



Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council held on Wednesday 2 October 2013 at 7.00 pm at St James Church, Thurland Rd, London, SE16 4AA

PRESENT: Councillor Graham Neale (Chair)
Councillor Paul Kyriacou
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai
Councillor Michael Bukola
Councillor Denise Capstick
Councillor Jeff Hook
Councillor David Hubber
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Linda Manchester
Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Catherine McDonald
Councillor Wilma Nelson
Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Nick Stanton

OFFICER SUPPORT: Matt Hill, Public Realm Programme Manager
Kevin Dykes, Senior Development Officer (Inclusion)
Michelle Normanly, Senior Project Manager
Gill Kelly, Community Councils Development Officer
Tim Murtagh, 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 Columba Blango, Mark Gettleson and Lisa Rajan.

3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Members made the following declarations in relation to the agenda items below:

16. Local Parking Amendments

Councillor Richard Livingstone, non-pecuniary, as he lived near to the location of the proposed double yellow lines on Goodwin Close.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June be agreed as an accurate record of that meeting, and signed by the chair, subject to the addition of Councillor David Hubber's name to the list of apologies for absence.

It was noted that Docklands Junior Football Club, who spoke at the June meeting and requested help, had now received kit and equipment sponsorship.

6. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cleaner, Greener, Safer 2014/15 capital and revenue launches

Michelle Normanly, Senior Project Manager, explained that her team delivered the capital Cleaner, Greener, Safer (CGS) projects. Local groups and individuals were invited to submit their ideas for capital and revenue funding. The capital programme funded permanent improvements such as playgrounds, street lighting and community gardens. Revenue funding was for one-off projects such as gardening courses and grants to community organisations. Application forms were available in libraries and online via the Southwark Council website or by request from officers. In the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe area £550,000 had been allocated for the capital and revenue programmes combined. The closing date was Friday 8 November 2013.

Contact: michelle.normanly@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 0862

Community Council Fund 2014/15

Gill Kelly, Community Council Development Officer, announced that this year's fund would be launched on 4 November 2013. It would run until 13 December 2013 and as in previous

years it was for funding things like: events, trips and fun days up to a maximum of £1,000. Groups could apply online or via application form.

Contact: gill.kelly@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 3690.

Bermondsey in Bloom

Councillor Eliza Mann, explained that this year the competition had been in Grange and Riverside wards as those had contributed funding. There were 64 photographs displayed at the back of the hall. The judging would be done by an independent panel this year. Bermondsey in Bloom was looking for young people and volunteers to help run the project in the years ahead.

NHS Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group

Rosemary Watts, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), explained that the CCG was responsible for organising and paying for a lot of the health services that people received in the area. Services at local hospitals were included. On 22 October 2013, an event was taking place at Cambridge House, off Camberwell Road as part of the Government's national call to action on changes taking place in the NHS.

Black History Month

The chair announced that October was Black History Month. Flyers promoting local events had been circulated. Several events were taking place in the Canada Water library, including cultural readings, exhibitions and steel drum music performances.

8. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Sergeant Chris Baker, Surrey Docks Safer Neighbourhoods Team, explained that he was attending on behalf of the North East Sector, which covered five wards. Since July 2013, the new local policing model meant that there were more officers in the police teams. Each ward now had one sergeant, five constables (PCs) and two Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) on each ward. There had also been an increased workload with additional sector responsibilities allocated instead of officers dealing exclusively with ward duties.

Recently in the North East sector, officers had been tackling priorities of robberies, drug issues and anti-social behaviour. A cannabis factory was recently found on the Neckinger Estate which resulted in two arrests and an ongoing investigation.

In response to questions, Sgt. Baker made the following points:

- There had been some teething problems with the new policing model. Officers were often taken away for duties in other areas but generally officers were adapting to the new system.
- There were ongoing anti-social behaviour issues on the Adams Gardens estate. Several officers had been working on that and some Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) had been served. CCTV was being considered for the area.
- Residents were asked to be careful when using mobile phones, especially when coming out of tube stations as that had been a location of several thefts.

- Regarding anti-social behaviour following the end of the school day at St. Michael's, there was a dedicated schools officer and he would be in contact with Councillor Eliza Mann to discuss any problems.
- Regarding people sleeping rough in bin storage rooms on estates, residents could report police incidents to any officer, who would forward on to the relevant police team.

9. A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR BERMONDSEY AND ROTHERHITHE

CAPIC

Ann Clayton and Sue from CAPIC (Children and Parents in the Community) explained that CAPIC was formed following consultation about what people wanted in the area. A Saturday club was set up for children to plant and grow vegetables and flowers. It had hugely improved the way children treated the land around them. On the Avondale Estate there were projects about biodiversity and raised flower/plant beds for seniors and those with mobility issues. On the Ledbury Estate there was a scheme funded by the Cleaner, Greener Safer programme which involved furniture and raised beds. The various projects undertaken were for 10 years and local people were being trained to bring those about and sustain them.

Russia Dock Woodland: Habitat spaces accommodating wildlife

Steve Cornish and Rebekah Clark, Friends of Russia Dock Woodland (RDW), explained that the group had been going for 10 years. RDW consisted of 36 acres including nine ponds, linked by several lovely walkways. The woodland prioritised wildlife and had won a Green Flag award four years in a row along with a recent award from the National Trust. There were 150 bird-boxes installed in the trees. The bat boxes and bridge sculptures were also popular. The next aim was Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status within a year. Stave Hill was a large wildlife area, open to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Children were allowed to run around freely, building dens and looking at pond life. It was also a place for adults to sit and relax and have picnics.

Transition Peckham: What could transition town Bermondsey and Rotherhithe look like?

Paula Orr and Caroline Cochrane, explained that Transition Peckham had its first meeting in 2009. Transition Towns were about people joining together, with others in their community, to create something pleasant locally. In Peckham, the group had concentrated on growing food. There was an allotment and raised beds in the community garden. Transition Peckham also worked on energy and offered advice to those struggling with fuel poverty. A lot of people were unaware of the things going on in their local streets so Transition Peckham had put together a map. The map identified all the green spaces and circulated it at community events over the summer.

St. John's School: Green ambassadors

Vera Jajechnyk, Headteacher, St. John's School gave a pictorial presentation on some of the work being done by pupils at the school. The pupils had a strong focus on green issues. There was a green committee and a large amount of planting and recycling carried out. The children grew carrots and at harvest time made carrot soup. There was also a hat parade organised at Easter which involved parents working with the children.

Veolia / CRISP: Recycling and Reusing makes sense

Ian McGeough, Education and Outreach Officer, explained that much of his work involved organising workshops about recycling. He highlighted the love food hate waste programme, which was about reducing food waste at home and supermarket packaging. On a separate point, Ian promoted brown bins and garden recycling. Subsidised compost bins and wormeries were available at the Devon Street recycling centre. At the site there was also a paint cage for recycling and reusing paint. Contact: Ian.McGeough@veolia.co.uk or Tel. 020 3567 2622

Surrey Docks Farm: Blooming Southwark

Gemma Hooper, Community Projects Coordinator at Surrey Docks Farm, explained that there was a lot going on at the Farm following several successful project bids. Team London Bridge organised a green-fingers gardening club on Sunday mornings for all Southwark children aged 8-11 years old. The club planted some unusual / fun vegetables such as purple cauliflowers and there was a focus on healthy eating. A lot of work was done with adults with learning disabilities who take part in activities including horticulture, and jam making. There were still some student spaces for anyone who wanted to get involved. Contact: gemma@surreydocksfarm.org.uk

The chair thanked all the presenters for taking part in the themed item. In response to a public question about the new local green space designation, the chair said he would find out and report back to the next meeting.

10. BUDGET CONSULTATION PRESENTATION / EXERCISE

Councillor Richard Livingstone, cabinet member for finance, resources and community safety, explained the exercise was for residents to decide how they would save the money required to be taken out of next year's council budget. A similar exercise had to taken place in 2010 when the council had to make large budget savings.

So far the administration had taken out about £90 million from a variety of services and a reduction of the number of senior posts. The cut represented about £249 for every person living in the borough. Most savings had been made behind the scenes and no libraries or leisure centres had been closed.

Councillor Livingstone summarised that the idea of the exercise was for residents to consider what the most important services were to them and to protect those. A booklet had been circulated at the meeting which highlighted the eight services in the council and the current level of spending within those departments of the council. There were display boards in the hall with the service breakdown on them and a box next to them. Residents were given green cheques and asked to put those in the box (service) according to what was important to them and their community. The council was looking to make a further £25 million in savings and residents were given red cheques to place in the box (service) where they would reduce expenditure.

Following on from the exercise, officers would pull all the comments together and report back to councillors. The budget exercise had also taken place over the summer in the parks and markets and at the youth community councils and the pensioners centre. There was also an online survey and paper survey.

Contact kevin.dykes@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 5601.

The chair highlighted some community council feedback forms along with some attendance monitoring information slips for data protection compliance purposes. Attendees were asked to complete and hand those in.

11. COMMUNITY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS CAPITAL INVESTMENT 2013-14

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That allocation of Highways Capital Investment funding for the following schemes be approved:

Proposal	Estimated cost
Humphrey Street (approximately 50m)	£17,705
Bray Crescent	£6,377
Brunel Road junction with Rupack Street (approximately 30m) towards Rotherhithe Station	£5,469

2. That officers look into and report back on projects for Norway Gate and Omega Gate to be funded out of the remaining £145,727 of unallocated funding.

Matt Hill, Public Realm Programme Manager, responded to member's questions and said he would follow up and report back on Luxford Street.

12. SHAND STREET ONE WAY SYSTEM

Matt Hill, Public Realm Programme Manager, explained that the proposal to make Shand Street one-way southbound had been agreed by Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council on 12 March 2013. The statutory consultation had been completed and had resulted in five objections.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the traffic order be implemented as previously agreed.
2. That officers report back in one year on how the scheme had worked in practice and if there were any problems.

13. ROTHERHITHE NEW ROAD ROUNDABOUT - SAFETY AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESSIBILITY SCHEME

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

Councillors noted the report and supported the recommendations that are due to be considered by the cabinet member for environment, transport and recycling.

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were submitted:

1. What further action does Southwark Council intend to take in order to enforce the 'No entry' signs which have been placed at the end of Pottery Street? This was in response to many motorists (38 in one two-hour period) ignoring the signs and driving in the wrong direction.

Councillor Eliza Mann responded that the council was aware of the situation and was monitoring it closely. Councillor Nick Stanton added that the council needed to do more to enforce new traffic arrangements after they had been introduced.

2. Under the provisions of the Localism Act an application was submitted, on 7 July 2013, to the council to establish a neighbourhood forum in the Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks neighbourhood area. The regulations require the council to carry out a public consultation on the application. As all the requirements of the legislation have been met, why has this not been done.

Members decided to have this question as the Community Council Question to Council Assembly under item 15.

3. Could Southwark Council work better and quicker at collecting blue bags as these often build up in an area which inevitably leads to fly-tipping. Keeping areas clear and clean needed to be better coordinated.

The chair said that he would follow that up and report to the next meeting in December 2013.

15. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Following discussions during the public question time item, around the requirements for the establishment of a local neighbourhood forum, the community council considered whether to submit a question to the Council Assembly meeting in November 2013 and agreed the following:

"Under the provisions of the Localism Act an application was submitted, on 7 July 2013, to the council to establish a neighbourhood forum in the Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks

neighbourhood area. The regulations require the council to carry out a public consultation on the application. As all the requirements of the legislation have been met, why has this not been done.”

16. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered 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:

- Goodwin Close Street – install double yellow lines at junction with Lucey Road to protect sight lines
- Rayment Road – install double yellow lines on to protect vehicle access.

The chair asked for Southwark parking officers to contact their counterparts from Lewisham Council about the parking situation near Plough Way and Sweden Gate. Some recent parking changes in Southwark had not been similarly introduced across the borough boundary in Lewisham which had caused problems for buses and other road users.

17. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND 2013/14 REALLOCATION

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That an under spend of £1,000 from the Community Council Fund 2013-14 be reallocated to the following application:

ROTHERHITHE

Proposal	Amount
Millpond Chess Club, for a tournament at Canada Water Library	£1,000

Meeting ended at 9.30pm

CHAIR:

DATED: