

## APPENDIX E

### COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES AND PLANNING MINUTES

#### **Borough, Bankside and Walworth 10 October 2012**

**Bankside Neighbourhood Forum** – Tim Wood chair of the forum gave a brief introduction on what the forum was. The forum were developing a neighbourhood plan which would influence development in the area in the future. The forum were currently collating consultation information and would then submit a draft plan to the council.

#### **Borough, Bankside and Walworth 8 December 2012**

The community council are asked to comment the application for a neighbourhood development area and also for qualifying body status by Bankside Neighbourhood Forum as set out in the report.

Minutes:

Juliet Seymour, Planning Policy Manager, explained the background to neighbourhood planning and that the community council were being asked to comment on the proposals to designate the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum as a qualifying body and to comment on the appropriateness of the boundary suggested for the plan.

The chair of the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum was not in attendance some other members of the forum, including Cllr Adele Morris, commented on their work.

Members asked how the membership was made up, how people became part of the forum and whether the forum was representative specifically in terms of BME groups. Councillors also questioned whether the forum overlapped with other groups in the area such as TRAs or historical societies. Members also raised concerns about how the forum was constituted and how the membership would replenish – stating that the constitution was more of a statement of current arrangements rather than a document outlining the governance arrangements of the forum (for example the process for electing a chair).

In response to these questions members of the forum explained that the forum was made up of 21 individuals: 7 from local business, 7 from community groups and 7 residents. There were no BME members of the group. The function of the forum specifically related to neighbourhood planning so if a plan was agreed the role of the forum would be to monitor the delivery of the plan. The planning policy officer advised that the governance issues could be addressed before a final report went to the cabinet member for decision and clarified that the role of the community council was to comment on the appropriateness of the area and the group before the cabinet member took a decision.

Members noted the work that the forum had put in getting to this stage.

RESOLVED

That the community council notes the work of the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum and welcomes the development of a neighbourhood plan in the area however the community council requests that the forum considers its governance arrangements and how far the group is representative specifically in terms of BME membership.

### **Borough, Bankside and Walworth 26 Feb 2013**

The community council are asked to comment the application for a neighbourhood development area and also for qualifying body status by Bankside Neighbourhood Forum as set out in the report.

Juliet Seymour, Planning Policy Manager, introduced the report and outlined the neighbourhood planning process. In response to a questions from the floor Juliet explained that the report had been brought back to the community council as the questions and issued raised by councillors at the last meeting had not been answered. The Bankside and Bermondsey forums had been pathfinders which meant they had received funding from the council which had come from a government grant.

There was a discussion around the area proposed some members of the audience felt the area should not go west of Blackfriars Road as this would impact on the work of the South Bank Forum which existed in this area.

Tim Wood, the chair of the Bankside Forum addressed the representation issues which had been raised by councillors at the last meeting stating that the 21 members of the forum were from groups such as: businesses, residents and church representatives. He stated that the Localism Act which established the neighbourhood planning procedures required forums to reflect the community and to prepare a plan that understands and reflects the local community – the forums were not required to be completely representative in terms of membership.

In response to questions from councillors Juliet clarified that an area could only be included in one plan and that if the boundary was amended then the consultation process would need to begin again. Groups were now requested to provide information on how their membership reflects the communities in the area and that groups were being recommended to use Charity Commission guidance to develop their constitutions, this was in response to the questions raised by councillors at the last community council meeting. Councillors commented that they felt it was appropriate to include Borough High Street within the boundary of the area.

### **RESOLVED**

That the community council is broadly supportive of the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum and the proposed area however the community council raises concerns about how far the group represents the area, in relation to the council's duties under the Equalities Act.

### **Bermondsey and Rotherhithe 30 January 2013**

The chair introduced the items by informing the meeting that the community council was being asked to comment on the Neighbourhood Planning reports, which had been circulated, as part of the consultation process. Two related to Bermondsey, and one to Bankside. These reports had already been considered by main planning committee. In addition to this, there was also a general consultation process which members of the public could feed into directly. All residents and businesses were free to contact the cabinet member responsible, as the consultation about the areas was open to all.

Juliet Seymour, Planning Policy Manager, outlined that the community council was being asked to comment on the proposed boundaries and make-up of the Bankside Forum, and to comment on the proposed boundaries only in relation to the two proposed Bermondsey areas.

Under the Localism Act 2011, residents could ask for the creation of these Neighbourhood Forums. Their purpose was to put together Neighbourhood plans, to run alongside the council's development plans, which planning officers would refer to. Once the forums had put together their draft plans, there would be an informal consultation for six weeks. The results of this would be included in the plan, which would then be handed over to the council. After the full, legal consultation conducted by the council which followed this, the plans could not be changed anymore and would be checked by the planning inspector. The final stage was a referendum for residents and one for businesses, if applicable.

Areas, which had Neighbourhood Plans, would be able to retain 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) generated by them, compared with the usual 15%. The council could change the boundaries of the proposed area, but not refuse applications for neighbourhood forums.

Responding to a comment from the floor, Councillor Mark Gettleson explained that these forums were planning forums and, therefore, different in scope from community councils. If people did not like the proposed neighbourhood plan, they could vote it down in the referendum.

Concerns were expressed about the repercussions for the areas which were not designated in a Neighbourhood Plan, and about the scope and cost of the referenda. Views were expressed that these forums should have been put in place earlier, as much of the regeneration and development of the area had already taken place.

Councillors discussed the boundaries and the make-up of the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum.

**RESOLVED:**

That the community council is happy with the composition of the forum, and with the western and southern boundaries of the proposed area. In terms of the eastern boundary, the community council suggests including both sides of Borough High Street in the area, as the street feels like it is part of the Bankside area.

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Neighbourhood Planning - Application for a neighbourhood development area and also for qualifying body status by Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum

Meeting of Planning Committee, Tuesday 29 January 2013 7.00 pm (Item 8.)

Minutes:

Members heard an officer's introduction to the report and asked questions.

**RESOLVED:**

The committee provided the following comments:

1. That comments provided are general and based on boundaries and areas rather than on the specific applications.
2. That boundaries should go around estates either including or not including entire estates and that natural boundaries such as railway lines, rivers and roads be taken into account.
3. That careful consideration be given to roads (shops should be included on both sides of the road) the lengths of roads, cut offs, usage of the roads and amenities along them.

Supporting documents:

Report, item 8. PDF 86 KB

Appendix A, item 8. PDF 2 MB

Appendix B, item 8. PDF 245 KB

Appendix C, item 8. PDF 339 KB