

Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council

MINUTES of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council held on Tuesday 13 September 2016 at 7.00 pm at The Oxford & Bermondsey Club, 3 Webb Street, London SE1 4RP

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Williams (Chair)
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Stephanie Cryan
Councillor Catherine Dale
Councillor David Hubber
Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Damian O'Brien
Councillor James Okosun
Councillor Leo Pollak
Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Dan Whitehead
Councillor Kath Whittam

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Maisie Anderson

OFFICER SUPPORT: Michelle Normanly, Senior Project Officer
Tom Buttrick, Team Leader in Planning Policy
Jess Leech, Community Engagement Manager
Suley Muhidin, Community Participation Officer
Kirsten Watters, Consultant in Public Health
Leah Coburn, Group Manager in Highways
Marian Farrugia, Community Council Development Officer
Tim Murtagh, Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lucas Green (Vice-Chair), Anood Al-Samerai, Ben Johnson and Hamish McCallum; and for lateness from Councillors Evelyn Akoto and Catherine Dale.

3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Richard Livingstone declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 18, part 1.1, as he is a resident of Goodwin Close.

Councillor Catherine Dale declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 18, part 2.1, as she is an employee of Guys Hospital and involved with the cancer centre.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2016 be agreed as a correct record of that meeting.

6. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cleaner, Greener, Safer (CGS) Capital Programme 2017-18 launch

Michelle Normanly, senior project manager, explained that the CGS programme had been running for fourteen years. Applications for 2017-18 could now be submitted and the closing date for applications was 31 October 2016. Many of the projects previously submitted had been quite innovative and that was because residents had explained the type of projects that would work in their area. There was £492,382 available to spend in the community council area and it could be applied to new or ongoing projects and to fund all or part of the total cost. Michelle added that this year, at the 7 December 2016 meeting of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council, the ideas submitted would be displayed. It was important with this extra layer of the process to get the applications in on time.

The chair reiterated that the change to the process would enable residents to have more say at the December meeting but in order to do that applications needed to be submitted by the deadline of 31 October 2016, to give officers the necessary time to do the follow up work. He asked councillors to actively engage with the community to look at projects appropriate for CGS funding.

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

Bermondsey Community Kitchen

A representative from the Bermondsey Community Kitchen explained that it was a free training facility providing a level 1 and 2 professional cookery qualification. The free course was available to 16 – 24 year olds currently unemployed. The first cohort of 22 students had recently passed the qualification and so far 10 had secured jobs in restaurants at places like the Tate Modern and Novotel. Various other courses were available and being planned.

Contact: info@bermondseycommunitykitchen.com

Old Kent Road Area Action Plan

Tom Buttrick, Team Leader Planning Policy, explained that the Old Kent Road Area Action Plan was a draft planning document currently being consulted on. The consultation period would run until 4 November 2016. The draft document represented a plan for the area for the next twenty years. It looked at issues including new houses and the Bakerloo Line extension. Residents were encouraged to submit their comments.

Bermondsey in Bloom

The chair announced that there was still time to vote tonight for this year's nominations, in the stalls area of the venue.

8. YOUTH SERVICES CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Jess Leech, community engagement manager, introduced two items: the youth services consultation and proposals for a new youth council.

Youth Services Consultation

A document had been circulated. Residents were being asked what they thought the priorities should be for the kinds of activities that the council should invest in for young people going forward from 2017. The comments received would inform the youth and play strategy and services over the next few years.

Southwark Youth Council

Suley Muhidin, community participation officer, explained that he led on youth engagement. Southwark Youth Council (SYC) was a formal structure for young people to get involved in the decision making process and the key issues that affected young people. It was an opportunity for young people to be representatives and ambassadors for young people. The SYC would likely mirror what existed in the council. There would be a cabinet and a wider council meeting group comprised of young people. Elections would take place in November / December 2016. The SYC would aim to be inclusive, purposeful and exciting.

9. FREE SWIM & GYM

Councillor Maisie Anderson, cabinet member for public health, parks and leisure, introduced the item.

Why are we doing this?

- Remove cost as a barrier to physical activity
- Help tackle physical inactivity

- Improve the health of the borough.

What will the scheme achieve?

- Free access for all residents
- Target physical inactivity in the borough
- Free 7 day access for disabled residents
- Extra support with poorer health
- Help to better understand the health of the borough.

