



Camberwell Community Council

MINUTES of the Camberwell Community Council held on Wednesday 10 September 2014 at 7.00 pm at Walworth Methodist Church, 54 Camberwell Road, London SE5 0EW

PRESENT: Councillor Kieron Williams (Chair)
Councillor Chris Gonde
Councillor Radha Burgess
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
Councillor Tom Flynn
Councillor Mark Williams
Councillor Ian Wingfield

OTHER MEMBERS

PRESENT: Councillor Michael Situ

OFFICER SUPPORT:

Pam Usher, Libraries, Arts and Heritage Manager
Coral Flood, Arts Service Manager
Michelle Normanly, Project Manager in Public Realm
George Roscoe, Community Safety Officer
Fitzroy Lewis, Community Council Development Officer
Tim Murtagh, Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Peter John and Sarah King; and for lateness from Councillor Mark Williams.

3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair advised that a late report: Local Parking Amendments had been circulated as

part of Supplementary Agenda No. 1. It replaced the report with the same title on the main agenda which had been published in error.

4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 July 2014 be agreed as a correct record of that meeting.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. ARTS AND CULTURE IN CAMBERWELL

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, cabinet member for adult care, arts and culture introduced this item. She explained that the council's arts and culture focus had been retained, despite overall cuts in council funding. This was because culture had a positive effect on community cohesion and well-being. In Camberwell, there was a plethora of artists and organisations and it was important to promote those and help make a contribution to their development.

The Southwark cultural strategy

Pam Usher, libraries, arts and heritage manager, outlined Southwark's cultural strategy:

- performing arts
- visual and applied arts or crafts
- creative industries
- film, media and digital arts
- events
- cultural and built heritage
- youth arts and arts education
- literature development, creative writing and reader development.

The strategy was approved by cabinet in July 2013 and was a five-year action plan document for the council's work with culture.

The themes of the cultural strategy were:

- communicating, connecting and navigating
- platforms, places and spaces
- creativity, quality and innovation
- resilience and sustainability
- people and audiences.

Coral Flood, arts service manager, explained that the cultural newsletter was one of the things recently launched to inform the sector about resources and arts spaces available in the area. The newsletter also had information about commissions and funding opportunities. There were usually 4 or 5 enquiries per month from the arts, looking for cultural space in the borough. Work was being done with the regeneration, property and community engagement teams to ensure that the information was in one place on a register and database. The council was also working with organisations to provide training and apprenticeships in creative and cultural skills.

Residents could sign up to the culture newsletter via - artsadmin@southwark.gov.uk

In response to questions, the following points were made:

- The council aimed for affordable rents for arts and culture.
- Camberwell organisations could submit their details if they wanted to appear on the mapping resource.
- Organisations were expected to be accessible for all groups and information was circulated widely. The libraries did a lot of outreach work which included focus groups and consultation exercises.

Camberwell College of Arts

Nick Gorse, Dean of Camberwell College of Arts, explained that the college had about 1,800 foundation, undergraduate and post-graduate students on a range of courses. Many of the students and teachers lived in the local community. There were plans to redevelop the steps and the front of the building to make it more inviting to the community. There were also plans to develop the rear of the site into a college campus. The plans would improve access to the building and provide flexible and well-equipped rooms for students. The college wanted to involve the community more in the work of the college.

The chair thanked Nick and praised the open house events that took place over the summer which showcased the work of the students and gave opportunities for adults to get involved in activities.

In response to questions, Nick made the following points:

- There were plans to develop the Camberwell gallery space as the existing one was hard to get into. The Wilson Road site had exhibition space and more use would be made of that.
- There was also a plan to rename two bus stops, one would be 'Camberwell College of Arts' and the other 'South London Gallery'.

Camberwell Arts Festival

Dan Cowdrill, Camberwell Arts Festival Trustee, gave an overview of the work undertaken by the group who organised the festival. Founded in 1994 by local artists and residents who wanted to celebrate the rich cultural and artistic talent in the area. This has developed into the June festival each year. The aim was to work with the art college, art studios, commercial galleries and residents to put on the June festival. The festival includes

exhibits, events, workshops and talks. This year the festival received arts council funding and was able to commission its own work. Funding had been a problem in recent years. The organisation was in a state of flux with key members leaving and new board members required to fill vacancies. This year the festival had generated some of its own income which was welcome, but core funding was needed moving forward to help deliver the festival and keep a year-long programme going in the community.

Blue Elephant Theatre

Niamh de Valera, from the Blue Elephant Theatre, explained that she helped to run the theatre. There was an artistic department and a participation department. The aim was to offer opportunities to those who may otherwise not have them. The participation department ran more than 600 workshops per year. There were two youth theatres. One running all day on Saturdays and one on Thursdays at Jesse Duffet Hall. There was support for new works including physical theatre and puppetry. The theatre also put on several shows each year, often tackling some major issues such as mental health. There were concessions on tickets for local residents. A number of exhibitions also took place in the space available upstairs.

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle thanked Niamh for her presentation and said one of the reasons the Blue Elephant continued to survive was that it opened its doors to the community and local people gained a lot from that.

The speakers on the theme were invited to the front and took part in a panel question and answer session. In response to questions, the following points were made:

- As part of the development of Camberwell College of Arts there was a courtyard space that would be opened up to the public as a performance space. The new Camberwell library, Camberwell Green and developed pocket spaces may also have options in the future for events to take place.
- The College of Arts plans were available to view and resident consultation was a key part of the process.
- Access to the Blue Elephant Theatre was an issue and possible improvements were being looked at.
- There were links to the Globe Theatre, Tate Modern and larger facilities as part of the South Bank and Bankside Cultural Quarter. Those organisations did take part in outreach community work, including activities with several schools in the borough.
- It was important to link and promote the various art and cultural opportunities throughout the borough, so that more people were aware of them, and had access to them.

8. CLEANER GREENER SAFER CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16

Michelle Normanly, project manager in public realm, outlined the Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) capital programme for 2015/16. CGS was a programme of funding available to local residents and community groups to propose ideas to improve their environment. People

had to live in the area of the scheme and the capital programme was for permanent physical features for example: play areas, community gardens and outdoor gyms. The project ideas must make Southwark cleaner, greener or safer. In Camberwell, 232 CGS projects had been delivered since 2003 and 42 other projects were still live. This year in the Camberwell Community Council area, there was £268,571 available to allocate on CGS projects. The closing date for applications was 7 November 2014. Contact: michelle.normanly@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 0862.

Just prior to the break: Mr Ago Serugo-Lugo gave a music performance (drum and singing) and led a sing-along choir session of those in attendance which was warmly applauded.

9. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cooltan Arts

Tom McCabe, interim development manager, explained that Cooltan Arts reached out through the creative arts to people with mental health issues. It provides workshops, arts classes, media classes and film-editing. There were also cultural and historical walks for well-being throughout the Lambeth and Southwark area.

2015/16 budget process

The chair outlined the forthcoming budget process. Southwark Council was having to make savings in its budget. Over the last 4 years about £90 million of funding had been lost. In the short-term about £20 million of cuts were required with further cuts expected after that. As in previous years, there would be consultation with residents at a series of events including community councils. Residents would have the opportunity to tell the council where they think the savings should be made in its budget.

A petition for more police officers in Southwark

Councillor Michael Situ, cabinet member for community safety, explained there was a campaign in Southwark to lobby the Mayor of London to increase police officer numbers in the borough. The replacement of the safer neighbourhoods' teams with local police teams had reduced the amount of officers dedicated to specific wards. For further details of the petition view: www.southwark.gov.uk/policenumbers

Leader's Public Question Time

The chair explained that Councillor Peter John, Leader of Southwark Council, would be taking part in a leader's public question time on 22 October 2014. The venue would be City Hall and there was an opportunity for anyone living or working in Southwark to put forward a question for Councillor John to respond to.

Charter of principles for delivering 11,000 new council homes

The council is currently consulting residents on a charter of principles which would set the framework for how the council delivers 11,000 new council homes. A commitment to build these homes was reaffirmed by cabinet in July. This consultation was the beginning of the conversation with residents about housing in Southwark. Contact: ebony.riddell-bamber@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 1564.

Black History Month – October 2014

Residents were encouraged to take part in a variety of events taking place throughout the

borough in October to celebrate and raise awareness of black cultural heritage, history and experiences. www.southwark.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth

World War One poetry competition

Barbara Pattinson announced that St Giles' Church and the SE5 Forum for Camberwell had organised a war poetry competition aimed at young people from 7 to 18 years. Entrants could enter individually or through their school. The competition was free to enter and a number of prizes would be awarded by judges. Successful poems would be recited at a special commemoration event at St Giles' Church on 17 December. See www.se5forum.org.uk or www.musicatstgiles.com

Community councils online forum

A new online forum had been launched that enabled residents to discuss items from community council meetings or begin new conversations and debates. See <https://forums.southwark.gov.uk/>

10. COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON WOMEN'S SAFETY

Councillor Radha Burgess, explained that the council's women's safety charter was about women not just having a good night out in Southwark, but a safe night out. The council would be working with licensed premises in three major alcohol saturation zones: Camberwell, Peckham and Borough & Bankside. A four or five point charter would be developed that was practical, realistic and impactful in terms of women's safety. A consultation exercise would be launched during which the council would talk to young women about their experiences in night-time venues. The women's safety charter was the first in a series of initiatives to tackle head-on harassment, abuse and violence against women and girls in the borough.

George Roscoe, community safety officer, explained that there were two community conversations being launched. One was around the women's safety charter and women's safety generally in the borough. This was the first step in a four-year programme to make the borough safer for women. The second was a community conversation around domestic abuse. There would be outreach events and also online discussions. There would be community briefings at community councils and to local groups. The consultation would also involve focus groups. Everyone was encouraged to take part in the consultation. It was about understanding people's life experiences so that the services provided could be shaped over the next four years. Contact: george.roscoe@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 3552

In response to questions, the following points were made:

- Alcohol saturation zones were high footfall areas containing a large number of bars and clubs.
- It was important to address the low level daily harassment of women such as cat-calling or car beeping and to change the culture so that such behaviour is regarded as utterly unacceptable.
- At some point in the future some of the principles in the women's charter would be reflected in the licensing policy.

- Later in the year the new draft Southwark plan would be consulted on. This would include issues around designing out crime by active street frontages and removing dark blind spots.
- A youth service worker in attendance said he would help roll out the women's safety charter message to all the voluntary and statutory youth services in the borough.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were asked at the meeting:

1. Would the Brunswick Park councillors support calling-in to the planning committee the proposal for the warm, dry and safe works on windows in the D'Eynsford estate.

Brunswick Park councillors agreed to that request so that the issues involved could be aired publicly. Councillor Mark Williams added that the councillors would arrange a detailed meeting with relevant housing officers and residents from the D'Eynsford estate, to go through the various options to see what was available and affordable.

2. What plans are there for the Southwark Art Collection, to take it out of storage and show it to the public.

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle responded that there was currently a review of where the art is stored. Currently much is wrapped in storage locally and it was hoped that in future it would be made accessible to the public. It would be put in public buildings such as Tooley Street and libraries so that it could be viewed.

3. a) What roads in Camberwell would the proposed 20 mph zone apply to.

Councillor Mark Williams responded - All roads controlled by the council (about 95% of roads) and the council would work with Transport for London (TfL) on the other roads to persuade them to opt for 20mph limits.

- b) Does it apply to all road users.

Councillor Mark Williams responded - Yes all road users except emergency vehicles. However, due to a quirk in the legislation it did not apply to cyclists but the council was promoting responsible cycling generally.

- c) How would it be enforced.

Councillor Mark Williams responded - Through better road design in part. The police had said they do not have the resources to enforce it, though it was hoped they would enforce it in hotspot accident areas, such as Denmark Hill.

- d) What was the purpose of the advertising campaign.

Councillor Mark Williams responded - To let people know about the new speed limit. In other boroughs publicity had helped to reduce average speeds by 1 – 2 mph. This

small difference could drastically reduce the number of serious accidents / fatalities.

e) What was the cost of the advertising campaign.

Councillor Mark Williams responded that he would find out and advise on that point.

Councillor Mark Williams said there would be a review of the speed limits after 12 months.

12. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

1. 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.
 - Dylways – install double yellow lines adjacent to a planned vehicle crossover that will provide access to No. 23.
 - Green Dale – make a permanent traffic order for the existing double yellow lines located at the junction of Wanley Road which were introduced under a temporary traffic order.
2. That the 12 objections, made in relation to proposed waiting restrictions in Crossthwaite Avenue, Woodfarrs and Dylways, be rejected and that the proposals be implemented. Additionally, that two destination blue badge (disabled) parking bays be installed outside the shops at Numbers 6 to 20 Crossthwaite Avenue, subject to the outcome of statutory consultation.

13. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Following discussions during the community announcements item, about a petition for more police officers in the borough, the community council considered whether to submit a question to the Council Assembly meeting on 26 November 2014.

RESOLVED:

That the following question be submitted:

“Camberwell Community Council is worried about the reduction in police officers in Camberwell and Southwark more widely. What is the council doing to ensure that there are adequate police numbers in our borough and Camberwell specifically.”

Meeting ended at 9.40pm

CHAIR:

DATED: