission to focus on improving the wellbeing of the local community. This gives more prominence to the public benefit and public health aspects of encouraging more people to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

As part of this focus, the management has restructured all the activities in Bromley, to fall under a single regional management structure, led by our new Regional Manager, Matthew Eady. In addition to the breadth of leisure and golf sites managed on behalf of the council, Matthew and his team also run the large Orpington Golf Canter (Cray Valley and Ruxley golf clubs) where we work closely with Clarion Housing and hard to reach young people who live locally, and the health work we undertake in partnership with the CCG.

Social benefit

Mytime Active remain keen to partner with the Council in other areas that contribute to improving the wellbeing of the local residents, with a particular emphasis on development of leisure facilities, programmes promoting healthy eating and physical activity, as well as arts and culture and other associated activities.

The Trust continued for a second year of the “family” membership where three or more people can join together for under £25 each a month. This has grown the overall numbers joining and taking part on a regular basis. It continues to seek ways to reduce the barriers to participation, in particular for groups such as the over 60s, new mums, older inactive men, and young people with special educational needs.

Building on the established programmes of “Heart Smart” and “Fresh Start” in partnership with the CCG, Mytime Active initiated the first programme for exercise Referral through Golf. Based at Bromley Common Golf Centre, the resulting positive impact on participants health is was monitored and evaluated independently by ukactive Institute of Research and has been entered for the industry awards.

Mytime Active were delighted to support Team Bromley winning gold in the 2017 London Youth Games for the second year in a row. It benefits both the hundreds of young people taking part as well as raising the profile of the Borough. The Trustees appreciated the attendance of Council members and officers at the celebration event to recognise the young athletes as well as the volunteer team coaches.

The Trust’s work in reaching young people stretches into music. The “Arts Train” project has been a creative music hub for many years, partnering with the local Bromley Youth Music Trust, and has grown from strength to strength. Arts Council England invited the Trust to apply for a 4 year grant, which was duly awarded making it the only organisation in Bromley to be part of the Arts Council England National Portfolio.

Investment

Mytime Active submitted a full report to the Council on their activities in the Borough, which was considered by the Recreation and Renewal Scrutiny Committee in the autumn, and covered social impact as well as the use of the facilities managed.

The Council agreed allocation of the investment fund for the period 2018/19. Although the nature of some of the investment is complex, nevertheless it is anticipated that the funds for 18/19 will all be complete by March 2019.

The Board continues to take a robust financial approach when deciding whether to bid for services in other parts of the country and has declined to bid where a surplus cannot be obtained.

Relationship with the council

During the summer, we initiated a round table meeting with Mark Oakley, the Chairman of Mytime Active and the then Leader of the Council, Cllr Stephen Carr. A similar introductory meeting was held in March between the Chairman of Trustees and the new Leader Cllr Colin Smith, accompanied by Cllr Peter Morgan as Portfolio Holder, the two respective Chief executives and Matthew Eady, Mytime Active's Regional manager for Bromley. We understand that the meeting was positive and it was noted that the relationship at officer and at member level continues to improve.

The Board of Mytime Active is keen to build on the positive public benefit that Mytime Active can add, has authorised the officers to explore the future of the partnership with the Council. Any changes to the existing arrangements will need to be fully discussed with the Trustees.

Clarion Housing Group (Affinity Sutton) London and East Regional Scrutiny Board (RSB) Cllr Chris Pierce

1. Until September 2017, the Board was one of a number of established Regional Scrutiny Boards comprising representatives from Affinity Sutton (now Clarion), tenants and local authorities.
2. Until September 2017, the Board continued to receive comments from Resident Area Panels (RAPs) which enable tenants in smaller areas within the region to voice their views and opinions. The annual Residents Engagement Day (RED) was held at the Amba Hotel, Charing Cross on 13th October.
3. Two Scrutiny Board meetings have been held in London on;

20th June 2017
21st September 2017

The next meeting has yet to be scheduled, primarily due to uncertainties about the new organisational structure following the merger (see section 6).

4. During the year scrutiny was carried out on the following topic and an action plan was developed and progressed to deal with the findings;
 - Managing Anti-Social Behaviour

In addition, the tragic events at Grenfell Tower, and the potential impact on Clarion properties, were discussed at length. The Board was kept apprised of the actions Clarion was undertaking to keep its residents updated and reassured.

5. Scrutiny topics for the financial year 2018-19 have yet to be selected, primarily due to uncertainties about the new organisational structure following the merger (see section 6).

6. During the financial year Affinity Sutton Group and Circle Housing Group merged under a single parent organisation, Clarion Housing Group. It has yet to be established how Resident Involvement and scrutiny will operate under the new organisation, hence why further meetings and scrutiny topics have yet to be scheduled. Members and Officers will be kept updated on developments.

To follow:

Bromley Youth Music Trust Board of Directors
Cllr Kate Lymer

Community Links Bromley
Cllrs Peter Fortune and William Huntington-Thresher