Piloting the scheme

- Pilot launched in May 2015
- Open to anyone aged 18 and under
- Open to over 60s who use the Silver programme for free
- "Exercise on referral" and 7 day a week access to disabled residents at The Castle was introduced in April 2016.

Total registrations (23 May to 31 August) = 30,590; total attendance during same period = 51,285.

Full Free Swim and Gym available for all residents since the end of July 2016

- At all Southwark Council leisure centres
- All day Friday
- Saturday and Sunday 2.00pm until close.
- Disabled residents can access all the centres for free 7 days a week.

How to register?

- Online at www.everyoneactive.com/southwarkfreeswimandgym/
- Online at Southwark libraries

Pick up an application form at libraries and leisure centres.

10. YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH

Kirsten Watters, consultant in public health, gave a presentation.

Young and diverse borough

- 68,542 under 20 years old
- Over 50% of the young population are in the 1-9 year old age group
- 66% of the population under 20 are BME.

High but falling levels of deprivation

- Southwark ranks 9th in London and 18th in England against the child poverty index
- 28% of children and young people in Southwark are living in poverty compared with 24% in London and 19% in England.

Children and Young People's Health is improving

- Our children start reception with a good level of development
- Issues with low birth weight and infant mortality are falling
- Numbers of children immunised against infectious diseases increasing
- Compared to London and England fewer Southwark young people smoke or drink alcohol to harmful levels
- Significant decrease in teenage conceptions since 2000
- There has been an overall upward trend in education attainment from primary school

- to GCSE level
- Children and young people attend school and go on to jobs, training and education.

Sex, drugs, mental health

- High levels of sexually transmitted infections amongst under 25s – with chlamydia most common infection
- Southwark seems to have lower hospital admission rates due to substance misuse among young people aged 15 to 24, compared to London and England averages.
- In 2014, 37% of Year 10 boys and 28% of Year 10 girls said they had been offered cannabis
- 67% of pupils reported that, in general, they were satisfied with their life either quite a lot or a lot
- Southwark has higher numbers of young people with poor mental health compared to London and England but lower rates of self-harm.

Summary

- Build on successes, in particular our achievements in school readiness and educational attainment but a number of challenges remain
- New Healthy Weight Strategy
- Working with Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group to improve the way Southwark delivers services and through Children and Young People Health Partnership for Lambeth and Southwark
- Looking at how Southwark delivers services to young people – risk and resilience
- Looking at mental health services and improving access to support
- Working with and supporting schools to be health promoting places.

Contact: Kirsten.watters@southwark.gov.uk

11. CANADA WATER MASTERPLAN UPDATE

Eleanor Wright, from British Land, explained that the masterplan was the proposal to redevelop Surrey Quays shopping centre, Surrey Quays leisure park and the Harmsworth Quays printworks. British Land (BL) had been working with the council and consulting with the local community since early 2014 on the proposals to redevelop and create a mixed use town centre.

The masterplan was the main item at the last community council in June 2016. There were workshops on the main themes raised by residents during the consultation earlier in the year - transport, height and density, and a mix of uses. Eleanor thanked all those who had taken part and said that feedback indicated around 90-95% had felt that their views had been represented. The feedback report would be available on the website.

Transport was a key local concern. A specific session had recently taken place looking at the transport process including who had responsibility for various parts and who does what. It involved key stakeholders - Southwark Council, local councillors, Transport for London and BL's transport consultants Arup. It looked at the thinking behind the strategic transport plans for the area.

There has also been a recent session on the planning and development process. The information from that is on the website - www.canadawatermasterplan.com

Contact: Eleanor.Wright@britishland.com

12. TOWER BRIDGE CLOSURE

Paul Monaghan, City of London and Dele Olaleye, Transport for London (TfL) gave an overview of the planned closure and what was being done to minimise the impact to transport users caused during the works. There would be two diversion routes – Borough High Street (northbound) and Southwark Bridge (southbound).

Several questions followed:

Q1 Re bus services to Rotherhithe and Surrey Quays, that were already very difficult and often delayed - Are there any measures being taken to try and remedy the problems relating to those bus routes. It would be terrible for passengers who live in the areas affected.

TfL – Unfortunately, I don't think there are particular measures put in place to improve those services. London buses do have contingency plans, depending on how bad the impact from the Tower Bridge closure is. That was a wait and see approach.

