



Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council

MINUTES of the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Community Council held on Wednesday 4 December 2013 at 7.00 pm at Links Community Centre, 353 Rotherhithe New Road, London SE16 3HF

PRESENT: Councillor Graham Neale (Chair)
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai
Councillor Michael Bukola
Councillor Denise Capstick
Councillor Jeff Hook
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Catherine McDonald
Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Nick Stanton

OFFICER SUPPORT: Jonathon Toy, Head of Community Safety and Enforcement
Rebecca Walker, Interim Drugs and Alcohol Team Manager
Leah Coburn, Development Control Officer (Highways)
Iain Gray, Community Safety Officer
Gill Kelly, Community Council Development Officer
Tim Murtagh, Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors David Hubber, Mark Gettleson, Eliza Mann and Lisa Rajan; and for lateness from Councillors Anood Al-Samerai, Paul Kyriacou and Nick Stanton.

3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair announced that a late report - Community Council Fund Reallocation, had been

accepted and circulated as part of Supplemental Agenda No. 1.

4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2013 be agreed as an accurate record of that meeting, and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Council Fund 2014/15

This year's community council fund was now accepting applications. Community groups could bid for amounts between £100 and £1,000 for fun days, festivals, outings and activities. The closing date was 13 December 2013.

Contact: gill.kelly@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 4928.

Millwall for All – The Leadership Project

Marc Elliott, Millwall for All, explained that the leadership project worked with 16 to 24-year-olds not in education, training or employment. The range of activities available included: leadership skills and organisational training, work placements and curriculum vitae building. The project, which had been running for about three years, was about getting young people on the right path. During that time about 150 people had taken part, and many had returned to college or secured jobs. Three young people from the project described how the courses had enhanced their lives with new opportunities. The project was open to men and women and provided general sports training. Contact: melliott@millwallplc.com

Transition Network for Bermondsey and Rotherhithe update

The chair read out a statement from the group who had presented at the previous community council meeting in October. The network had met twice and their first goal was to create a map of all the eco-projects taking place in the area. It would cover a wide range of projects, including wildlife conservation, community food banks and recycling. The aim was to build better connections between groups. There would also be some outreach events in the spring. Contact: transition.b.and.r@gmail.com

Bede in the Blue Youth Project

Fokrul Meah, Bede House Association Youth Project, explained that he had helped run youth projects on the Blue Estate since April 2013. The work had started following

complaints from shopkeepers, councillors and residents about anti-social behaviour in the area.

Sinitta, Bede House Association Youth Project, said they had spoken with young people gathering in the area to find out about them and build trust and understanding. Some of the young people hanging around the Blue lived locally, although others travelled in from Dulwich or the Elephant & Castle. The young people taking part in anti-social behaviour activities, often chose this lifestyle, because they did not think they had better options available.

Fokrul added that it was important for the young people to have a positive steer away from the dangerous path in their lives. The project workers had emphasised the need for respect and had helped several of them attend job interviews and secure part-time jobs.

The chair thanked Fokrul and Sinitta for their presentation.

8. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Inspector Bernard Hayton, Grange Safer Neighbourhoods Team, explained that under the new police model, 17 extra officers had been brought into the area. The extra officers had additional responsibilities including executing drugs warrants.

Recent police activities included:

- An operation in September 2013 to target robberies around Bermondsey tube station which led to 10 arrests
- On Fridays and Saturdays a police minibus regularly travelled to local crime hotspots where patrols took place
- Plain-clothes officers on unmarked bicycles patrolled certain areas
- A drugs premises had been closed down which had led to the seizure of Class-A drugs and £3,000 of drug money
- A meth drug-lab had been closed down and drugs valued at £20,000 had been removed.

There had been a large amount of non-residential burglaries among small businesses in the Riverside area. Officers were currently following up on a number of suspects.

In response to questions, Inspector Hayton made the following points:

- Motor vehicle crime fluctuated depending on the arrest or release of serial offenders. Residents were encouraged to add a second lock to deter criminals
- Insp. Hayton favoured arresting drug dealers over trying to reach out to them and change their habits, but did recognise there were merits in the outreach work undertaken by the Bede House Association.

9. CRIME AND SAFETY: BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

Under the theme of the community council meeting, a panel of community members and officers were assembled to take questions. The members of the panel were:

Marc Elliott, Millwall for All

Avril Jones, Consultant to the Met Police

Jonathon Toy, Head of Community Safety and Enforcement, Southwark Council

Ryan Lang, Southwark Intergenerational Network

Rebecca Walker and Iain Gray, Southwark's Alcohol Strategy / Young Persons Substance Misuse Team

In response to questions the panel made the following points:

- It was important to focus on people with behavioural problems as individuals rather than labelling them as being members of a particular gang. Over many years that had proved to be a more effective approach
- Alcohol often was at the centre of behavioural problems and violence but Southwark's treatment centre at the Elephant Castle had proved effective in carrying out court orders related to alcohol problems
- School exclusions were a big problem. If a child had special educational needs for example they were nine times more likely to be excluded. There were often complex factors that led to the sort of behaviour behind school exclusions
- If someone was concerned about a neighbour or elderly person in the community, over the holidays, there was a contact line they should call – 020 7525 3324. This was a dedicated phone number about social care needs for the vulnerable
- Restorative justice was one method of bringing about closure by bringing together the victim and the offender. The offender would then apologise to the victim for their behaviour. It was often a lengthy process but could be quite powerful and effective when the perpetrator fully appreciated the consequences of their actions
- Disproportional stop and search was still an issue with stop and search actions by the police. This was because the police were responding to calls from witnesses about suspects relating to a particular crime. There were about 1,900 stop and searches per month in Southwark. The public were broadly in favour of stop and search, as it tended to put fear in the mind of criminals in possession of something illegal
- There would be a stop and search workshop for young people with the Bubble Theatre at Millwall F.C. on 1 February 2014. There would be some football sessions on the same day and also a chance to see the Ben Kinsella knife crime exhibition.

10. CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER - CHANGE CONTROL REPORT

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That an under spend of £41,350 from the Cleaner Greener Safer programme 2013-14 be reallocated to the following applications:

ROTHERHITHE

Proposal	Amount
The big Tower Bridge Road clean up	£10,000
Spa Park outdoor gym	£31,350

11. COMMUNITY COUNCILS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL INVESTMENT 2013/14

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That allocations of Highways Capital Investment funding for the following schemes be approved:

Proposal	Estimated cost
Onega Gate Footway/Carriageway	£52,416
Norway Gate Footway/Carriageway	£52,301

12. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS

12.1 NON-STRATEGIC TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MATTERS

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the objection against the installation of double yellow lines detailed in the

appendices to the report be rejected and that officers be instructed to install the traffic order

2. That the following non-strategic traffic management matters, detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved for implementation subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:
 - Rolls Road and Catlin Street – implement traffic signs for the extension of a 7.5 tonne weight limit
 - Lynton Road – formalise the existing 2.2 metre width restriction near No.195 Lynton Road.

12.2 PARKING CHANGES RESULTING FROM THE SILWOOD PHASE 4B DEVELOPMENT

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

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

- Silwood Street – The relocation of existing residents' permit parking bays and introduction of double yellow line waiting restrictions.
- Debnams Road – The removal of one short stay bay. The relocation of existing residential permit bays and provision of three additional residential permit bays. The introduction of double yellow lines.
- Corbett's Lane – introduction of double yellow waiting restrictions.
- Corbett's Lane (south) – provision of four new resident permit bays and introduction of yellow line waiting restrictions at the junction with Silwood Street.

MEETING BREAK:

During the meeting break there was a performance of festive songs sung by the Rotherhithe and Bermondsey Choral Society Choir.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Gary Magold said that a Cleaner, Greener, Safer award from a few years ago had restored the Bermondsey Boer War memorial and it had now been installed in St. James Church. There would be a rededication service around the 16 February 2014. He added that this year's poppy appeal had raised £6,550.93 for the Royal British Legion.

A vote of thanks was given by councillors to all those involved in the 2013 poppy appeal.

14. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

The community council decided not to put a question forward to the next council assembly meeting.

15. FESTIVE QUIZ

Councillor Jeff Hook was quizmaster as Bermondsey took on Rotherhithe in a multiple choice quiz.

16. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND REALLOCATION

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That an under spend of £500 from the Community Council Fund 2012-13 be reallocated to the following application:

GRANGE

Proposal	Amount
Local history walk event	£500

Meeting ended at 9.25pm

CHAIR:

DATED: