

# **NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION\***

**GREATER LONDON NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 21 JUNE 2019**

**Registered Charity number 1173267**

**Charitable Incorporated Organisation**

**GREATER LONDON NATIONAL PARK CITY FOUNDATION  
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 21 JUNE 2019**

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Registered Name:** Greater London National Park City Foundation, also known as National Park City Foundation (NPCF) and National Park City (NPC)

**Contact details:** Email [hello@nationalparkcity.org](mailto:hello@nationalparkcity.org) or visit [www.nationalparkcity.org](http://www.nationalparkcity.org)

**Registered Charity number 1173267**

**Trustees holding office during the year:**

Alison Barnes  
Beth Collier  
Paul de Zylva (Chair)  
Pat Fitzsimons (resigned on 27 January 2019)  
Mathew Frith (resigned on 26 August 2019)  
Alice Roberts  
Ben Smith  
Julian Tollast  
Tim Webb

**Registered office:**

c/o Geovation, Sutton Yard, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 65 Goswell Road, London EC1V 4EN

**Bank:**

CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

## **STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

### **Governance and Management**

The organisation is registered as a charitable incorporated organisation, under a constitution which governs its activities. It is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees to identify if additional skills are required on the Board. Where this is the case, the Board actively and transparently recruits new trustees, either through its own network or in appropriate journals and magazines. All new trustees receive an induction.

Trustees met five times during the year to June 2019 to plan work against the Business Plan adopted in March 2018. Trustees also held weekly tele-conferences to expedite work. During the year, Pat Fitzsimons stepped down as a trustee and we initiated a recruitment process to strengthen and expand the skills of the Board. We encourage applications that are representative of the diverse society in which we work and select the most appropriate Trustees with skills required at that time. We are very grateful to all of our trustees, past and present, for their energy and support.

As there were no staff during the year, the trustees, volunteers and National Park City Champions carried out all the activities of the charity.

### **Charitable Objectives**

The objects of the Foundation are:

- To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London having aesthetic, architectural, historic, scientific or educational interest;
- To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Greater London;
- To advance the education of the public in the heritage and culture of Greater London;
- To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Greater London the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

### **Public benefit statement**

The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. The Trustees also ensure that the programme of activities is always in line with our charitable objectives and aims.

### **Risk Statement**

The trustees have, taking into account guidance available from the Charity Commission, reviewed the risks faced by the Foundation and have put in place policies and procedures to address and mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

## **Trustees' Report for the year ended 21 June 2019**

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 21 June 2019. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Constitution.

### **Aims**

The Foundation aims to bring the idea of National Park Cities (NPCs) to life starting in London with ambition to extend this internationally, by:

- Providing thought and practical leadership
- Coordinating and developing the vision of NPCs
- Galvanising the London National Park City movement
- Growing a partnership of organisations and interests in support of NPCs
- Leading inspiring campaigns
- Supporting activities that contribute towards National Park City aims
- Fundraising

### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objectives and activities**

During the year to 21 June 2019 the Foundation focused on: London becoming the world's first National Park City in July 2019; continuing to develop its network and relationships with communities, business and decision makers in London; and extending contact with other cities in the UK and around the world with a view to them becoming National Park Cities.

#### **Highlights include**

- Running an inaugural London National Park City Week and Fair in July 2018.
- Preparing for London to become the world's first National Park City, which happened in July 2019 and included a City Hall Summit and a week-long National Park City Festival.
- Drawing up a London National Park City Charter and working with international partners on a Universal National Park City Charter. Both charters were launched in July 2019.
- Raising funds for and writing, designing and producing *Maker*, a guide to ways people can help bring London National Park City alive.
- Responding to Mayor of London consultations on environment and spatial development, and to the UK government's review of National Parks and landscapes.
- A YouGov poll of public opinion in London finding high levels of support among Londoners for the London National Park City idea and the activities, values and behaviours it involves.

- Exploring with Timberland a unique volunteer Ranger programme for London National Park City, which subsequently started in spring 2020.

During the year covered by this report, our focus was on London becoming the world's first National Park City in July 2019. As part of this, we continued to develop our network and relationships with communities, business and decision makers in London.

Contact with other cities in the UK and around the world also came to the fore during the year as part of our aim to extend the National Park City idea to other cities in the UK and internationally, drawing on our experience from London and partnership with others.

### **Network, supporters and volunteers**

The idea and the energy behind National Park City and London National Park City comes from London's grassroots communities reflecting the considerable and growing interest of people and organisations from all walks of life in helping to improve life in London through more and better everyday contact with nature and the great outdoors because of better planning, design, access and opportunities.

Our work is sustained and brought to life by a growing network of 220 supporting groups and organisations and dedicated individual volunteers from across London who feed in their ideas, feedback on ours and make our events a success. We thank all our volunteers, network members and supporters.

### **Advancing National Park City status in London**

By January 2018, a majority of locally elected ward councillors in London had expressed their support for London to be a National Park City. Over 70% of London Assembly members also supported London as a National Park City, complementing the manifesto commitment of Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, to support London National Park City.

We held regular meetings with officials to discuss ways to incorporate National Park City thinking into strategic plans for London and ran an inaugural National Park City Week in July 2018 including a London National Park City Fair at Conway Hall (see Events below).

We commissioned YouGov polling to gauge public awareness of the notion of London National Park City and to understand the kinds of activities Londoners associated with NPC status. It is encouraging that the poll found high levels of public support for London being a National Park City along with considerable desire for the kind of outdoor activities National Park City status implies. 9 in 10 Londoners support our aims and nearly 1 in 20 say they have undertaken volunteering or other activity to help make London a National Park City.

During the year we started exploring with Timberland the potential for a volunteer Ranger programme in support of London National Park City. We also started working with National Park City Champions to spread the message of London National Park City.

### **Promoting National Park City status elsewhere**

As guardians of the National Park City idea, and of the spirit of the London National Park City, we also sought to extend it to other cities in the UK and internationally.

During the year, we consulted on a Universal Charter for National Park City status globally, working with our partners at Salzburg Global Seminar and World Urban Parks. In July 2018, with support from the Corporation of London, we hosted a Charter reception at Tower Bridge and consultation workshops with guests from Belgium, the Netherlands, and South Korea.

We also met and fed into the review of landscapes led by Julian Glover, commissioned by the government to consider the role of established National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The review reported after the period covered by this report but acknowledged the potential of National Park City as a link between town and country.

## **Events**

We worked with the Greater London Authority to stage the inaugural National Park City Week in July 2018 featuring over 300 events throughout London and a day-long National Park City Fair with over 26 speakers and with over 50 organisations represented.

Following the success of the inaugural Fair and Week, with the Mayor of London's team we planned a more ambitious week for July 2019 with multiple free outdoor events across the capital under the banner of the National Park City Festival, as part of marking London's launch as the world's first National Park City.

As reported in our first report for 2017-18 we worked with *SeedBall* to launch a *Wildflowers for London* crowdfund campaign to get Londoners supporting native wildflower species in the city. For every seed ball sold, *SeedBall* donated another to the London National Park City *SeedBank for Schools* for distribution free of charge to schools.

During the year London National Park City continued to receive important support from the media especially *Time Out London*, which has promoted the notion of London becoming the world's first National Park City.

## **Influence**

Throughout the year, we responded to London mayoral strategy consultations relevant to London National Park City including on culture, housing, environment and spatial development (the New London Plan).

This work resulted in our appearance at the examination in public of the Mayor's London Plan to make the case for greening of urban development and protection of London's Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land (MOL).

## **Thanks to:**

- Daniel Raven-Ellison, founder of the National Park City idea, and Steve Pocock, our pivotal super volunteer, who have been at the heart of the Foundation's work.
- North agency, Robin Howie of Fieldwork Facility, and Grace Chao, for design assistance with the Maker guide and London and Universal charters.
- All who responded to our crowdfunding appeal by donating toward the production the Maker guide including Berkeley Homes and Ordnance Survey.
- The SHM Foundation for supporting and catalysing the London National Park City's work to grow capacity, implement programmes and build international consensus around a Universal Charter of National Park Cities.

- The Kestralman Trust for funding the YouGov public opinion poll to identify what Londoners think is important for London to be greener, healthier and wilder.
- Locally elected ward councillors and London Assembly Members who have supported us to make London a National Park City.
- London Mayor *Sadiq Khan*, Deputy Mayor *Shirley Rodrigues*, and *Andrew Jones*, *Peter Massini*, *Ben Connor*, *Katrina Ramsey* and *Pete Nichols* at the GLA for advice and support.
- Elected members of London local authorities and of the London Assembly.
- Our growing list of international contacts including World Urban Parks, Salzburg Global Seminar, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability and the IUCN.
- Time Out, the National Trust, *Charlie Peel* at UrbanGood, and venue partners *Conway Hall*.
- *Josh Gaillem* of *The Whole Story* for generous support to our London National Park City Champions.
- All London National Park City volunteers who have brought ideas, responded to requests for input, led events and outreach particularly *Angela McDermott*, *Lesley Wertheimer*, *Simon Saville*, *Alison Archer*, *Alona Sheridan*, *Stephen Watts*, *Jasmine Kamal-Pasha* and *Chessie Shirley*.
- Everyone who has become a National Park City Maker through their actions, large and small, in their local neighbourhoods.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Foundation's financial report for the year to 21 June 2019 is on Page 9.

The Trustees are pleased to report an increase in donations to £48,223 (£6,362 in the year to 21 June 2018). This was mainly due to a successful crowdfunder which raised £33,528 to fund the Maker guide and events around the launch of London as the first National Park City in July 2019. Payments in the year totalled £15,265 (£6,212 in the year to 21 June 2018).

### **Reserves**

The Trustees have not yet set a reserves policy. The cash balance at 21 June 2019 was £34,108, with no other assets or liabilities.

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the Greater London National Park City Foundation**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 21 June 2019.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees of Greater London National Park City Foundation, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Greater London National Park City Foundation are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

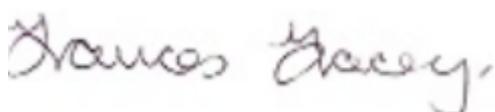
### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Greater London National Park City Foundation gross income is more than £25,000 your examiner needs to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Greater London National Park City Foundation as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Frances Tracey ACMA

Date:.....9 April 2020.....

**Greater London National Park City Foundation**  
**Accounts for the financial year ending 21 June 2019**

	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2017-18</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Project donations	46,528	6,362
Event income and donations	982	-
Donations for talks	558	-
Other donations	155	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b><u>48,223</u></b>	<b><u>6,362</u></b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Design fees	-	250
Event costs	3,216	299
Merchandise	300	-
Bank fees	60	50
Project costs	4,020	5,613
Consultancy	7,000	-
Insurance	649	-
Volunteer expenses	20	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b><u>15,265</u></b>	<b><u>6,212</u></b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>	<b>32,958</b>	<b>150</b>
Funds at start of year	1,150	1,000
<b>Funds at end of year</b>	<b>34,108</b>	<b>1,150</b>

**Statement of assets and liabilities at 21 June 2019:**

**Assets:** Cash balance £34,108  
**Liabilities:** none

These accounts were approved by the Trustees at a meeting on

3 April 2020

Paul de Zylva

Chair



Elizabeth Kavanagh

Treasurer