Q2 TfL bosses need to have a serious look at the major problems that exist for traffic along Tower Bridge Road, near Bricklayers Arms, and along Jamaica Road. There must be some simple things that can be done to improve the traffic flow there. Currently it is absolutely unacceptable. With the Tower Bridge closure the existing problems would get far worse.

Q3 Following discussions with Riverside ward councillors, TfL agreed to put yellow boxes on all three junctions on Jamaica Road to ease the traffic. Is there any possibility of opening up St Thomas Street, during busy times, to ease the traffic. Also, what provision has been made for the emergency vehicles as they sometimes get stuck in traffic jams which can put the community in danger.

TfL – Re St Thomas Street, TfL are working closely with Network Rail but it is their site at the moment. We understand that the St Thomas works are largely completed but there are no plans to open it up to traffic in the short term. Re emergency services, they have their own plans in place and do not use the bridges too often.

The chair asked for a written response from TfL on the questions above regarding the traffic jams on Jamaica Road and Tower Bridge. Specifically, what TfL can do to solve those issues. As some easy solutions need to be considered.

13. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Sergeant Mark Rigby, from South Bermondsey ward / North East cluster, gave a summary of recent activities.

In response to questions about how would future ward boundary changes in the community council area affect local police operations, Sergeant Rigby said he would find out, via his Inspector, ahead of the next community council meeting.

14. HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-17

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

Leah Coburn, group manager in highways, was available to take questions on issues related to the report.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following proposals be approved for funding:

- Neckinger - £37,548
- Leroy Street - £26,850
- Clement Road - £46,740
- Sweeney Crescent - £24,875
- Scot Lidgett Crescent - £15,890
- Bermondsey West Wall - £22,576
- Seth Street - £8,700
- Neptune Street - £14,480
- Rotherhithe Street - £4,800

Councillors asked that the following two projects in Surrey Docks ward be costed up for consideration at a future meeting:

- Rope Street Footway
- Finland Street Footway.

15. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were raised at the meeting:

- Q1 A resident said that priority for questions, at community council meetings, should be given to residents over the councillors and that did not always happen. The chair accepted that and agreed that residents should be asked in the first instance before a topic was opened up to councillors.

16. RENNIE ESTATE PARKING

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

Leah Coburn, group manager in highways, was available to take questions on issues related to the report.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following local traffic and parking amendments be approved for implementation,

as detailed in the report, subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:

- To implement an estate parking scheme to Rennie Estate. The scheme is to cover the entire estate from 7am – 7pm, Monday to Sunday.
- To agree that the use of visitor permits are not permitted in the allocated visitor bays. These bays are limited to 3 hours and the visitor permits are permissible all day and may be used in the allocated resident bays.

17. SOUTH SEA STREET EMERGENCY ACCESS

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

Leah Coburn, group manager in highways, was available to take questions on issues related to the report.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following local traffic and parking amendments be approved for implementation, as detailed in the report, subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:

1. Implementation of double yellow line waiting restrictions at the southern end of South Sea Street.
2. Implementation of a no-motor-vehicles zone at the southern end of South Sea Street, except for public service vehicles and emergency service vehicles.

18. LOCAL TRAFFIC AND PARKING AMENDMENTS

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

Leah Coburn, group manager in highways, was available to take questions on issues related to the report.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

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 procedures:
 - Goodwin Close / Lucey Road / Yalding Road – to install new double yellow lines on entrances to estate parking areas and private car parks.
 - Verney Road – To install double yellow lines outside and opposite Nos 34 – 40 to allow unrestricted access for large vehicles and to prevent obstructive parking at any time.

- Melior Place – To install at any time loading restriction to prevent parking and loading / unloading to maintain access to Nos.8 to 20 Snowfields at any time.
 - Monnow Road – To install single yellow line to prevent vehicles from blocking access to the re-developed communal bin room on the Abbey Gardens estate to enable refuse collections.
2. That the following decisions, regarding objections received against traffic management orders, be deferred so that further consultation can take place:
- Snowfields – Convert Snowfields to one-way working (eastbound) with a cycling contraflow and to formalise the two zebra crossings at the western end of Snowfields and the northern end of Crosby Row.

19. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

There was no community council question to council assembly submitted at this meeting.

Meeting ended at 9.45pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: