Malvern Hills Trust

Ordinary Meeting of the Board – Business Deferred from 11 July 2024

Welland Parish Hall, Marlbank Road, Malvern WR14

Tuesday 23 July 2024 7pm

Agenda

Introduction

1. Apologies for absence (Robert Berry, Duncan Westbury, Sheila Wren, Finance & Administration Manager)
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Vice-Chair's Announcements
   3.1. Confirmation of arrangements for the election of the new Chair of the Board
   3.2. To note the appointments of Mark Driscoll to Governance Committee and of Mary Turner to Staffing Committee, and to note the vacancy for a Chair of Governance Committee.
   3.3. Responses to Public Comments made on 11 July 2024.

Confirmation of Previous Board Meeting

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 9 May 2024 Pages 4-9
   Confidential pages 2-3
5. Matters arising from the previous Board meeting not otherwise on the agenda

Items for Decision

6. Bill/Public Consultation Update (verbal)
7. Delegated authority – budget sign off levels **Paper B** Pages 10-12
8. Annual review of temporary fencing on the Malvern Hills **Paper C** Pages 13-15
9. Property Management – reported land movement on approach road to St Ann's Well **Paper D** Pages 16-20
10. External Audit and Annual Meeting
11. Annual review of risk management strategy
    To note the recommendations from FAR:
    - that the Board approve the commissioning of a shorter risk management document with more succinct content, with relevant committees taking ownership of respective areas.
    - that a risk management workshop be arranged for all Trustees to consider any movement in final risk scoring and overall shifts to red/amber/green.
12. Urgent Business
    12.1 Motion of support for MHT staff proposed by Charles Penn, Chair of Staffing Committee
    That the Board
    - ♦ notes the recent campaign of disinformation against the Malvern Hills Trust, in which unfounded, inflammatory and grossly misleading statements have been made about the organisation and its work;
    - ♦ acknowledges the negative effects this toxic activity may have had on members of staff at all levels of the organisation;
    - ♦ conveys its heartfelt thanks to all staff for their forbearance and stoicism, and for the professional manner in which they have continued to discharge their duties during this difficult time.

    12.2 Health & Safety **Paper F (separate circulation)**
    12.3 Governance Committee Chair vacancy

12.4 Staff/Trustee social group **Paper G (separate circulation)**

Other Committee Business for Decision

13. **Finance, Administration & Resources Committee – meeting of 20 June 2024**
    13.1. Adoption of the Minutes **Paper H (separate circulation)**
    13.2. Chair of Committee – verbal updates and questions
    13.3. Resolutions recommended to Board (not otherwise on the agenda)
    - that the Board note the actions now being taken by MHT staff, further to the special Board meeting of 5 October 2023, to source an alternative Data Protection Officer and arrange GDPR training for staff and Trustees.

14. **Land Management Committee – meeting of 27 June 2024**
    14.1. Adoption of the Minutes
    14.2. Chair of Committee – verbal updates and questions
    14.3. Resolutions recommended to Board (not otherwise on the agenda)
    - that the Board approve the installation of Malvern Wells Parish Council's preferred design of signage, albeit with two posts per sign in all locations for visual attractiveness. The Peachfield Road sign is to be integrated in the space with other street signs.
    - that the approach of finding consensus and a placemaking ethos should become the Trust's regular approach to land and property matters.
    - that the Board approve the proposed timetable for the production of the Land Management Plan 2026-2031.

Items for Information

15. Red flags on the Risk Register
    To note that the CEO considers the following red risks to be of current concern to the Board:
    2.4 Changes to Local Government Ward Boundaries.
    3.1 Loss of reputation.
    3.2 Adverse publicity, loss of confidence, loss of influence, impact on staff morale.
    3.5 Impact of local campaigns by groups or individuals diverting organisational focus.
    5.4.1 Grant funding being reduced by unilateral changes to existing agreements made by Rural Payments Agency.
16. Management accounts for the 12 months ended 31 March 2024
    Paper E Pages 21-29

17. **Dates of next meetings**
    30 July 2024 – Special Meeting to elect new Chair of the Board
    8 August 2024 – Special Meeting to discuss consultation results
    12 September 2024

Confidential items

Resolution to exclude the public for discussion of item 21 on the agenda on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the exempt or confidential nature of the business to be transacted (matters relating to individuals/commercially sensitive business).

CONFIDENTIAL

18. Matters arising from the confidential section of the previous Board meeting not otherwise on the agenda