



Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council held on Monday 29 April 2013 at 7.00 pm at Canada Water Culture Space, 21 Surrey Quays Road, London SE16 7AR

PRESENT:

- Councillor Nick Stanton (Chair)
- Councillor Michael Bukola (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor Anood Al-Samerai
- Councillor Columba Blango
- Councillor Denise Capstick
- Councillor Jeff Hook
- Councillor David Hubber
- Councillor Paul Kyriacou
- Councillor Richard Livingstone
- Councillor Linda Manchester
- Councillor Eliza Mann
- Councillor Graham Neale
- Councillor Wilma Nelson
- Councillor Paul Noblet
- Councillor Lisa Rajan
- Councillor Michael Situ

OFFICER SUPPORT:

- Sam Fowler (Project Director - Southwark Schools for the Future)
- Zayd Al-Jawad (Section 106 Legal Agreements Manager)
- Michelle Normanly (Senior Project Manager)
- Bill Legassick (Environmental Protection Team)
- Gill Kelly (Community Council Development Officer)
- Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The chair welcomed residents, councillors and officers to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Mark Gettleson and Catherine McDonald.

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 12 March 2013 be agreed as an accurate record of that meeting, and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safer Neighbourhoods Teams

PC Calman from South Bermondsey ward addressed the meeting and fed back on Rotherhithe police station, which would remain in use for the foreseeable future, until a new permanent base could be found. However, the police station would have limited or no front counter service, due to officer numbers. Councillor Richard Livingstone explained that front counter provision was to move, possibly to Canada Water Library with a 3-hour-a-week counter service, and that the police were still planning to sell Rotherhithe police station. The council was working with the police to find a permanent base for them in the area. In response to questions, PC Calman responded that the police were aware of the sheds on the Avondale Square estate having been broken into.

Network Rail

Mark Summers, Project Director at Network Rail, informed the meeting that works would be happening in the London Bridge area and to the station. This would enable 16 Thameslink trains an hour to go through the station. In terms of the infrastructure works proposed in Bermondsey, these would consist of constructing a fly-over and a dive-under for trains. Remodelling the track and signalling would be undertaken in stages from New Cross to Bermondsey and to London Bridge and beyond. There would be some disruption and noise, but the majority of the works would take place on bank holiday weekends, with some work taking place on weeknights and weekends. The first closure of London Bridge Station would be in August 2014, when the terminus part of the station would be closed for 9 days, followed by a closure of 16 days at Christmas 2014. The Borough viaduct and the two additional tracks would be brought into use in December 2015. Drop-in sessions were being arranged to engage with the community and to inform them about the impact of the works. In addition, there would also be regular updates in the form of bulletins and newsletters. As part of the Section 106 agreement, employment for local people would be

provided, and 16 apprentices would also be trained.

Concerns were raised about how the works would affect Tooley Street and about adequate notice being given regarding renewed disruption. The meeting heard that Network Rail, Transport for London, and the utility companies should work together to minimise disruption. Southwark's Highways Management Team would work with the organisations to ensure this.

Councillors said that it would be helpful to have maps showing the area and the anticipated additional traffic flows of construction lorries and other traffic. Mark Summers said he would take these comments back. The meeting heard that the community forums which were taking place every three months were useful. Councillor Anood Al-Samerai said that the forums and the community council had asked for a traffic management survey to be conducted, and asked for this to be brought back to a future meeting.

Responding to questions from the floor, Mark Summers explained that wheelchair access to South Bermondsey Station was not part of the works under discussion. There would be no closures of the underground station at London Bridge. London Overground services would also continue running, as the works that were required would be conducted at night. The meeting heard that there was a problem with Rotherhithe New Road currently being single lane due to road works, even in rush hour. This created large problems for people reliant on dial-a-ride. Bill Legassick said he would feed this back to the officers responsible.

The meeting heard that a wall at South Bermondsey station was at risk of crumbling and sliding onto the travellers' site. Mark Summer invited the resident to get in touch with him after the meeting. The meeting also heard that residents in Abbey Street had not been consulted or informed about the works to the archways. There were now lorries, which were connected to the works, using Enid Street, Thurland Road, Spa Road, Dockley Road, St James's Road and the Neckinger estate itself. Bus stops had also been moved with no prior warning. Mark Summers said he would feed this back.

ACTION: Traffic management reports to be brought back to a future meeting.

Time and Talents

Alison Moray from Time and Talents explained that they were exploring the possibility of setting up a civic society or urban parish council for Rotherhithe. An initial questionnaire had been circulated. Alison encouraged people to submit their details. An open meeting would be held at Time and Talents on Thursday 30 May at 7pm, at which the results of the survey would be presented and next steps discussed. In addition to this there would be a fundraising quiz on Friday 14 June, also at Time and Talents. For further information, go to: <http://www.timeandtalents.org.uk> .

Poppy Appeal

Gary Magold announced that this year's poppy appeal had raised £7,596.80 so far, which was an increase of £2,000 on the previous year. He thanked everybody who had contributed.

Bowls match

Gary Magold announced that a rematch of a 1913 bowls match between Southwark Park and Finsbury Park would take place on Saturday 4 May 2013 at 2:30pm in Southwark

Park, and asked people to come and support the local team.

London Fire Service

Simon Chapman, from the London Fire Service, informed the meeting that under new plans by the Mayor of London, cuts were proposed to the London Fire Service. A total of 12 stations were to close and 18 fire engines to be cut. The public consultation about this would run until 17 June 2013, and was accessible via the Mayor of London's and London Fire Brigade's websites. For Southwark, these proposed cuts meant the closure of Southwark fire station, and cutting one fire engine from Peckham fire station. The closure of New Cross fire station, which while not technically in Southwark, covered a large part of the borough, was also proposed. There would be a public consultation meeting at City Hall on 14 May 2013, which Simon encouraged people to attend. Another meeting about this topic had been organised on 1 May 2013 at City Hall. Responding to questions from the floor Simon Chapman explained that the number of pumping appliances in the borough would fall from six to four. Because of refurbishment works to some of the remaining stations there would only be two engines stationed in the borough for an 18 months period. However the refurbishment of the Dockhead and Old Kent Road fire stations would not be happening at the same time. The cuts would affect the ability of the fire service to conduct home safety visits and prevention work. Answering further questions from the floor, Simon Chapman said that an incident at the Shard would automatically have six engines assigned to it; a normal high rise building three. In terms of helping people stuck in lifts, there would still be the fire service resources to do this, but they would be deployed from Peckham.

The meeting heard that the recent fire at Walworth Town Hall underlined the need for adequate fire service provision in the borough. The chair said that fire safety was a potential agenda item for a future meeting, and that he would write a letter to the Mayor of London expressing the view of the community council, which was opposed the proposed cuts, as they put the safety of the community at risk.

8. SCHOOLS IN THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA

The chair introduced the item by saying that new schools for the community council area had long been one of things that residents and councillors had asked for.

Compass School

Tony Searle, the Head of the Compass School, told the meeting he had been in post full-time since January 2013 and was working towards opening the school in September. This would happen on the former Southwark College site in Keeton's Road, in interim accommodation. Over 50 pupils had already signed up. The new school would have a capacity of 600 pupils, and would be striving for excellence in all fields, including competitive sports, and focusing on reading, writing and maths. It would also have a sibling rule. This September, up to 100 year-7 pupils would start, with more classes coming on-stream in subsequent years.

Responding to questions from the floor, Tony Searle said that the school would be non-fee paying and non-selective. It would offer arts and drama as extra-curricular activities. Its catchment area would be local, responding to the need for a school in the vicinity of the site. The school would be happy to work with the council to attract funding for sports facilities which could also be used by the school, for example the ones in Southwark Park,

which were in need of repair. He went on to say that he was not in a position to answer questions about the plans for the rest of the site, which was owned by Grosvenor. Grosvenor had not put in planning permission, however, the plans for the site were likely to be a mix of residential and commercial properties.

Simon Hughes MP explained the history of the site and how the current situation had been arrived at. He outlined which negotiations had taken place before and following the merger of Southwark College with Lewisham College, and the subsequent purchase of the site by Grosvenor. There were also negotiations taking place to locate a university technical college on the site.

Southwark Schools for the Future

Sam Fowler, Project Director - Southwark Schools for the Future, outlined the situation regarding school places in the borough. He explained that there was a shortfall in primary school places. This was an ongoing trend all over London, but particularly in the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe area. By September 2016, there would be a shortfall of 180 places over the six forms in the area. The council was going to address this by means of temporary expansions of the existing schools. In the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe areas, this would take place at Albion Primary and Grange Primary, but officers were also engaging with all schools across the borough. There had been an audit of school places, resulting in a shortlist of schools which could respond to the demand for places, and officers were working with these schools. There would be permanent expansions at Albion and Grange primary schools, as well as at Phoenix School and Redriff School. There were also be a number of free schools in the borough – for example Southwark Free School who were currently looking to establish themselves permanently at 399 Rotherhithe New Road. Galleywall School was, at present, used as temporary accommodation for Southwark Park School - until at least September 2014.

Responding to questions, Sam said that more flexibility and more places at secondary level would be needed in future, even with the Compass School coming on-stream. In the short term, over the next two to three years, there might be a slight over-provision due to the New School Aylesbury and the Compass School, as well as Sacred Heart moving back to its premises, but that this would only last for a few years before there was likely to be another shortage. Officers were working with schools to see whether they could expand, namely with Bacon's College, City of London Academy and St Michael's school.

There was a discussion about which schools could be expanded and about federations of primary and secondary schools. The meeting also heard that the area needed new schools, given the amount of regeneration and redevelopment which had happened in the last few years. In Grange and Riverside wards, there were problems with getting children into local schools. The council's Mandela Way car park site would be a good site for a new school. A problem was that the council was no longer in a position to open new schools itself, but instead had to work with other providers who were in a position to do so.

Sam Fowler emphasised that officers would be working to identify possible sites and resources for new schools, while at the same time continuing with the programme of temporary and permanent expansions. In practice, this meant that the schools mentioned would be given the resources and space to provide more school places, but this would not have an impact on class sizes.

The meeting heard that standards in Southwark schools had gone up generally, which was

good news. Schools did, however, have different admissions policies and their catchment areas and sibling policies were not coordinated. However, work was being done to address this. He went on to say, that it was a good idea to build on the successes of good schools by expanding them. All secondary schools in Southwark were now full to capacity, so that the number of places should be expanded. The community council could assist in this by having a meeting, at which different local schools could promote themselves, present their admissions policies and answer questions by parents.

The meeting also heard that Southwark had been recognised as the best local authority for raising the attainment levels of pupils who qualify for free school meals, and that Cherry Gardens Special School was moving to purpose-built premises in Peckham in the next two years.

The chair said that officers from the education department should make representations at planning committee, and thanked Tony Searle and Sam Fowler for attending.

Note: At this point Councillor Linda Manchester left the meeting.

There was a break from 8.45pm to 9.05pm.

9. PROPOSED NEW COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT LIST (CIPL) TO GUIDE S106 AND CIL EXPENDITURE IN EACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPLACING THE COMMUNITY PROJECT BANKS, 12/03/2013 BERMONDSEY AND ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the list of proposed projects set out below be agreed as the new community infrastructure project list for this community council, which replaces the previous community project bank for the same area.

Greening Tyers estate

St Mary Magdalen Churchyard path to Tanner Street Park to create a path to improve access to/from park.

Relocating the traffic lights at the junction of Tanner Street and Tower Bridge Road, to make the junction safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

Improving the junction at Long Lane and Tower Bridge Road for cyclists and pedestrians

Footway improvements (uneven paving) to Shad Thames

Environmental improvements to Tower Bridge Road as a whole

Bermondsey Wall West and Chambers Street footway and carriageway improvements

Improved street lighting on Coxon Way

Fountain Green Square - resurfacing and pond improvements.

Teenager play space on Bevington Street

Nickleby House kick about area extension

Frean Street new lighting around new block (with the proviso that this may have already been funded by Cleaner, Greener, Safer funding)

St Olav's Square - public realm

Lighting on the approaches to the doctor's surgery near St James' Church

Improve lighting, cleaning and pigeon proofing Crucifix Lane railway bridge

Clean Abbey Street railway arch

Resurface/pave uneven footpath on Clements Road

Secure community space for Rotherhithe Picture library (with the proviso that this may have already been funded by Section 106 funding)

Expansion of space for Sands community cinema club (with the proviso that this may have already been funded by Section 106 funding)

Bermondsey Community Nursery - physical improvements and add accessibility improvements to the nursery

Old Kent Road flyover - create a New York City "High Line" style park

Old Kent Road - improve the greenery, with lots of trees and make the whole road feel like the entrance to Burgess Park

Green links between Russia Dock Woodland and Southwark Park

The old Fish Farm nursery, create a 'green' walkway through to Southwark Park from the old Fish Farm nursery. Improved public security.

Dockley Road - refurbish and clean up the arch

Spa Road - create a pedestrian crossing half way down between Grange Road and the railway line

Ilderton Road, south of Surrey Canal Road - improve appearance of footways, making them more attractive and improve the areas where litter currently collects

Lighting improvements on the Grange, Grange Walk, Spa Road, Curtis Street

Old Kent Road / Dunton Road - Improve transport, communities and greener areas; upgrade council housing

Renforth Street - create a link between the tube and Albion Street

Outdoor gym at Spa Park

New community facilities on Surrey Docks Farm

New bus stop in the middle of St James Road (near Dockley Road) to collect people from St James Road (travelling to and from The Blue)

Bermondsey Community Nursery accessibility improvements

Improved lighting on Frean St (with the proviso that this may have already been funded by Cleaner, Greener, Safer funding)

Community space for Fair Community Housing Services

Shad Thames conservation improvements

Lynton Estate, Lynton Road, new public playground

Lower Road improvements incl. making Lower Road two-way

Pedestrianisation of St Thomas Street

Potential improvements to the Thames Path, pedestrianising Bermondsey Wall West between Mill St and George Row.

Bollards to prevent rat running along Leathermarket Street, Bermondsey Street and Tanner Street

Making Shand Street one-way southbound

Public areas outside John Kennedy House: new brick wall / faced planters for greening to Rotherhithe Old Road, widened pavement, 4 entrances and gates, new trees, new fencing and CCTV

Expansion, renewal and replacement of the under 5's play area that is open to the public near John Kennedy House

Renewal and replacement of the football area that is open to the public near John Kennedy House

Convert the shaft on Railway Avenue into an underground visitor attraction

Improvements to Surrey Quays Road including allowing right turns into Surrey Quays Road from Lower Road, opposite Seven Island Leisure Centre

Surrey Square improvement

Improvements to Albion Street, Greenland Dock, South Dock Marina

Refurbished athletics track at Southwark Park

10. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

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:

- a. Warndon Street – adjust the position of existing disabled bay outside Silverlock Medical Centre
- b. Lynton Road – install double yellow lines outside the entrance to No. 304 to 312 (Cedars Assist recovery yard)

- c. Sharratt Road – install double yellow lines between Ilderton Road and electrical substation (outside and opposite the Leathams Factory)
- d. Rymouth Road – install double yellow lines outside railway arch No.36.
- e. Bermondsey Street – make the following adjustments:
 - 1. remove existing 'loading only' bay outside No. 176 and replace with a single yellow line
 - 2. extend the existing permit holder's (F) parking bay outside No.179 by one approximately space, to replace a double yellow line
- f. Tanner Street – extend the existing permit holder's (F) bay outside Nos. 5 to 7 by approx 2 metres, to replace a single yellow line
- g. Tooley Street (below Duke Street Hill) – make the following adjustments:
 - 1. install new cycle hire docking station outside Colechurch House, to replace existing single yellow line.
 - 2. convert the existing single yellow lines in this stretch of Tooley Street to double yellow lines except where an existing double Car Club bay is to be retained
- h. Snowsfields – make the following adjustments:
 - 1. install new cycle hire docking station opposite No. 147 Raquel Court, to replace 5 spaces of existing permit holder's (F) parking bay
 - 2. convert 10 metres of existing double yellow line outside No. 147 Raquel Court, to a permit holder's (F) parking bay
- i. Melior Street – extend the existing permit holder's (F) parking bay outside No. 1 by one approximately space, to replace a double yellow line (to compensate for loss of parking at the proposed Snowsfields Cycle Hire docking station)
- j. Weston Street – make the following adjustments (to compensate for loss of parking at the proposed Snowsfields cycle hire docking station):
 - 1. change 11m of existing pay and display bay outside No. 58-60 to a permit holder's (F) parking bay
 - 2. change 6m of existing single yellow outside No. 50/54 to a pay and display bay.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following written questions were submitted at the meeting:

"1. Are councillors aware that the wall which separates Ilderton Road traveller site from the railway track is falling down and represents a serious risk to residents' safety? It has been falling down for over 8 years, nothing has been done. The wall is owned by Railtrack, but they are not taking responsibility and repairing the wall. Please can councillors put pressure on Railtrack, so that this problem is finally resolved?"

2. *The road which serves Ilderton Road traveller site is sinking. Water collects on it and in cold weather this freezes. This is a health and safety risk to residents, especially young children. Can the council repair the road?"*

The following question was put at the meeting:

The gardens around the war memorial in West Lane are in need of gardening all year around, not just in November.

12. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

This item was deferred to the next meeting scheduled for 26 June 2013.

13. CLEANER GREENER SAFER PROJECTS

13. CLEANER GREENER SAFER (CGS) CAPITAL FUNDING

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Cleaner, Greener, Safer capital funding 2013/2014 be allocated to the projects listed below:

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
Grange	The Big TBR clean up	£15,000	Award	Match-funded by Chaucer
Grange	Street lights aren't just for Christmas!	£32,000	Award	Match-funded by Chaucer
Riverside	Drying rooms at Devon Mansions blocks (1-21)	£5,400	Grant	Funding for a feasibility report

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
Riverside	Bermondsey Spa Beauty Project	£1,620	Grant	
Riverside	New ceiling for T/A Hall (Wade Hall, Dickens Estate)	£1,080	Grant	
Riverside	Safer Bermondsey Spa - Lighting at Frean Street	£54,000	Award	
Riverside	Southwark Park Old Nursery Master Plan	£5,000	Award	Jointly funded with Rotherhithe. Part capital, part revenue
Riverside	Bermondsey hanging baskets 2013/14	£10,000	Award	Jointly funded with Grange and South Bermondsey
Rotherhithe	Rotherhithe waterways wildlife	£1,620	Grant	Jointly funded with Surrey Docks
Rotherhithe	London Bubble creative hub	£5,400	Grant	
Rotherhithe	Southwark Park old nursery master plan	£10,000	Award	Jointly funded with Riverside

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
Rotherhithe	Rotherhithe and Livesey hanging baskets 2013/14	£10,000	Award	Jointly funded with Livesey
Livesey	Providing Information to Tustin Estate residents	£7,700	Award	
Livesey	Old Kent Road Wildflower Planting	£6,000	Award	Funding for three years
Livesey	Rotherhithe and Livesey hanging baskets 2013/14	£5,000	Award	Jointly funded with Rotherhithe
Livesey	Brighten up Bowness	£16,062	Award	Additional funding for 2012/13 project
South Bermondsey	Bermondsey Hanging Baskets 2013/14	£11,625	Award	Jointly funded with Grange and Riverside. Funding includes baskets at The Blue market place for one year.
South Bermondsey	Community Garden off Coopers Road	£30,000	Award	

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
South Bermondsey	Rennie Estate play areas	£30,000	Award	
Surrey Docks	Rotherhithe Waterways Wildlife	£1,620	Grant	Jointly funded with Rotherhithe
Surrey Docks	Surrey Docks Adventure Playground	£35,000	Award	
Surrey Docks	Surrey Quays flowering landscapes for bees	£3,240	Grant	
Surrey Docks	Greener land in Greenland	£2,600	Award	
Surrey Docks	'Blooming Southwark!'	£4,000	Grant	Capital costs only

NOTE: This leaves the following amounts of CGS capital under spend to be allocated at a future meeting:

Grange ward	£42,524
Riverside ward	£12,424
Rotherhithe ward	£62,504
South Bermondsey ward	£17,899
Surrey Docks ward	£43,064
Livesey ward	
(Bermondsey & Rotherhithe)	£10,000

ACTION: Officers to produce a report about the CGS capital under spend, and to present the information about past projects, at the next community council meeting.

The chair explained that those projects, which had not been successful in being funded through CGS, would be moved over to the project bank. The meeting heard that many of the unsuccessful projects could not be funded, because the organisations in question had not asked for enough funding, or because there had not been enough information for councillors to make a decision on.

13. CLEANER GREENER SAFER (CGS) REVENUE FUNDING

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Cleaner, Greener, Safer revenue funding 2013/2014 be allocated to the projects listed below:

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
Grange	The Salmon Street bike project (Outreach)	£2,000	Grant	Jointly funded with Riverside and South Bermondsey
Riverside	The Salmon Street bike project (Outreach)	£5,000	Grant	Jointly funded with Grange and South Bermondsey
Riverside	Save Your Riverside campaign	£5,000	Grant	
Riverside	Bermondsey in Bloom	£5,000	Grant	
Riverside	Southwark Park old nursery master plan	£5,000	Grant	Jointly funded with Rotherhithe - part capital, part revenue.
Rotherhithe	Reprint of Rotherhithe map	£335	Grant	Jointly funded with Livesey and Surrey Docks

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
Rotherhithe	Saving Senior Art Group / Rainbow Arts at Time and Talents	£1,300	Grant	
Rotherhithe	Albion Primary School	£2,000	Grant	
Livesey	Reprint of Rotherhithe map	£335	Grant	Jointly funded with Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks
South Bermondsey	St Anne's Church Young Youth Group	£1,300	Grant	
South Bermondsey	Bede House - (Part-time) youth worker	£13,700	Grant	
South Bermondsey	Bermondsey Traders Association - The Blue Day	£3,000	Grant	
South Bermondsey	The Salmon Street bike project (Outreach)	£2,000	Grant	Jointly funded with Riverside and Grange

Ward	Proposal Name	Award amount	Award or Grant	Notes
Surrey Docks	Reprint of Rotherhithe map	£335	Grant	Jointly funded with Rotherhithe and Livesey
Surrey Docks	'Blooming Southwark!'	£16,650	Grant	Revenue costs only

NOTE: This leaves the following amounts of CGS revenue under spend to be allocated at a future meeting:

Grange ward	£18,000
Rotherhithe ward	£16,365
Surrey Docks ward	£3,015
Livesey ward (Bermondsey & Rotherhithe)	£9,665

The meeting ended at 9.30pm

CHAIR:

DATED: