

Peckham and Nunhead Community Council

MINUTES of the Peckham and Nunhead Community Council held on Wednesday 21 September 2016 at 7.00 pm at Peckham Rye Church Hall, 45 Elm Grove, Peckham London SE15 5DD

PRESENT:

- Councillor Sunil Chopra (Chair)
- Councillor Sandra Rhule (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor Evelyn Akoto
- Councillor Fiona Colley
- Councillor Nick Dolezal
- Councillor Gavin Edwards
- Councillor Renata Hamvas
- Councillor Barrie Hargrove
- Councillor Richard Livingstone
- Councillor Victoria Mills
- Councillor Jamille Mohammed
- Councillor Johnson Situ
- Councillor Michael Situ
- Councillor Cleo Soanes

OFFICER SUPPORT:

- Mifta Choudhury, Peer Mentor, Children's and Adults' Services
- Suley Muhidin, Community Participation Officer
- Gill Kelly, Community Council Development Officer
- Beverley Olamijulo, Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

The chair thanked Peckham Rye Church for hosting the community council meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Councillors Michael Situ and Victoria Mills submitted their apologies for lateness.
Councillor Jasmine Ali submitted her apologies for absence.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

5. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 29 June 2016 be agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the chair.

MATTERS WHICH AROSE FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Item 7: The Friends of Camberwell Cemeteries

Councillor Dolezal referred to page 3 of the minutes under item 7. He explained that following a complaint that was made about him as a councillor, the council's monitoring officer looking into the matter and concluded that there were no findings with regards to him breaching the members' code of conduct. Councillor Dolezal apologised for the use of any language that might have been deemed inappropriate.

Item 11: Public question time

Mr Barnard referred to page 7 of the minutes under item 11. He asked if his public question which was rejected at the previous meeting on the 29 June 2016 could be noted in the minutes.

The question made reference to the council's habitual complaints policy which officers advised would be ruled out of order under procedure rule 7.3.4 (f) because he raised issues to which there were other processes within the council for a resolution.

Prior to the community council meeting in June 2016, a written response addressing these issues was sent to Mr Barnard by his single point of contact in the council's corporate complaint's team.

Mr Barnard then requested through the chair whether an appropriate officer of the council could attend the community council meeting to outline what the council's habitual complaints policy was. The chair agreed to look into the matter.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

None were received.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Old Kent Road Area Action Plan (AAP)

Tom Buttrick, from the planning policy team addressed the meeting about the ongoing consultation the council were conducting about a planning document known as the Old Kent Road area action plan which is a draft document which focuses on the Old Kent road and parts of north Peckham.

The consultation had been extended to 4 November 2016. Therefore comments could still be received from the community until the deadline date. Information leaflets and printed copies of the draft plan were available at the meeting. Tom explained that the information was also available on the council's (planning policy) website.

He further explained that the draft plan sets out a 20 to 30 year future for the Old Kent Road area which would take into account the potential Bakerloo line extension, new houses and job opportunities, improvements to the Old Kent road corridor for buses, walking and cycling routes.

For more information contact Planning Policy on 0207 525 5471 or email planningpolicy@southwark.gov.uk

Website: <https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-regeneration/old-kent-road-aap>

Leader's Question Time event

The chair announced that there would be a leader's question time event on Wednesday 19 October 2016 at Canada Water Library. The event would start at 7.00pm and the theme would be about public health and social care. Leaflets of the event were available at the meeting.

Crown Post Office, the Rye Lane branch (and Peckham High Street)

The chair announced that the representatives (architects) were unable to attend the meeting but had asked if they could be invited to a future meeting.

Councillor Dolezal thanked those that were involved in the campaign which concerned the proposed closure of the Rye Lane branch which included gathered signatures (petition) and those that attended the meetings and demonstration.

NHS Health check

The chair announced that the representative was unable to attend the community council but had agreed to be at the health theme meeting in January 2017.

Police updates

Inspector Lloyd safer neighbourhood inspector for the area addressed the meeting and outlined the following:

Referred to the crime statistics for the borough and outlined that the most impacted crime

in Southwark was robbery. He said violent crime and theft person burglary were down by 18% in crime stats. However low level crime such as shop lifting and criminal damage were still significantly high. Inspector Lloyd referred to knife and gun crime which he understood had been a major concern in the community.

He acknowledged that the police's use of stop and search did raise some concern particularly with regard to the number of stop and searches that took place which mostly related to drug and knife related offences. The police received a number of complaints about this issue. In light of this the police were looking into introducing "body warmer cameras" to help with stop and search. Councillor Hargrove stated that it was important for the police not to go back to the blanket approach on stop and search particularly when dealing with young people.

Cleaner Greener Safer Funding Programme 2017/2018

Andrea Allen, senior projects manager announced that the council were inviting people to apply for funding from the cleaner greener safer funding programme 2017/18. Andrea explained that £90k was allocated to each ward. The CGS scheme had been running for 14 years which successfully delivered a number of projects in the local area. They range from improvements to community gardens, adventure playgrounds and cycle hangars.

For more information contact Andrea Allen on 0207 525 0860 or email andrea.allen@southwark.gov.uk

Neighbourhoods Fund 2017/2018

The neighbourhoods fund 2017/18 launch date was on the 7 November 2016. It was announced at the meeting to give people advance notice about the funding programme. Information on the above would go out on a newsletter, facebook and the council's website.

For more information contact Gill Kelly on 0207 525 3690 or email gill.kelly@southwark.gov.uk

7. THEME: TACKLING SAFETY ISSUES FOR YOUNG AND OLD

Chair introduced the Youth Co-chair, Francois who introduced the theme of tackling safety issues.

The panel members (below) also introduced themselves to the meeting and gave a brief summary on what they do in the community.

Florence Eshalomi

A member of the London Assembly and representative of the Lambeth and Southwark constituency. In her previous role as a Lambeth councillor, she became involved in dealing with issues that concerned young people and was a special representative for tackling youth violence.

Gifty Peters

A community advocate for young people and active housing representative.

Nat Hawley

Young ambassador for the Princes' Trust who shared his story to the audience of the personal struggles he faced when he was younger and how he became involved in the Princes' Trust which related to a major family incident. The charity helped him a lot to attend school and achieve his GCSEs. Nat said he felt empowered and now he teaches and supports young people with dyslexia.

Suley Muhidin, Southwark Council

Suley spoke about the opportunities for young people and outlined how they could develop their skills and be more involved in their community.

Cllr Evelyn Akoto, deputy cabinet member for young people and careers

Cllr Akoto spoke about her role and how she would like to see more jobs, training and educational opportunities for young people in the borough.

Inspector Lloyd – Inspector for the Peckham and Nunhead wards

Addressed the meeting during the police updates and responded to questions from the audience.

Mifta Choudhury, David Idowu Foundation

Mifta has worked in the borough for five years. His view was that a number of young people were disengaged from a lot of services and do not necessarily understand basic skills. Some young people were not able to match up to those that did have the skills.

There was an overall consensus that the issue of unemployment amongst young people needed to be addressed and they should have access to training and job opportunities. It was noted that a number of organisations were already working with community groups to try and achieve this.

Overall the panel members agreed that more support should be available to help mentor young people.

8. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Members of the community council submitted a question about apprenticeships based on discussion and the theme at the meeting. This would be submitted at the council assembly meeting on Wednesday 30 November 2016.

Community council question:

What further action could the council take to monitor as well as boost the range and quality of apprenticeships on offer to young people in the borough?

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

PQ1:

A question was raised about the council's new automated voice recognition switchboard. The person outlined that it had not worked in a way that would reduce time and money due to the multiple questions that were asked so that one could be directed to the right department. She asked if this was part of the cost cutting exercise that the council had put in place?

A1:

Councillor Colley confirmed that it was part of the cost cutting exercise that was put in place. This matter had previously been referred to when information about the council's budget was announced. Councillor Colley mentioned that most of the time the automated voice recognition worked fine when she used it but advised people to either say "switchboard" or stay "silent" then the caller would be transferred to the operator. She said council staff were the principal users of the switchboard which was not resourceful when the switchboard directs staff to other members of staff within the council. It was noted that the situation would be monitored.

PQ2:

I am a partner in the Peckham Townscape Heritage Initiative. At a meeting of the partnership on 14 September 2016 it emerged that despite the designation of Rye Lane as a Conservation Area in 2011, the council had not developed any supplementary planning guidance (SPG) to give teeth to this designation. It was submitted that given the current tsunami of planning applications for the town centre there was an urgent need for an SPG. This is to ask whether this need had been conveyed to the relevant councillors, and what actions would be taken to ensure that effective planning guidance is developed?

A2:

Councillor Nick Dolezal said he was aware of this issue and the council were dealing with the matter.

Q3:

Do you know or are the councillors aware of Councillor Wingfield's promise to have information on the website about people buried at Camberwell Old Cemetery that were buried above the remains of other dead people. We are also concerned about the destruction of 12 acres of trees/woods in Camberwell Old Cemetery. The council should not be selling graves to religious people knowing that the people were already buried in the graves?

A3:

The chair said the matter would be referred to Councillor Ian Wingfield.

Q4:

The council's digital campaign – what is the council doing about supporting disadvantaged groups on this particularly those who were considered vulnerable. Secondly, it appears that some people have difficulty navigating around my Southwark web pages in that there were issues when people were registering their details?

A4:

The chair said this would be looked into by the relevant officers.

10. HIGHWAYS CAPITAL INVESTMENT FOR 2015/16 AND 2016/17

Note: This is an executive function for decision by the community council.

Members considered the recommendations contained within the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following proposed funding schemes from the Highways Capital Investment for 2015/16 and 2016/17 be agreed:

Nunhead ward	Cost
Astbury Road/ Colls Road Footway	£19,000
Crewys Road Footway	£29,000
Lulworth Road Footway	£23,800
Total allocation	£71,800

2. That the Highways Capital Investment allocations for local wards: The Lane, Peckham Rye, Peckham and part Livesey will be considered at a future community council meeting.

11. LOCAL PARKING AND TRAFFIC REPORT

This item was withdrawn at the officer's request.

The meeting ended at 10.10 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: