

Council Assembly

Wednesday 27 November 2013

7.00 pm

Harris Academy Peckham, 112 Peckham Road, London SE15 5DZ

Supplemental Agenda No.3

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Date: 22 November 2013

Agenda Item 2.2

Item No. 2.2	Classification: Open	Date: 27 November 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Public Question Time	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

1. QUESTION FROM JEFF KELLAND TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING MANAGEMENT

Now that milk, coal, fruit and vegetables are no longer delivered nor night soil collected, who benefits from Devon Mansions blocks 1-21 SE1 security doors providing access via the 'trade' button for anyone between 0600 and 1000 each day? Deliverers of pizza leaflets?

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
Version	Final
Dated	22 November 2013

Item No. 2.3	Classification: Open	Date: 27 November 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Deputation Requests on the Theme – Local Business and Enterprise	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That council assembly notes the deputation requests received for consideration by this meeting as listed in paragraph 3 of the report.
2. That council assembly considers whether or not to hear a deputation from the three groups listed in paragraph 8 of the report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Deputations received for this meeting

3. The following deputation requests have been received by the deadline for consideration by this meeting and they are list in the order received below:
 1. BBI UK
 2. Latin American Business in Southwark
 3. Tower Bridge Road Alliance
 4. Local levy on large supermarkets within the borough
 5. Herne Hill Forum and Herne Hill Traders
4. The details for the deputations on the themed debate are set out in this report. The details of the other deputation are set out in item 4.

Procedure at the meeting

5. The council assembly procedure rule 2.6 (11) states that no more than three deputations shall be considered at any one meeting, and deputations shall be considered in the order of receipt. However the meeting can decide to suspend this rule in order to hear more or vary the order.
6. When considering whether to hear the deputation request, council assembly can decide:
 - to receive the deputation at this meeting or a future meeting; *or*
 - that the deputation not be received; *or*
 - to refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
7. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. One member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the meeting for no longer than 5 minutes. The deputation spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by him or her shall be invited to ask a

question of the leader or relevant cabinet member. After this time councillors may ask questions of the deputation for up to 5 minutes. At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation will be shown to the public seating area where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Deputation requests on the themed debate

8. The following deputation requests were the first three requests received on the theme. The deputations are listed in order of receipt.

1. Deputation Basic Business Initiative (BBI) UK

The deputation request states:

As an enterprise support agency based in the borough, promoting entrepreneurship and self economic empowerment across Southwark, we would welcome the chance to talk about our current work, the challenges we face and also the input we need to have in council initiatives to ensure that local services meet the needs of our businesses. We would really appreciate the opportunity to put our points across.

2. Deputation from Latin American Business in Southwark

The deputation request states:

We are a group of business people representing the Latin American Business Community in Southwark.

This is an important community with many small and large businesses in the area. We are a vibrant and creative community with much to offer. Indeed we do not believe that it is generally known or appreciated how important we are to the commercial life of Southwark. We strongly believe that our contribution to the economy is of major importance. The Latin community has been active in the borough for generations and have fought very hard to present a positive identity for our culture.

Now, with the area around the Elephant being regenerated, we are concerned about our future. It would be a terrible loss to the area if, in the process of this regeneration, the positive, productive atmosphere created by Latin businesses was removed. An important consideration in this regard will be the costs of running our businesses. We do not want to be priced out of existence.

Instead, we want to propose a positive initiative which, we submit, will contribute to the future success of the Elephant regeneration. We propose the creation of a stronger Latin identity in the borough, and especially in the area of the Elephant and Castle. We now have second and third generations of Latin Americans living, studying and working in this country. We are here to stay. We ask to be taken seriously.

We would like to establish a distinct Latin character to the development, either a Latin Cultural Centre or a part of the Elephant development area which is designated as the Latin Quarter. We submit that the Elephant development will gain substantial benefits by being identified with the excitement, colour, creativity

and energy of the Latin culture. People of ALL cultures will be drawn to such an area.

We are a hardworking community, with wonderful music, food and arts. We are contributing to the daily life of Southwark in schools, in helping to protect the disabled, in the area women's rights. We have established many important media outlets – newspapers, radio and TV channels. We are active in the church. Our businesses serve not only to the Latin Americans but all the communities in Southwark. Help us to continue, and to expand our contribution to the life of our borough.

3. Deputation from the Tower Bridge Road Alliance

The deputation request states:

I would like to request that council assembly on 27 November 2013 hear a deputation from the Tower Bridge Road Alliance (TRBA). The council assembly will be hosting a themed debate on local business and enterprise. As a local business association trying to improve Tower Bridge Road our organisation would welcome the chance to talk about our current work, the challenges we face and have faced and finally the input/communication we need to have in council initiatives to ensure that local services meet the needs of our businesses.

TBRA is a Community Interest Company setup in 2012. Supported by Southwark Council, the organisation has received over £100,000 since its inception to help revitalise Tower Bridge Road.

Project Lead, Tower Tandoori and local businesses believe by working together, they can make Tower Bridge Road a better place for businesses, residents and visitors. The shop front scheme has helped to refurbish rundown frontages for many businesses in Tower Bridge Road and is still in progress in its last stages. There are other projects which are in the pipeline, including a unique feature lighting project, an allocated refuse area project and a railway arch refurbishment programme.

Other projects, such as the tree lighting scheme have received funding from Southwark Council but have not received permission from TFL. Tower Bridge Road is part of the TFL network and therefore all roads, pavements, lampposts and trees are owned by TFL. The biggest challenge we have faced to date has been rejection from TFL. Without permission from TFL, making improvements to Tower Bridge Road is near enough impossible.

TBRA are seeking help from Southwark Council not just for funding but also help with making collaborations and lasting partnerships with TFL, Network Rail and any other authority for the benefit of Tower Bridge Road.

4. Deputation on introducing a local levy on large supermarkets within the borough

The deputation request states:

The content of our deputation will be:

- description of the impact that large supermarkets have on local community life within the borough and the related local economic situation

- a brief explanation of something that could help the above situation: the case for submitting a proposal to the government under the Sustainable Communities Act that requests that the Council to be given the power to, if it so wishes, introduce a local levy on large supermarkets within the borough
- detail of the background to this proposal: a similar levy has already been legislated for separately by the Northern Ireland and Scottish Parliaments early last year
- detail of the support the proposal already has from other Local Authorities, e.g. Derby City Council, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council and Enfield Borough Council
- a request for the council to resolve to submit this proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act.

5. Herne Hill Forum and Herne Hill Traders

The deputation request states:

We would like to raise the issue of the problems that Herne Hill Traders are facing in Herne Hill after the devastating floods due to a burst water main in August. Herne Hill was an area being regenerated with new businesses starting up and a strong local community. The flood has set this back with potential long term damaging effects. We want to ask the council for their full support in obtaining recompense from Thames Water that will ensure the community can restore the good work done by all in the area over the last few years.

Other deputation requests received by the deadline

9. The other deputation requests received by the deadline are set out in item 4.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Deputation Request File	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228
Council Assembly Procedure Rule 2.6, Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	22 November 2013	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Legal Services	No	No
Strategic Director Finance & Corporate Services	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		22 November 2013

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2013

Including themed debate on: Local business and Enterprise

SOME COMMUNITY VIEWS

What activities or projects would you like to see more of in town centres and high streets to help them grow and thrive?

- I live in Honor Oak, and come to Peckham to shop for clothes, meat and other things...I like the meat in Peckham, but there should be more supermarkets. Some of the meat shops are too dirty, so I avoid them. You can tell the dirty ones by the way they smell.
- We used to live near the High Street for many years, but we have moved to Bromley now. The high street is definitely not the same, it is noisy and unsafe. The Citizens' Advice Bureau is gone, we only find one in Peckham Rye now.
- The High Street is too overcrowded with a lot of foodstuff hanging out, extensions on to the pavement – there is the market place for that. Another thing, is the fouling of the street, and the rubbish – we have a lot of tourism, as a country we are depending more and more on tourism, they are not coming to see fouling, rubbish, marketing items hanging out on the street. They are coming to a high street which is turned into business place where they can purchase whatever they need...
- We have a McDonald's here a bargain shop over there, but not too much of the same thing...I'm not seeing a sign marked "college", or place of learning...there should be more places of culture, for visitors who come here. Look out of the window, see what that young woman is doing (taking photos with her mobile), what is she seeing?
- Fit more spaces in for the enterprising people of the area.
- More structured activities for children and young people.
- Parks should hold activities for young people especially on school holidays.
- Entertainment facilities for adults and children.
- Social space, sitting areas.
- Sports activities.
- Crèche provision for parents.
- More shopping provision for Asian people so that they do not travel out of the borough.
- Elephant & Castle Shopping Centre is very depressing, (it) needs better shops. The look and the environment needs to be improved.

- Some shops are great in the area e.g. on the Walworth Road; Baldwin's, Pauls Discount Store, Eroma, Turkish Store. These shops must be supported in hard times with affordable rates so they are not pushed out by Wonga and betting shops.
- Support for homeless elderly and disabled people.
- Transport access.
- Transport costs (are) too high so people are forced to shop in their local facility with very limited choice.
- Clean the streets.
- Food street festivals to bring community together.
- Shops close (too) early at Elephant & Castle.
- Council to (provide) support with loans to develop shops at Harper Road.
- Council to sign post and offer support to existing shops to survive in these hard times.
- Affordable rents.
- So many premises are empty - support local residents to set up businesses.
- Play areas.
- Seating areas.
- Cinemas – diverse films, Hollywood, Bollywood etc.
- Leisure activities.
- Better quality of shops; Next, Gap, John Lewis etc alongside cheaper stores. Give us a variety and selection of stores. We don't want to have to go to the West End dragging our kids. It's too much hassle. We want to stay local and get to shop on the high street.
- Better, bigger shops.
- Big brands.
- Shops of interest to the local community. Halal shops and clothes shops reflecting the community. We don't want to go to Green Street to get our Asian clothes but we have to as there aren't any shops or variety.
- Parking.
- No blocked roads, access for all from the main roads.
- Less business is being done on the high street, with less employment as a consequence – more and more business is being done on mobile phones.

- In all shopping areas and high streets, security is such an important factor – I was in a shopping mall when a young child stole a woman's mobile phone! People would avoid areas like that.
- We need more libraries, social activities for the youngsters, youth centres and employment centres to help the young find jobs
- Take care of the youngsters first as they are our future.
- It needs regeneration – which is happening..
- Mother and baby groups, cinemas, leisure complex which has swimming, bowling and different activities for kids
- Play areas, mother and toddler groups, youth areas
- More police and more security in shops and a safer environment.
- A variety of arts projects is a good way of getting local people engaged and involved regardless of age.
- Considering we are in a recession I think people are more interested in surviving day to day coping with ever increasing costs than worrying about town centres and high streets thriving.
- I can't think of any projects but town centres/high streets in areas such as the Walworth Road and Peckham – Rye Lane - need to be more desirable for the whole community. A lot of those shops are uninviting and only attract a certain shopper. Also (there are) too many loan shops, betting offices and poundshops though they are useful as it's cheap.
- I live near to Camberwell Green, the area should be more developed. There is a need to have more useful shops to the residents. Less betting shops, because betting shops are not helping the residents. For instance (we need): clothing, children shops, early learning centre shops.
- Early learning centres for kids, shops that actually educate people.
- Reduction in the amount of betting shops, scrapyards, old garages and similar businesses that do not promote community integration and sense of belonging and make the high street dirty and less appealing to be used as urban realm.
- More learning centres, and healthy solutions for the community such as a gyms.

How can we work together to make better places that help businesses flourish?

- Tourism is where you get your revenue – sometimes you see sightseeing buses passing by, we can't let them see the high street looking so untidy and dirty.
- The councillor(s) should take a good walk around – there are places (side streets from the high street) where carers and women are afraid to walk in the night.

- More support to local businesses as the rents and rates are too high for businesses to survive.
- Council to link with the local business to get their feedback and finding out the issues that affect the businesses and to sign post them for help and advice.
- Businesses flourish when people flourish so instead of giving permission for Wonga to leaflet Saturday morning shoppers at East Street, why not have Credit Union information and how to access debt advice.
- Making sure to get feedback from all communities.
- Face to face communication from the council.
- It's important to identify the needs of the local community, all backgrounds and faiths. Local business should be more open to the public and cater for majority needs. They should work in partnership with local organisations and partnerships.
- Make the area cleaner and greener. Promote a vibrant environment.
- Council and local business to work together. More communication needed to support local SMALL business.
- Reduce rates and rents so that local business can thrive.
- We don't need another Tesco local on our street. Too much big franchise pushing small local business out.
- It's too expensive to run shops because of the rent and that's why there are so many closed shops. It looks bad for business and it deprives the area. The council need to work more closely and engage with the small businesses.
- Keep money local, keep shopping local.
- Anti-social behaviour is a problem, work with parents and local Safer Neighbourhood Teams to the patrol area. It used to happen but now it's stopped.
- Drugs issues in the area. Parents need to be educated that that we ALL need to speak up about it and not hide the issue.
- More education.
- I'm a stallholder here in the shopping centre – why can't the council help small holders like me to get a foothold with a lower capped rent for one of the empty units? My business would thrive better, and another enterprising person could be a stallholder in this spot.
- Controlling the tax. We need to create more jobs so that businesses can grow.
- More investment on the youngsters, better education.
- Apprenticeships for the young and continue with consultations to hear from local people.

- Cheaper car parks in shopping areas so that more people will come out and use the businesses.
- Make small businesses more independent and allow them to come up with ideas for their business.
- Allow people with low qualifications to be more hands on with helping businesses as they may have the skills to do the job even though they don't have the education.
- The government should help more towards small businesses.
- To refurbish or modernise buildings such as the Elephant & Castle Shopping Centre and Rye Lane Peckham which is messy and chaotic.
- This is something for businesses to work out and do their research.
- Businesses need to be aware of the needs of the whole community.
- My local high street is Old Kent Road. It could benefit from being cleaner through coordinated trash disposal by commercial establishments and collection times. Also, buildings should be looked after more by either their freeholders or leaseholder.
- I live around Old Kent Road, and I think the area needs be cleaner and friendlier with residents. My last option when I have to buy something is my local high street as I feel uncomfortable.
- I live in Camberwell Green, it is a very busy area and there is a lot of crime there. I think more policy around crime reduction will be helpful. Creation of a programme that includes people in transforming the place where things can be used for the community's benefit.
- Perhaps policies that aim to replace betting shops, scrapyards, old garages and similar businesses with cafés and mid-end restaurants and other places that create appealing urban places. This needs to be done reducing the amount of rubbish that lies everyday on the streets, with a better coordinated disposal and collection strategy.
- There has to be a neighbourhood-government synergy to create better spaces in the high street area. The commercial property owners have to think more about the kind of shop they allow to be set up for the convenience of the community.
- Possibly reduce high business rates and lower rents that would enable small business to flourish...like to see more arts and crafts shops locally, or artists work displayed. Don't know if it's the right sort of question.

Item No. 3.2	Classification: Open	Date: 27 November 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Questions from the Public on the Theme – Local Business and Enterprise	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

1. QUESTION FROM PRIYA PRAKASH TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIC WELLBEING

Traditional high streets in Southwark need more custom, while motorists flock to hypermarkets. Setting utilisation targets for parking machines would benefit high streets.

Should the council have a target utilisation rate for paid high-street parking, which can be found by calculating the percentage utilisation based on takings for each machine?

2. QUESTION FROM BARBARA PATTINSON TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMIC WELLBEING

Camberwell has scores of independent businesses struggling to survive in a setting of site specific challenges, many of which require multi agency co-operation.

Do you think the council should reinstate the role of neighbourhood co-ordinator to lead a team seeking opportunities to support and promote local businesses and community well-being?

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer
Version	Final
Dated	22 November 2013

Item No. 4	Classification: Open	Date: 27 November 2013	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Other Deputation Requests	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Proper Constitutional Officer	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That council assembly considers whether or not to hear a deputation from the groups listed in paragraph 5 of this report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The full list of deputation requests received and the order in which they were submitted for this meeting is set out in item 2.3. The council assembly procedure rule 2.6 (11) states that no more than three deputations shall be considered at any one meeting. However the meeting can decide to suspend this rule in order to hear more or vary the order.
3. When considering whether to hear the deputation request, council assembly can decide:
 - to receive the deputation at this meeting or a future meeting; *or*
 - that the deputation not be received; *or*
 - to refer the deputation to the most appropriate committee/sub-committee.
4. A deputation shall consist of no more than six people, including its spokesperson. One member of the deputation shall be allowed to address the meeting for no longer than 5 minutes. The deputation spokesperson or any member of the deputation nominated by him or her shall be invited to ask a question of the leader or relevant cabinet member. After this time councillors may ask questions of the deputation for up to 5 minutes. At the conclusion of the questions, the deputation will be shown to the public seating area where they may listen to the remainder of the open section of the meeting.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Other deputation requests

5. The following deputation requests were received on issues other than the subject of the themed section of the meeting. The deputations are listed in order of receipt.

1. Deputation concerning the Rose archaeological site

The deputation request states:

We wish to submit a deputation to council assembly to draw the attention of councillors to the lack of signage indicating the location of the Rose

archaeological site and to request that this omission be rectified as soon as possible.

The Rose Theatre was the first theatre to be built on the Bankside in 1587. Today the remains of the theatre (discovered in 1989) are a major tourist attraction. However, many visitors to the site have complained of the difficulty of finding it as there are no signposts indicating its location. Other attractions such as the Globe, Vinopolis, Borough Market, and the Golden Hinde are signposted. We believe that the Rose should also be signposted.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Deputation Request File	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228
Council Assembly Procedure Rule 2.6, Southwark Constitution	Constitutional Team 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Lesley John 020 7525 7228

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Lesley John, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	22 November 2013	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Legal Services	No	No
Strategic Director Finance & Corporate Services	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	22 November 2013	

**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN) (FULL LIST)
MUNICIPAL YEAR 2013/14**

NOTE: Original held by Constitutional Team; all amendments/queries to
Lesley John Tel: 020 7525 7228

ONE COPY TO ALL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED	Copies	To	Copies
All Councillors	1 each	Officers	4
Group Offices	2	Doreen Forrester-Brown	1
Aine Gallagher, Labour Group Office	1	Robin Campbell	1
William Summers, Liberal Democrat Group Office	1	Ian Millichap	1
		Sonia Sutton	1
Press	2	Constitutional Team	25
Southwark News	1	(Copies to Lesley John, 2 nd Floor, Hub 4, Tooley Street)	
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Corporate Management Team	5	Trade Unions	9
Eleanor Kelly	1	Roy Fielding, GMB	
Deborah Collins	1	Henry Mott, Unite	1
Romi Bowen	1	Sue Plain, Unison	1
Duncan Whitfield	1	Tony O'Brien, UCATT	1
Gerri Scott	1	Michael Davern, NUT	1
		James Lewis, NASUWT	1
		Pat Reeves, ATL	1
		Miss Sylvia Morris, NAHT	1
		Irene Bishop, ASCL	1
		Local M.P.	1
		Simon Hughes M.P.	
		Others	2
		Ann-Marie Connolly	1
		Elizabeth Olive, Audit Commission, Ground Floor, Tooley Street	1
		Total:	113