

Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council

MINUTES of the Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council held on Monday 14 March 2016 at 7.00 pm at Walworth Academy, Shorncliffe Rd, London SE1 5UJ

PRESENT: Councillor Martin Seaton (Chair)
Councillor Eleanor Kerslake (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Maisie Anderson
Councillor Karl Eastham
Councillor Samantha Jury-Dada
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE
Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Adele Morris

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mark Williams

OFFICER SUPPORT: Nicky Costin (Business Unit Manager, Regulatory Services)
Andrea Allen (Senior Project Manager)
Lisa York (Markets and Street Trading Manager)
Pauline Bonner (Community Council Development Officer)
Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

1.2 APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Neil Coyle, Helen Dennis, Paul Fleming, Rebecca Lury and David Noakes.

Councillors Maria Linforth-Hall and Adele Morris gave apologies for having to leave the meeting early.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

1.4 ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no urgent items of business.

The vice-chair announced that the following information stalls were available:

- Community sports
- Southwark Credit Union
- East Street market
- Bianca Road regeneration
- Social research on people who participate actively in local democracy
- Community Action Southwark

The Vice-Chair also announced that the Southwark Civic Awards scheme for 2016 was now open for nominations. The awards recognised excellence in active citizenship. Nominations of individuals, projects, organisations and businesses across the borough deserving of being honoured were encouraged. The closing date for nominations was Tuesday 29 March 2016. Nomination forms were available from the Mayor's Office and on the council's website.

1.5 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2016 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ITEMS

2.1 COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Metropolitan Police

Sergeant Smith informed the meeting that police in Newington ward were focusing on particular addresses to tackle drug dealers, and had bi-monthly meetings with Tenants' and Residents' Associations. In response to a question from the floor about a perceived reduction in the presence of officers on the ground around the Brandon estate and lack of feedback, Sgt Smith urged residents to attend the ward meetings. He went on to say that in response to fatal stabbing in the area, the police and their local partners had founded the anti-knife forum to work together to deter young people around Elephant and Castle from getting involved with knives. In answer to a question from the floor, the meeting heard

that there was now a £20,000 reward in relation to this fatal stabbing. Those with any information should call 020 8721 4812.

2.2 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

There were none.

2.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were put to the meeting:

1. Why do street cleaners not use brooms and shovels; half the dirt remains on pavements?
2. Residents run out of recycling and rubbish bags, and do not receive new ones despite telephoning to order them. (This was raised by several speakers.)

Councillor Darren Merrill, cabinet member for environment and the public realm gave an initial response: recycling bags should be delivered every two to three months. If this was not happening, he encouraged residents to contact the council to flag this up. He would also be looking into this issue.

3. A question about housing in the face of central government austerity, which was also submitted in writing:

“With an increase of private developments, community centres being closed and an increase in housing costs/rents. With the recent changes to housing benefits and caps, how do you expect people to manage knowing you have put everyone in the same category, not taking into account personal, uncontrollable circumstances and events that happen? With the private housing, with some being council owned, how much is the average rent for these council properties for the average household, not those who have bought their property from the offset?”

In answer to another question from the floor regarding street cleaning in the area, Councillor Darren Merrill responded that in past years the council had managed to keep the number of street cleaners constant despite significant cuts to the council’s budget. This year some cuts in the numbers of cleaning operatives had to be made, but the council felt confident to be able to provide the same level of service with the smaller teams. This would be monitored closely.

The following other questions were submitted in writing and accepted by the chair:

4. “Every year around March, one can tell that budgets are coming to year end, because there’s a rash of new speed bumps being built. As a cyclist, I hate these because:
 - a. They don’t slow traffic down, they just make it stop/start more and emit up to 60% more emissions (Transport Research Laboratory Report).
 - b. They cause drivers to try to get past you between bumps and drive aggressively.
 - c. They are uncomfortable to ride over at 20mph (the limit), especially with

- laden panniers.
- d. They damage vehicles and buildings.

