

**MINUTES OF THE FOSSIL GROVE TRUST MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH AUGUST 2018 AT 10 AM
IN THE CITY CHAMBERS**

Present: Walter Semple (Chair); Councillors Maggie McTernan, Ade Aibinu, and Feargal Dalton, Glasgow City Council; Elizabeth Brown, Michael Herrigan; David Webster; Campbell Forrest; Neil Robertson.

In Attendance: Kara Wilson and Alexandra Piernikarz, Financial Services, Glasgow City Council [until Kara had presented her report].

Apology: Fiona McKinnon

1. Minute of Meeting of 24th April 2018

The trustees approved the minute of the meeting held on 24th April.

2. Financial Report.

Kara Wilson spoke to her write report. The value of the trust investments on 30.07.2018 was £382,441. She would now be succeeded by Alexandra Piernikarz, trainee accountant.

3. Report by Fiona McKinnon

The trustees noted the written report from Fiona McKinnon. The visitor record from March to July totalled 3019. Lighting engineers were expected to make a proposal during the week beginning on 20th August. The trustees regretted that the meeting was not attended by a representative from LES to answer questions. The long delay was noted.

4. Environmental Monitoring

David Webster spoke to the report which he had prepared and circulated. It is annexed to the Minute. Historic Environment Scotland continued to carry out a great deal of highly technical scientific work for Glasgow City Council without making a charge for it.

Environmental Monitoring: Noted that, except for periods of dry weather in June and July, humidity remained virtually constant at 98.5%, that is almost total saturation.

Drainage Improvements: A report on the scope and progress of these works was awaited from LES. David Webster will seek a meeting with LES in the near future to obtain this information.

HES: All recommendations by HES for further work were approved and acknowledged with thanks. It has now been established that the fossils and the fossil floor are being damaged by drips of water including magnesium sulphate [hexahydrate] incorporated in the paint on the roof girders.

The following recommendations were made:

1] That Mr Webster be reimbursed a total of £109 for expenditure on the SIM contact, batteries and bulbs. **This was agreed.**

2] That the Trustees agree to the purchase of three additional environmental monitors for the Fossil Grove at an approximate cost of £1560 from Trust funds. **This was agreed.**

- 3] That the Trustees agree to the purchase of a time-lapse camera system to monitor water ingress at an approximate cost of £300 from Trust funds. **This was agreed.**
- 4] That appropriate lighting improvements be carried out by LES and their contractors with urgency. **This was agreed.**
- 5] That LES provide the Trustees with a comprehensive report (including scale-maps) of the drainage system and the improvements carried out thus far. **This was agreed subject to further discussion on the scope and implementation of the work.**
- 6] That HES and LES liaise to get the lighting repairs and further sampling done at the same time. **This was agreed so as to allow HES to carry out their proposed work.**
- 7] That a detailed geological survey be undertaken jointly with the Advisory Group and HES of the floor to add to the laser-scanned images **This was agreed.**
- 8] That with SNH approval, a clean up of the surface to remove loose salt deposits should be undertaken **This was agreed.**
- 9] That a report on scope and costs of a possible website be prepared for the next meeting. **This was agreed on the basis that a possible link with the Geological Society of Glasgow be explored.**
- 10] That LES carry-out renovation works on the lycopod sculpture. **This was agreed.**

5. A future for Fossil Grove / Draft letter to Glasgow life.

The trustees considered the draft letter submitted. It was agreed that it should convey that the trustees wished to use their funds for future revenue expenditure, rather than capital expenditure, in the absence of a sustainable plan for future expenditure. Subject to that, they instructed the Chairman to send it.

6. Friends of Victoria Park work on the quarry, pond restoration and fernery

Elizabeth Brown presented a paper seeking approval of a donation from the trust of £2000 to the development of a fernery in the quarry area. The trustees considered that this was within the trust purposes and approved her proposal.

7. Victoria Park Working Group

It was reported that the Working Group was in the process of transforming itself into a Community Trust which would be a charity which would assume responsibility for managing the Park. Ownership would remain with Glasgow City Council. It was said that a Memo of Understanding with the trustees would be proposed. The trustees would be kept informed.

8. Letter from Jordanhill Community Council received 25.07.2018.

David Webster offered to reply to the scientific questions asked. This was agreed.

9. Future trust meetings

Tuesday 30 October 2018 (AGM)

29 January 2019

30 April 2019

13 August 2019

29 October 2019