

## Peckham and Nunhead Community Council

MINUTES of the Peckham and Nunhead Community Council held on Saturday 28 January 2017 at 1.00 pm at 5, Nunhead Green, Nunhead London SE15 3QQ

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**PRESENT:**

Councillor Sunil Chopra (Chair)  
Councillor Sandra Rhule (Vice chair)  
Councillor Jasmine Ali  
Councillor Fiona Colley  
Councillor Nick Dolezal  
Councillor Renata Hamvas  
Councillor Barrie Hargrove  
Councillor Richard Livingstone  
Councillor Victoria Mills  
Councillor Jamille Mohammed  
Councillor Johnson Situ  
Councillor Cleo Soanes

**OFFICER  
SUPPORT:**

Eleanor Kelly, Chief Executive  
Doreen Forrester Brown, Director of Law and Democracy (and Monitoring Officer)  
Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities  
Gill Kelly, Community Council Development Officer  
Grace Semakula, Community Development Officer  
Ambrose Omoma, Community Involvement Project 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 the Green Nunhead community centre for hosting the meeting.

It was noted that the community council meeting would be conducted under the new format for community councils which was implemented on the 1 January 2017.

The first part of the meeting considered items that were executive functions for decision by the community council. The meeting then proceeded to the community council forum meeting which held workshops.

## **2. APOLOGIES**

Councillors Evelyn Akoto and Michael Situ had submitted their apologies for absence. Councillor Barrie Hargrove gave his apologies for lateness.

## **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 15 November 2016 be agreed as an accurate record and signed by the chair.

### **5.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The following was raised under matters arising from the previous meetings:

#### **The council's habitual complaints policy**

The council's director of law and democracy/monitoring officer, Doreen Forrester-Brown, addressed the meeting in relation to the above.

The community council noted that public questions from a resident on the council's habitual complaints policy and council's commitment to honesty, openness and accountability had previously been rejected.

Both questions were not accepted under community council procedure rule 7.3.4 (f) because it raised a grievance for which there were other processes within the council, all of which had been exhausted by the questioner.

Following the meeting on 15 November 2016, the officer's required action was to inform members of the public and councillors about the council's interpretation of the habitual complaints policy.

#### **The monitoring officer's presentation**

Doreen Forrester-Brown introduced herself to the meeting and briefly outlined her role as the council's monitoring officer.

The monitoring officer informed the meeting that this matter related to an issue with the public questioner and the council regarding the interpretation of the council's habitual

complaints policy.

She highlighted information about the habitual complaints policy and said that as a public authority, the council represented 230,000 residents in the borough and that the council provides services equally to everyone within the borough.

The council would treat each individual's complaint with the seriousness it deserves. As monitoring officer, she said she had to ensure that a robust complaints system was in place when residents had concerns about the way the council behaved, whether it was a council officer or a member of the council.

She explained that if someone wished to raise a complaint they could do so through the council's complaints procedure. However on occasions, certain individuals make excessive demands on the council in terms of making complaints to the council. Often these complaints were unjustified or not warranted. This costs money particularly at a time when the council has experienced a number of budget cuts.

The monitoring officer said it usually takes a long time for the council to decide to make a person a habitual complainant. The council would do this after a fair and transparent process. It would also help manage an individual's contact with the council to ensure they were not demanding or spending too much of the council's resources. Out of the borough's 230,000 residents, eight people have been deemed to be habitual complainants.

The monitoring officer said that the council did not treat this matter lightly and out of the eight habitual complainants, five were treated as such, due to threats of violence and abuse against staff employed by the council. The other three individuals were deemed habitual complainants due to the level of resources and time they demand from the council which was considered to be excessive; of which the questioner was one.

If the council decides to make a person a habitual complainant, then that person can refer the matter to the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO). The LGO would look at the issue and decide whether or not they agree with the council's position.

The monitoring officer outlined that the council employs one full time officer at a cost of £30,000 a year to deal with people who send continuous and habitual correspondence to the council.

The chair thanked the monitoring officer for attending the meeting to clarify these issues.

At 1.25 pm the meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes and reconvened at 1.35 pm.

The meeting proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

## **6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS**

There were no deputations or petitions presented at this meeting.

## **7. CLEANER GREENER SAFER: FUNDING REALLOCATION**

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

Members considered the recommendations contained within the report.

**RESOLVED:**

That a total of £73,412 be reallocated as part of the 2017/18 cleaner greener safer funding programme set out in Appendix 1 of the report. Also that additional funding be allocated to the following projects:

**Peckham ward**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount (additional funding)</b>
106920 Jowett Street park/ Surrey Canal CCTV	£3,000
105869 Bells Gardens Community garden	£2,000

**8. CLEANER GREENER SAFER 2017/18: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION**

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

Members considered the recommendations contained within the report.

**RESOLVED:**

That the following projects be allocated funding from the cleaner greener safer funding programme for 2016/17:

**PECKHAM RYE WARD**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Oakhill bike lockers	£8,500
Balchier bike lockers	£5,000
Stuart Road bike lockers	£5,000
Oakhurst Grove and Athenlay Road bike lockers	£10,000
Rye Hill equipment for youth club	£2,784
Peckham Rye Common Approach project	£71,469

## **PECKHAM WARD**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Franklyn Rodgers – underexposed commission refresh	£7,500
Peckham hanging baskets	£4,750
Goldsmiths nature garden improvements phase 2 -	£11,000
Planters for Furley Road -	£4,000
Right of Passage in the Light -	£23,250
Secure bike hangars – Cronin Street	£9,000
Samuel Jones Court bicycle lockers	£4,250
Gloucester Grove Estate cycle lockers	£7,000
Damilola Taylor Basketball Rims	£5,200
Sumner Willowbrook Pennack Road Safety project	£7,000
Willowbrook Estate – improving outlook of the estate	£15,700

## **NUNHEAD WARD**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Lighting the estate compounds	£1,000
Brayards cleaner greener safer lighting project	£21,000
Bike hangar Limesford Road	£5,000
Kirkwood nature reserve entrance improvements	£5,000
Monument repairs at Nunhead Cemetery	£8,000
Cossall art4space project	£7,560
St. Mary's bicycle storage	£5,000
Flowers for Mortlock Close and Sunwell Close	£15,500

Refurb of St Mary's Frobisher Park	£10,500
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## **THE LANE WARD**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Cooperative Community Garden	£4,000
Atwell Estate – bike hangars	£5,000
Bellenden Road bicycle hangar	£3,000
Lighting on the Consort Estate	£10,000
Consort Estate signage	£5,000
St Johns and St Clements orchard project	£1,888
Nunhead Estate improvement	£8,000
Improvements to north end of Kirkwood Road	£6,750
Nutbrook Road bike hangar	£5,000
Warwick gardens children's play area	£18,339
Russell Court Garden	£1,000
Scylla Road Community Garden	£9,000
Bellenden Big Tree	£2,000
Pelican Plus TRA storage	£4,000

## **LIVESEY WARD**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Peckham hanging baskets	£4,000
Franklyn Rodgers – underexposed commission refresh	£7,500
King's Grove cycle parking	£4,250
Improving Lympstone Peace gardens	£7,100
Large raised planter – Caroline gardens	£10,313

Children's activity and social area	£18,000
Hanging basket garden on the Ledbury Estate	£756
Ledbury Estate ball court refurbishment	£505
Bike shed for corner of Bird-in-Bush Road	£4,250

The meeting ended at 2.30pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**