



CAMBERWELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Camberwell Community Council held on Wednesday 20 April 2011 at 6.00 pm at Clubland, 54-56 Camberwell Road, London, SE5 0EN

PRESENT: Councillor Norma Gibbes (Chair)
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Kevin Ahern
Councillor Stephen Govier
Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole
Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor Ian Wingfield

OFFICER SUPPORT: Michael Cleer, Community Cohesion Co-Ordinator
Nicky Costin, Business Unit Manager
Alistair Huggett, Framework & Implementation Manager
Alison Squires, Planning Policy Team Leader
Grace Semakula, Community Council Development Officer
Alexa Coates, Principal Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle opened the meeting and took the chair as Cllr Gibbes had given apologies for lateness. Cllr Dixon-Fyle welcomed members of the public, councillors and officers to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peter John and apologies for lateness from Councillors Gibbes and Wingfield.

Reverend Eric Mustapha, Walworth Methodist Church and Reverend David Wade from Heartbeat International who were going to be taking part in the panel discussion at item 10 also gave their apologies. Leon Wright attended in place of Reverend Wade.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

5. MINUTES

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2011 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION RESPONSES

Members noted the responses to public questions submitted at the meeting held on 2 February 2011. The chair requested that a response to question relating to bus stop and Denmark Hill be provided by officers.

8. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Assembly Themed Debates

The chair, explained that the next themed debate at council assembly would be held in July on Sport and Young people. The July meeting will also be the first time a council assembly meeting has been held outside of the town hall. The chair encouraged people to keep an eye on the website to find out more information.

Olympic Capital Legacy Fund

The chair explained that the council are inviting project bids for the Olympic Capital Legacy Fund. £2million is available which residents and organisations can bid for; the money is available for projects like building an outdoor gym or refurbishing a sports facility. Applications must be submitted by 29 April and more information is available at www.southwark.gov.uk/olympics

Ronald McDonald Charities

Janice O'Neil explained to residents about the work of Ronald McDonald Charity who have a house on Caldecot Road in Camberwell. The house in Camberwell was temporary whilst

new accommodation was being completed. Janice explained that some families were struggling to find parking close to the hospital and asked councillors if they could help.

Community Council Fund Launch

The chair explained that the Camberwell Community Council Fund is open for applications until 16 May 2011. Groups can apply for funding from £100-£1000.

Mayor's Trust

Vicky Naish explained about the Mayor's Trust which provided support 'from the cradle to the grave' for people who lived in Southwark. Some of the work of the trust involved providing 30 sleeping bags for the homeless over Christmas and contributing to the costs of funerals for those who could not afford them. Vicky explained the trust was not funded by the council and they were looking for support. Vicky encouraged residents to become a trustee of the trust as there were currently three vacancies.

9. REGENERATION - CROSS BORDER ISSUES AND LIBRARY CONSULTATION

Alistair Huggett from the regeneration department updated the meeting on the cross border issues which had been reported at the meeting in November.

Alistair explained that there was currently a consultation on the new library. The consultation was asking what people wanted to see in the library and what was important to people in terms of planning options. The council was also interested in people's views on proposals to build a new facility in front of the magistrates court.

Alistair also updated the meeting on some of the cross border issues raised in November.

Transport Improvement

Work was taking place at Denmark Hill station to improve disabled access and improvements were planned for Southampton Way. The council was working with TfL to look at ways to improve the town centre in terms of crossings, street clutter and bus operations.

Purple Flag

This was being led by the Licensing department who were exploring opportunities for achieving purple flag accreditation and would report back to the community council.

Development team

A cross departmental team had been established in order to improve co-ordination and communication. Lambeth officers were also involved on specific cross-border issues.

Street Cleaning

Southwark and Lambeth were attempting to co-ordinate street cleaning better and the opportunities for shared services in this area were being explored.

Planning Policy

It was hoped the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) would contain a joint statement with Lambeth.

Enforcement

A joint approach was planned between the respective safer neighbourhoods teams which would include a zero-tolerance approach on targeted border streets.

Quality of life

The council had initiated discussions with service providers for drug offenders. One suggestion had been to make ways of moving through Camberwell easier.

Regeneration Officers

Each of the authorities had a named officer for cross border issues. These were Karen O'Keefe at Southwark and Stephanie Butcher at Lambeth.

Other opportunities

Alistair also explained that the council were looking at other opportunities for cross border working such as a annual forum and public realm signage.

Councillor Govier raised issues around funding of the initiatives mentioned. In response Councillor Dixon-Fyle explained that the council would move slowly due to the current financial restrictions.

Residents asked about community involvement from groups such as the SE5 forum and Camberwell Society. Councillor Dixon-Fyle responded that residents and the community council will continue to be consulted with.

10. FAITH COMMUNITY - THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Michael Cleer, Community Cohesion Co-ordinator, introduced the faith community discussion by giving an overview of faith Southwark wide. Michael explained that Southwark was a diverse community with 360 faith groups. In that last census most respondents were Christian, some of the other religions followed included: Muslims, Jews and Sikhs. 28% of those who responded to the last census had no religion or did not state a religion.

Michael spoke about the role of faith groups in terms of community cohesion and engagement and how groups can strengthen a sense of belonging and play a role in a vision for how life in Southwark should be. Michael identified that although faith groups can have very different views there is often a commonality in groups in terms of a belief in a higher power and concern for the common good.

The chair then invited each of the faith group representatives to explain about their organisation and their role in the community.

- Rev'd Nicholas Elder, St George Church and Trinity College Centre
- Eileen Conn, Deputy Chair of Southwark Multi-faith Forum

- Pastor Tony Okon, The Redeemed Christian Church Of God, Friends Parish
- Leon Wright, Education Officer Heartbeat International Christian Centre

The chair then asked for questions and comments from the floor. Residents discussed the effect the spending cuts would have on the work of faith groups in the community and whether they were in a position to assist in meeting the needs of local people. For example could churches provide community opportunities for isolated people?

Residents and councillors spoke about the work of faith groups in terms of engaging and empowering people, particularly young people. It was also pointed out that it is not just faith groups which take on this role in the community. The opportunities for developing community information systems were discussed. Eileen Conn reiterated Michael's points about the number of different groups who are connected by the common aim of wanting to improve life in Southwark, she felt this needed to be tapped into and encouraged groups to get involved in the multi faith forum.

Residents also questioned the ability of faith groups to engage with people of non-faith and asked how they could make services more attractive to people who they were in a position to help.

11. CHARGES FOR RESIDENTIAL PARKING BASED ON CO2 EMISSIONS

Nicky Costin gave residents some information on proposals to base residential car parking charges on Co2 emissions outlining the potential costs for different models of car.

Residents questioned whether the proposals would have a disproportionate effect on people on lower incomes they pointed out that Richmond Upon Thames had abandoned the scheme as it had no effect on changing vehicle use. The charges were seen by some as a form of raising tax and income for the council.

Councillors asked officers what they would do to ensure that the proposals did not impact disproportionately on those on lower incomes who could not easily change their cars. Councillors were also concerned about the consultation and advised officers to consult more widely than the community councils and requested that the consultation be made available online.

Nicky explained that this was a consultation which would inform the cabinet member on whether to consider introducing charges based on Co2 emissions and that no decision had been made and that he would feed comments on the level of consultation back to the cabinet member.

12. RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS SPD

Alison Squires explained that an update to the residential design standards supplementary planning document was out for consultation. The amendments including additional guidance on minimum dwelling sizes. The proposed amendments would mean that the minimum space for dwelling would increase, so larger units for new houses built.

The consultation was open until Thursday 2 June, consultation forms were available in the agenda, at the meeting and could also be completed online.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No public questions were submitted.

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Resolved

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.

15. SCHOOL GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS

Executive Function

Resolved

That the following school governor appointments be agreed:

1. Mr Oliver Haydon to Crawford School
2. Mrs Marie-Josée Ollivierre to Bessemer Grange Primary School
3. Mr Zacrid Anderson to St Joseph's Catholic Junior School
4. Dr Catrin Carter St George's Church of England Primary School

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: