



DULWICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Dulwich Community Council held on Tuesday 18 September 2012 at 7.00 pm at Dulwich Library, 368 Lordship Lane, London, SE22 8NB

PRESENT: Councillor Robin Crookshank Hilton (Chair)
Councillor Michael Mitchell (Vice-Chair)
Councillor James Barber
Councillor Toby Eckersley
Councillor Helen Hayes
Councillor Jonathan Mitchell
Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor Andy Simmons

OTHER MEMBERS

PRESENT: Councillor Renata Hamvas

OFFICER

SUPPORT: Robin Campbell, Head of Communications
David Penn, Library Services
Jo Skelton, Community Wardens Team
Fitzroy Lewis, Community Councils Development Officer
Tim Murtagh, Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The chair welcomed councillors, members of the public and officers to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillor Rosie Shimell, and for lateness from Councillor Jonathan Mitchell. Councillor Lewis Robinson gave apologies for having to leave early to attend another meeting.

3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillors made the following declaration in relation to:

12. Local Parking Amendments

Councillor Andy Simmons, pecuniary interest in two of the parking amendments - 22A Woodward Road and 88 Woodward Road, contained in the officer report. He would leave the room for their consideration.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2012 be agreed as an accurate record and signed by the chair.

6. THE FUTURE OF EAST DULWICH POLICE STATION

Borough Commander Charles Griggs, explained that the London Metropolitan Police (Met.) was in a difficult position as the last Comprehensive Spending Review gave the Met. a budget gap of £514 million. There were tough decisions to be made by the Commissioner and Management Board in conjunction with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime. The new Deputy Mayor for Policing, Stephen Greenhalgh had recently discussed in the Evening Standard the scale of the challenge ahead.

The Met. had announced that it plans for a change in structure. Over the next 6 to 12 months territorial policing within boroughs would change. The Safer Neighbourhood teams (SNTs) would have a significant uplift in officer numbers with additional tasks and hours covered. There was a plan to shut a number of police stations in London which over time had become no longer fit for purpose. Dulwich Police Station would be sold as its operating costs of £275,000 were beyond its use and value. Currently there was nothing to replace it and the plan was for existing SNTs to operate from Camberwell Police Station. Peckham would become the centralised response base for the whole borough.

Several communities in London were concerned about local police station closures, so the Deputy Mayor for Policing would chair a challenge panel at which London Assembly Members could challenge any decisions over closures.

The chair explained that Mr Greenhalgh had been invited to attend the meeting but he had a prior commitment. Residents were encouraged to write to their Assembly Members, Caroline Pidgeon and Val Shawcross, as well as Mr Greenhalgh to express their views.

In response to questions the Borough Commander responded that:

- Camberwell Police Station was currently being used to full capacity but an enhanced neighbourhood team could be added to the premises.

- The Met. had changed the way people could access it. Victims of crime were visited by officers on request and should call 999 or 101. The police was funded via government grants and council precept. Officer numbers were historical and based on a formula currently under review. Residents could support officers by reporting crime and getting involved in the community in a positive way.
- Crime across the borough was falling. The use of the hospital site was something residents could lobby for. The police's property services department would be interested in discussing the locations of future police stations. That would include factors including section 106 contributions and making the most of available resources. The police base in the Kingswood estate had a lease until 2019 and was likely to continue for the time being. Conversations had taken place on improving its effectiveness.
- Regarding transport concerns, officers would use public transport occasionally and that would be a visible police presence. The vehicle fleet had been cut 10% in 2012 and future vehicle deployment would depend on the requirements of the neighbourhood teams.
- The police offered different ways for the public to access officers, beyond the front desk and patrols. Among those were surgeries and street briefings. In future, they would advertise their presence at a particular time and location. Police response times to call-outs were exceeding current targets even though the number of calls had increased sharply.
- Cross-borough policing was ongoing and that work included the effective use of police buildings. The message from the Deputy Mayor was that every borough would have one 24-hour front counter service.
- The Deputy Mayor's challenge panel would take place in October / November 2012.

Members said they would lobby hard against the closure of East Dulwich Police Station.

The chair of the Southwark Police & Community Consultative Group (SPCCG) said the group's next meeting would probably be in October. Ahead of that, all chairs of ward panels would be consulted and their ideas reported into the process.

Members agreed to write a joint letter to the Deputy Mayor for Police which would explore options and offer solutions for a local Police station.

Sergeant Stewart Turnbull, Village Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), reported that the three Dulwich wards consistently had some of the lowest crime rates in the borough.

Sergeant Warren Gregory, College SNT, said that since schools had returned after the holidays there had been three robberies involving pupils. A new officer would be joining College SNT in October 2012.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS PART ONE

Dulwich Library

David Penn, Assistant Librarian said the library was open 9am – 8pm during the week. A range of items could be renewed simply and it was the second most popular library in the borough.

Street leader programme

Jo Skelton, Community Warden, explained that the scheme was a great way for local residents to improve their local environment. Don, a local resident and Street leader, gave a brief summary of the history of Street leaders. He explained that at one point there had been several hundred street leaders under the management of Dave Taylor and they reported environment offences such as fly-tipping and graffiti quickly and efficiently. Don said he had been a street leader for about 8 years and filed a few reports each month that were usually quickly resolved by officers. He added that the time devoted by the volunteers was varied and flexible. It was a simple way of helping to improve the community.

South of the Borough Event update

Robin Campbell, Head of Communications, explained that there would be three pop-up events, one for each Dulwich Community Council ward. The first on Saturday 1 December 2012 which would be a cultural event and promotion of traders in East Dulwich. It would be around Northcross Road and Lordship Lane. There would be a bandstand and roaming art. Village ward would have an arts event close to Easter. College ward would have an intergenerational event around St. George's Day. There would also be a large spring time event called a 'Collective Community Art Showcase'. It would involve a lot of community participation. Ideas and concepts were being worked on with local groups.

Dulwich Community Hospital Physic Garden

Heather Burrell and Dr. Kate Millar, explained that there were currently nine raised beds at the hospital. There had been a very positive response from the community in terms of fund raising and volunteers devoting time to the garden. A physic garden was the name given to a garden where the plants were known to have medicinal benefit for the treatment of conditions including Alzheimer's and cancer. The garden was also a place for people to visit. The garden had been built on derelict land and had improved the appearance of the area.

Centre of Excellence for Older People

The Council was currently consulting on the future of in-house day services. There were currently two day centres in the borough: Fred Francis in Dulwich and the Southwark Park Road centre in Bermondsey. There would be a significant increase in people aged over 80 years in the future. Recently, users of the centres tended to be people with Alzheimer's and dementia. The proposed new centre would be a different service model. An undecided location would provide a whole range of services and work with voluntary groups. The consultation would run until 26 September 2012 and include a questionnaire. A report would go to Cabinet in December 2012.

8. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

RESOLVED:

That the deputation request regarding Dulwich Community Hospital be heard.

Kenneth Hoole, Elizabeth Rylance-Watson, Jane Hoole and Denise Nicholls presented the deputation.

The deputation said that Dulwich Hospital should be a flagship community hospital. It should also protect the mentally ill in the community.

The deputation went on to propose a national model of excellence of integrated care for the elderly at Dulwich Community Hospital. Further, that the consultation and various proposals and related information be made public.

9. DULWICH HEALTH SERVICES - FEEDBACK FROM ENGAGEMENT AND NEXT STEPS

Rebecca Scott, Programme Director NHS Southwark explained that her role was to look at Health Services in the Dulwich area. The feedback from the engagement exercise undertaken February - May 2012 had been circulated. The information from that along with information from the clinicians and hospitals was being put together to work out what sort of combination of services people would want in a community setting in the Dulwich area. Once that process had been completed, NHS Southwark would come back to the community with possible options for the Dulwich hospital site. That consultation would start before the end of the year and probably run into early 2013. Conversations would also take place with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The plan was to develop something new for the community and reflect the changing needs of the community. It would also reflect the financial position nationally.

Matters to consider included:

- Several General Practices were in need of updated premises
- High birth rates were stretching services in some areas. This was being looked at with King's College Hospital
- A review of health visiting services was needed to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Residents asked for improved transport links to health providers and better parking provision. Residents wanted more blood testing services to be available in community settings.

There were a lot of projects taking place looking at how to improve health services for specific groups of patients. There were many ways in which patients and residents could be involved in designing services.

In response to questions, Rebecca said that she was looking at the part of the mental health spectrum between general practice and a community mental health team.

Dr Roger Durston, Clinical Lead on the Dulwich Project Board, commented that the number of patients on the mental health team's lists had gone down.

Several residents expressed concerns about local mental health issues and the need for an accessible local hospital in addition to specialist services elsewhere.

Rebecca agreed to receive the deputation document circulated to the meeting, as part of the consultation process.

Malcolm Hines, Chief Financial Officer, NHS Southwark explained that the Dulwich hospital site was in the ownership of NHS Southwark. Next year a new structure would come into being in the NHS which would include property services. All assets would be transferred to that department of the NHS.

Councillor James Barber left the meeting at this point.

10. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS PART TWO

Cleaner Greener Safer 2013/14 – Launch of capital and revenue programmes

Fitzroy Lewis, Community Councils Development Officer, explained that this year's programme had been launched. There was a capital and a revenue fund available for local groups to apply for. Dulwich Community Council had £268,571 to spend on capital projects and £30,000 on revenue projects. Application forms were available from the team, and on the Southwark website. The deadline for applications was Friday 30 November 2012. Contact: cgs@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 1259

Community Council Fund 2012/13

Fitzroy Lewis explained that a second round of this fund had opened for College and Village wards, as they had not allocated their full amounts in the first round. Application forms were available. College had £3,663 available to allocate and Village £3,097. The deadline was Tuesday 16 October 2012. It was for projects taking place between December 2012 and March 2013.

Contact: fitzroy.lewis@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 3084

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Project Banks

Fitzroy Lewis explained that the CIL was a new levy that councils could charge on new developments in the area. The money raised could be used to support the development by funding infrastructure projects that the council and local community wanted. It would replace the section 106 process. There would be further consultation on the draft charging schedule, and a discussion at future public meetings in 2013.

The existing project banks were being revised and residents were invited to submit ideas for the project bank. General publicly accessible facilities could be considered. An updated project bank list would be reported to community councils annually.

The deadline for suggestions was 17 October 2012.

Contact: zayd.Al-jawad@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 7309

Dulwich Supplementary Planning Document

A revised version of the current draft Dulwich Supplementary Planning Document (2009)

was currently being prepared to reflect recent changes in national, regional and local planning policy and would be consulted on in January 2013. The item would be discussed at the January 2013 community council meeting.

Community Restoration Fund – youth element

Fitzroy explained that this fund was about supporting young people. It was a one-off fund set up by Southwark following the London disturbances of August 2011. It was to restore community pride and deliver long term solutions for businesses and young people. Community and voluntary organisations could bid for the local grant pots. The Dulwich area had been allocated £14,286. The youth community councils would make recommendations on the opportunities they would like provided in their area.

Attendance Monitoring Forms

New monitoring forms had been circulated. The form helped officers to assess how well the community council meetings were engaging with people in the borough.

Community Council Question for Council Assembly

The following community council question for the next Council Assembly was suggested by Councillor James Barber and supported by members:

“Would the administration support in principle a new Dulwich Police Station on any redevelopment on the current site via a section 106 agreement?”

11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In response to public questions, the meeting heard that the community wardens now patrolled in Peckham and Walworth but no longer in Dulwich. In relation to the Paxton Green roundabout, councillors and officers had been working together on proposals for a scheme for the roundabout that would be deliverable and acceptable within the budget likely to be available from Transport for London.

A resident asked if there was any research evidence of the financing of an extension of care in the community as it affected the care departments of the council.

A resident voiced concern over the lack of consultation about the North Cross Road market.

A resident enquired about a car wash without planning permission and the need for a gate in a nearby alleyway. Councillor Jonathan Mitchell said that Councillor Barber was following up on related planning issues, regarding this matter.

12. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function

Members considered the information in the report.

Councillor Andy Simmons left the room for consideration of 22a Woodwarde Road and 88 Woodwarde Road.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following local parking amendments, detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved for implementation subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:
 - Disabled bays located outside the library on Woodwarde Road
 - Disabled bay located on Eynella Road
 - Disabled bay located outside 17 Glengarry Road
 - Disabled bay located outside 2 Lacon Road
 - Disabled bay located outside 22a Woodwarde Road
 - Disabled bay located outside 262 Lordship Lane
 - Disabled bay located outside 30 Elise Road

2. That the following local parking amendments, detailed in the appendices to the report, be deferred for additional information to be considered:
 - Disabled bays located outside 94 Woodwarde Road
 - Disabled bay located outside 88 Woodwarde Road

13. CLEANER GREENER SAFER: FUNDING REALLOCATION

Note: This is an executive function

Members considered the information in the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That £6,745 from the unallocated £26,042 of Cleaner Greener Safer 2012/13 Capital fund be reallocated to provide additional funding for the provision of security gates on the Croxted Road Estate.

2. That the remaining £19,297 reallocation be considered at a future meeting.

The meeting ended at 10.02pm

CHAIR:

DATED: