

# Revitalise Peckham Rye Public Questions

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014

## Questions from Rye Village Resident's Association, Peckham Rye

### Question 1

Will members of this community council communicate a plan of action to reassure park user's and local resident's that this facility will be saved, renovated, and put back to full use to ensure families are not excluded any longer from this public children's service that ought to be fully operational from this public building in the middle of Peckham Rye Common. It is not fair to see it still being hired out privately to people who can afford to hold private parties there yet on the other hand it is not fully accessible to the public whom want to the continue having access to the children's service during the week days.

### Answer

The current playroom building is managed on the Council's behalf by Ivydale Primary School and Children's Centre. They operate a fully accessible public service, with free 'stay and play' groups currently taking place four days a week, as well as a free session for childminders with the children they look after. We would wish this continue. The facility is occasionally hired out for children's parties to raise funds for the Centre, but only at weekends when the building is not otherwise in use.

The existing building was built as a temporary prisoner of war hut and is not fit for the current purpose as a playroom. Rather than renovate we are planning to demolish the building and the area will be landscaped (see response to question 2). New playroom facilities will then be built adjacent to the Adventure Playground building. The Council will work to ensure continuity of the facility to avoid disruption to the playroom users when they move to their new space.

### Question 2

Many local Peckham Rye Park and Common users seem to be confused about the consultation process currently taking place right now to do with Peckham Rye Common & Park Improvements. This is because it does appear to some of us that you have already made a clear decision to remove the existing play room building operating from the Prisoner's of War Hut on Peckham Rye Common known as the One O' Clock Club. Will this community council please explain whether the decision to demolish the Prisoner of War Hut was made in advance of the consultation commencement date?

### Answer

Demolition was agreed by Nunhead and Peckham Rye Community Council on 22 July 2009. Consultation was recently carried out between January-May 2014 to understand how the public use the range of facilities in the park and to inform the strategy for the Playroom project. The next round of consultation is being arranged to begin soon. This will respond to queries which were raised in the last consultation and will provide an update on how the project is progressing.

### **Question 3**

How much will it cost to remove the existing play room building operating from the Prisoner's of War Hut (One O' Clock Club) located in Peckham Rye Common together with the current changing room containers in order to make way for a new open access play area for children?

#### **Answer**

The options are still being developed and so this detail of information is not yet available.

The new playroom and changing rooms would be purpose built and will be designed with input from users of both the playroom and changing rooms.

### **Question 4**

How much will it cost to renovate the existing play room building operating from the Prisoner's of War Hut (One O' Clock Club) in Peckham Rye Common which is located next door to the Cafe on Rye to include a suitable new access play area for children and fit for purpose modern play room with new children's age appropriate outdoor play apparatus?

#### **Answer**

The renovation of the playroom is not a viable option as the temporary building is not fit for purpose. See response to question 2.

### **Question 5**

What children's age range is this new access play area aimed at in Peckham Rye Common, for example will it be a suitable play area for children aged 0-5 years, 6- 10 years, 10 - 16 year olds and all park users?

#### **Answer**

We will aim to provide a range of play equipment for toddlers to 16 year olds. The new play area will be of a similar high quality to the Goose Green play area.

The adventure playground will continue to provide free sessions for 5-15 year olds.

### **Question 6**

Please will this Community Council detail exactly what work has been to done to renovate the Prisoner of War Hut which currently holds the play equipment and has space inside for children to play, and whether you will ensure that the contractor's pay for the clear up of the water play area which is unfit for purpose ever since it was first opened.

#### **Answer**

The Council has maintained the playroom building for many years but as explained above we are committed to replacing the current building with a purpose-built facility in the park rather than refurbishing the present building.

The removal of the prisoner of war hut from this area provides an opportunity to re-landscape the whole site providing more attractive views to and from the cafe. An element of water play will be included in the new play area and this will be carefully designed to ensure that it is fit for purpose.