When will speeding priorities change, focusing on: driver education/training, air quality and speed limit enforcement? Building speed bumps in cul-de-sacs (happening on my street) is utterly pointless.”

5. “Elephant and Castle Development
 - a. How much did Southwark Council sell the land for?
 - b. How much did Southwark Council receive via Section 106?
 - c. Out of all the houses being provided, how many are/will be council and what is the weekly/average rent of these council properties?
 - d. How much has Southwark council sold the Aylesbury Estate for and to who?”
6. “Parking within Burgess Park / First Place Nursery.

There is a current epidemic of parking enforcement within the car park where a specific bay is used to enforce parking fines. Based on my findings, this bay is firstly unmarked and everyone who parks there is fined, however those who contest do not pay, and those who don't [contest], pay. Southwark parking has been making a large profit out of this and yet have done nothing to mark it to inform/make drivers aware of the restriction. Based on the fact that we can now prove that this is a covert operation and unjust, I would like to see this enforcement discontinued and all drivers who have paid in the past to be given a refund for this. I would also like to be informed and evidence of the discontinuing of the enforcement and all those who have paid to be contacted.”
7. “Walworth Place:
 - a. On market days in particular we have vans parked up on both sides of the road and very often we have the occasional car in the middle of it all.
 - b. Rubbish is always spilled out onto the road, every single day of the week. This is unacceptable. These are on-going issues. What is the council going to do to improve these issues.”
8. “On the newly installed, galvanised steel trunking that runs parallel to the balconies on the underside at Comus House, Congreve Street, London SE17 1TG: Why is it that some of the trunking runs have no end caps at end of their runs? Designed to stop the ingress of foreign matter. Does not comply to IP3X or IP4X. IP index of protection.”
9. “Could there be a multi-storey car park at Elephant Park to help support East Street market and the surrounding areas and also generate income for Southwark Council?”
10. “Is it possible to build a multi-storey car park in the Heygate area (Elephant Park)? Such a scheme could generate income for Southwark council, as well as boost the mood of the community in Southwark.”
11. “What is the annual sales of East Street?”

12. "Who is the owner of the Town Hall?"
13. "Why is it that Southwark residents are not able to enter new training/job career schemes, unless they are out of work and claiming benefits?"
14. "What is being done to address the new housing bill being proposed?"

3. OFFICIAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

3.1 COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

RESOLVED:

That the decision on a question to be put to the July meeting of council assembly be deferred to the June meeting of the community council.

3.2 CLEANER GREENER SAFER 2016-17: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION

Andrea Allen, Senior Project Manager, introduced this item by informing the meeting that over 100 applications had been received for Cleaner Greener Safer funding for the Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council area. Some funding decisions had already been taken at the previous meeting on 30 January 2016.

The chair reminded organisations who applied for funding to invite their ward councillors to their meetings when discussing their projects.

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of 2016-17 Cleaner Greener Safer capital funding be allocated:

Cathedrals Ward

Ref	Proposal name	Award
533816	Charlotte Sharman edible playground	£5,400
534997	Revealing Crossbones	£6,480
535122	Lamlash Garden completion project	£16,715
700076	Rochester Playground fencing and lighting	£12,265
535542	Redman Green children's play area	£18,000

East Walworth ward

Ref	Proposal name	Award
700100	Henshaw Street re-design	£10,000

3.3 ALLOCATION OF NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND 2016-17

Councillors discussed that, as in previous years, they had received more applications than funding was available. Cathedrals ward councillors were holding back some money, as one of the projects they wished to fund was still under discussion.

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Neighbourhoods Fund be allocated:

Cathedrals ward

Ref.	Name of group	Name of project / activity	Amount awarded
558392	Southwark Neighbourhood Watch Association	Finding Solutions: Anti Social Behaviour (to be spent in Cathedrals ward)	£2,150
539876	Southwark Playhouse	Elders Company	£540
554663	Bankside Open Spaces Trust	Red Cross Outreach and Events	£5,000
558454	Bankside Open Spaces Trust	Marlborough Sports Garden Holiday and Netball Programme	£5,000
558515	Lant and Bittern Streets TRA	Community BBQ and Safer Redman Green	£5,000
557656	Mint Street Music Festival Team	Mint Street Music Festival 2016	£2,939
558387	Mint Street Music Festival Team / Plane Tree Arts	Great Suffolk Street Mardi Gras	£1,091.91

Chaucer ward

Ref.	Name of group	Name of project / activity	Amount awarded
558794	Faces in Focus	Counselling and Self-advocacy for Young People 11-25	£2,500
558430	Millwall Community Trust	Girls & Women's Music to Football Programme	£5,000
556868	Southwark Explorers Club	Southwark Explorers' Club	£900
558468	Walworth Amateur Sport Programme	Supporting Community Sport Clubs	£333
557588	Decima Street Tenants Resident Association	9 th Annual Decima Street TRA Fun Day & Festival	£1,000
553158	Futures Theatre Company	Exposure	£4,733

551720	Lawson Tenants & Residents Association	Young Stars	£2,710
554960	Leathermarket JMB Parents Group	Family Cultural Trips	£1,000
558325	Mental Fight Club	Volunteer Development Programme	£4,524
558141	Mobile Gardeners CIC	Edible Elephant	£1,400
557349	St George's Festival	St George's Festival – A Quest for Community	£5,000

East Walworth ward

Ref.	Name of group	Name of project / activity:	Amount awarded
558468	Walworth Amateur Sport Programme	Supporting Community Sport Clubs	£350
558367	Bee Urban	The Bike Surgery	£1,320
550499	Burgess Sports	Multi-sport programme	£5,000
552382	East Walworth Wanderers	Community Football Club	£7,200
556823	Friends of Nursery Row Park	Classrooms without walls: Park-based learning	£4,507.48
558499	Uncle-Aug CIC	Community Drummers & Dancers	£1,000

Faraday ward

Ref.	Name of group	Name of project / activity	Amount awarded
557194	2Inspire	Inspired to Grow	£4,075
557835	Artic (ART In Communities)	Touching Lives	£9,000
550499	Burgess Sports	Multi-sport programme	£2,000
558310	From THAT to THIS	Skill For Llife	£6,100
550499	Southwark Tigers	Tiny Tigers	£3,000
558292	St. Peter's Church	Party in the Park	£5,325

Newington ward

Ref.	Name of group:	Name of project / activity:	Amount awarded
558794	Faces in Focus	Counselling and Self-advocacy for Young People 11-25	£2,500
556868	Southwark Explorers Club	Southwark Explorers' Club	£500
558468	Walworth Amateur Sport Programme	Supporting Community Sport Clubs	£334
558339	Brandon 2 TRA	Community Arts Cafe	£3,000
558367	Bee Urban	The Bike Surgery	£1,320
552809	Camberwell After School Project	Community Fun Day for Parents and Children	£3,000
555874	Friends of Pasley Park	Pasley Park Summer fete	£3,555
559338	InSpire	InSpired Spaces	£6,387.50
539577	Latin American Disabled People's Project	LADPP Community Integration Project	£3,000
558141	Mobile Gardeners CIC	Edible Elephant	£1,400
557697	The Walworth Society	Low Line – West Walworth	£5,000

3.4 SECURE CYCLE PARKING (BIKE HANGAR)

Councillors discussed the proposals contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following comments be submitted as the official comments by the community council to the cabinet member for environment and the public realm:

- The Blackwood Street hangars should be moved to Aylesbury Road.
- The Rothsay Street hangars consultation has seen some opposition, so requests from residents on the Haddonhall Estate for hangars in Prioress Street and Potier Street should be considered as alternatives.
- The hangar in Manciple Street is outside someone's door – this should be investigated.
- Members support the proposals on Hillingdon Street and Doddington Grove.
- Members welcome the proposal to move the hangar in Fielding Street from the street to in front of the allotments.

- In terms of the hangars on De Laune Street and Sharsted Street, the works around the Northern Line extension should be taken into account.
- The Penton Place and Penrose Street consultation results were quite finely balanced and the number of responses low. Further consultation may be needed.

3.5 LOCAL TRAFFIC AND PARKING AMENDMENTS

Councillors discussed the proposals clarifying that Gray Street did not lose parking, the bay was being re-sited. Brook Drive was currently going through a review of the “C2” controlled parking zone.

The meeting heard that councillors were making a decision on whether or not the proposals would go out to statutory consultation, rather than making the decision on the schemes.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following local traffic and parking amendments be approved for implementation, as detailed in the appendices to the report, subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory consultation and procedures:
 - Fielding Street – Convert single yellow lines to double yellow lines with an ‘at any time’ loading restriction adjacent to Empress Street and outside Nos. 11 to 15 to improve traffic flow and access.
 - Gray Street - Relocate permit holder only bays and convert existing single yellow line to double yellow lines to improve traffic flow and access.
2. That the following parking amendment be rejected for implementation, as the streets are already subject to the review of the “C2” controlled parking zone:
 - Brook Drive / Pastor Street - Provide two new car club bays and convert one pay & display bay into a disabled parking bay.

The meeting went into a break from 8.05pm and resumed at 8.25pm. At this point Councillors Maria Linforth-Hall and Adele Morris left the meeting.

4. THEME - "COME AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

4.1 CONSULTATION BOOTHS - WALWORTH ROAD TOWN HALL

Councillor Mark Williams, cabinet member for regeneration and new homes, introduced this item, and set out the scope of the consultation. The council had three options of how to proceed with the old Walworth Town Hall building which had been damaged by the fire in 2014:

1. Go ahead with the current plans and try to find the £16m shortfall (bearing in mind that securing the building cost the council £50,000 per quarter).

2. Approach Department for Culture, Media and Sports and Historic England to ask for permission to remove some of the heritage features inside in order to decrease the cost of the refurbishment, and to get more usable space from the building.
3. Sell the building (either on a long lease or sale of the freehold) and use the money to build a new, purpose-built town hall and library building.

Councillor Williams emphasised that the council did not have a preferred option.

4.2 CONSULTATION BOOTHS - EAST STREET

Nicky Costin, from regulatory services, gave a presentation about what the council was trying to achieve with the £200,000 funding for the market that were available. He touched on the challenges faced by markets, among them the introduction of Sunday trading, multi-national discount stores, pound shops and on-line shopping.

Meetings had taken place with traders and their representatives over a 6-month period. Each trader has also been individually consulted. There had been two trials which had taken place in January and February 2016. Traders had clustered their stalls back to back for the first trial. The stalls had been placed in the middle of the road. In the second trial the traders had placed their stalls on one side of street facing the shops. Both trials had mixed feedback from the traders and the public.

Other on-going issues were fly-tipping and the electrics. Officers envisaged using a mixture of gazebos and refurbished stalls in future. They would also try to do some branding, and encourage young traders.

There were four questions in the consultation pack in the booths, on which he asked people to leave their feedback.

4.3 CONSULTATION BOOTHS - WALWORTH ROAD POST OFFICE

The Vice-Chair explained that the Post Office was looking to turn the Walworth Road post office into a franchise office, which meant a private business would be taking over the site. There would be no guarantee of services being provided at the same location or of the levels of staffing and service being maintained. This created concerns. There had been a productive meeting of concerned parties organised by the Walworth Society, which the Post Office had declined to attend. There was also a petition going around in support of the campaign for a better Post Office and against the closure of Crampton Street sorting office, which people should also think about.

The meeting then split into consultation booth workshops, and reconvened at 9.25pm.

The meeting heard that there was a public meeting about the future of Walworth Town Hall on 5 April 2016 at 7pm at St Peter's in Liverpool Grove.

The chair thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting ended at 9.30pm

CHAIR:

DATED: