

Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council held on Wednesday 29 June 2016 at 7.00 pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, London SE1 7HY (intersection with St George's Road)

PRESENT: Councillor Eleanor Kerslake (Chair)
Councillor Samantha Jury-Dada (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Maisie Anderson
Councillor James Coldwell
Councillor Karl Eastham
Councillor Paul Fleming
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE
Councillor Rebecca Lury
Councillor Vijay Luthra
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Adele Morris
Councillor David Noakes
Councillor Martin Seaton

OFFICER SUPPORT: Laura Hills, Senior Planning Policy Officer
Russell Carter, Consultant in Public Health
Pauline Bonner, Community Council Development Officer
Tim Murtagh, Constitutional Officer

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The chair welcomed councillors, members of the public and officers to the meeting.

1.2 APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Helen Dennis and Maria Linforth-Hall; and for lateness from Councillors Paul Fleming, Lorraine Lauder and Vijay Luthra.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

1.4 ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no urgent items of business.

1.5 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2016 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair, subject to the following clarification:

Under Item 3.3, Allocation of Neighbourhoods Fund for Cathedrals ward, that the money allocated to the Southwark Neighbourhood Watch Association (Reference: 558392) was for spending in Cathedrals ward.

1.6 LOCAL TRAFFIC AND PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report. Councillors commented that the report also affected Cathedrals ward, which was not mentioned 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 consultation and procedures:
 - Rockingham Street – install double yellow lines to prevent inconsiderate parking and maintain traffic flow, install new permit holder bay and extend existing shared use bay.
 - Harper Road – install double yellow lines to prevent inconsiderate parking and maintain traffic flow.
 - Portland Street – remove existing shared use parking bay and install double yellow lines to provide access to the off street yard for large vehicles.
 - Hatfields – extend existing permit holders (C1) parking bay to increase permit parking availability.
2. That the objections received against the following non-strategic traffic management matter be rejected and the traffic order be implemented:
 - Larcom Street – reject objection and instruct officers to convert existing

single yellow line to permit holders (M1) parking bay.

Councillors asked officers to note the comment by the objector about reviewing the disabled parking bays, and that those disabled bays be reviewed.

1.7 WEBBER STREET - INTRODUCTION OF LOADING BAY, PERMIT HOLDER BAYS AND RELOCATION OF SOLO MOTORCYCLE BAY

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following non-strategic traffic and parking arrangements, be approved for implementation, as detailed in the appendices to the report, subject to any necessary statutory procedures:

- Valentine Place
 - Provide 12 metre loading bay (where Valentine Row meets Valentine Place)
 - Remove solo motorcycle bay (to be relocated in Webber Street).
- Webber Street
 - Removal of a single yellow line along the frontage of the existing vehicular crossover
 - Removal of four (4) permit holder bays
 - Provide double yellow lines across the new vehicular crossover into the car park
 - Provide new 12 metre loading bay
 - Reprovide solo motorcycle bay (relocated from Valentine Place).

Councillors asked that their concerns over the potential loss of parking bays be noted and that officers update them on this matter along with how the consultation for this item fits in with the forthcoming review of the C2 controlled parking zone.

1.8 NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND ALLOCATIONS

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Neighbourhoods Fund be allocated:

Cathedrals ward

Name of group	Name of project / activity	Amount awarded
Peabody Estate	Community engagement programme	£1,000.00
Mint Street	Summer activities	£4,000.00

Adventure Playground		
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East Walworth ward

Name of group	Name of project / activity	Amount awarded
Congreve Street Coalition	Congreve Street coalition	£1,500.00
Friends of Burgess Park	Burgess Park events	£2,550.00
InSpire	InSpired spaces	£6,387.50

1.9 FEEDBACK FROM THE CONSULTATION BOOTHS AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The chair explained that during the last meeting there had been consultations on:

- The future of Walworth Town Hall and library
- East Street Market
- The Walworth Road Post Office.

Feedback on the consultation comments had been circulated on paper to the meeting. Councillor Samantha Jury-Dada summarised the feedback to the meeting. Further updates would be reported back to future community council meetings.

1.10 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Laura Hills, Senior Planning Policy Officer, introduced the two applications from the Elephant & Walworth Neighbourhood Forum (EWNF), for the formal designation of the forum itself and the designation of a Walworth neighbourhood area. Laura explained that once formally designated the neighbourhood forum could formulate a neighbourhood plan. That was the first stage in the neighbourhood planning process. A six-week public consultation was taking place. After that consideration would be made of the responses before a decision was made on formal designation.

Jeremy Leach and Fitzroy Ugorji, from the EWNF, gave a presentation which outlined a boundary for the neighbourhood forum area and neighbourhood plan area. The EWNF was a coalition of tenants and residents associations (TRAs), community groups, small businesses and individuals who live and work in the Elephant & Castle and Walworth area. Jeremy and Fitzroy outlined some of the key themes the EWNF had been working on over the last few years.

1. Improving connections
2. Our heritage
3. The local economy
4. Taking care of our green spaces and food growing
5. Protecting and enhancing community facilities.

In response to questions, Jeremy explained that several local groups and estates had been involved in the process over the last four years. There was support from people and groups from a much wider area to develop neighbourhood plans. However, the advice received, including from the cabinet member for regeneration and new homes, had been that the starting point should be a smaller area. That was why the group was focused initially on a Walworth neighbourhood plan.

Officers explained that at the end of the process there would be a local referendum. In response to a question, on who would be eligible to vote in that referendum, officers said they thought it was everyone in the affected wards, but they would look into that matter further and report back.

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ITEMS

2.1 COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Link Age Southwark

The chair made an announcement on behalf of Link Age, about their work:

“Link Age Southwark is a charity that offers friendly support to anyone aged 60+ across Southwark with the aim of reducing isolation and loneliness. It makes a positive impact on older people’s quality of life. The charity runs over 20 groups offering activities ranging from singing, bridge and reminiscing to gentle exercise and yoga. Link Age has over 300 wonderful volunteers supporting Southwark’s older people through a weekly visit, helping with driving, escorted shopping, odd jobs and gardening. The charity also offered services to people with mild to moderate dementia. Anyone interested in accessing these services, or becoming a volunteer, should contact: info@linkagesouthwark.org or Tel. 020 8299 2623.”

2.2 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

There were none.

2.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were raised at the meeting:

1. Re: East Street trading and shops encroaching onto the pavement: Why has the council not enforced against this? Traders needing extra space should hire a stall and not take up space on the pavement. The chair and ward councillors responded that they would follow that up with the relevant officers.

2. Re: the Tower Bridge closure planned for the end of 2016: Why was it reported in Southwark News, five months before the Corporation of London gave official notification to the borough of Southwark about the closure? Would officers confirm that the delay of notification was correct and what representations were being made to the Corporation of London about this discourtesy. The discrepancy between public knowledge and official notification required explanation.

The chair said that she would follow up regarding the discrepancy and get a written response for the community council. Councillor Darren Merrill, cabinet member responsible at the time, added that proper notification had not been given until November 2015, although there were rumours prior to that. He explained that he had written to Transport for London (TfL) and the City of London, requesting a delay of works on Tower Bridge Road until after the Tooley Street partial closure, but that had not happened.

3. A member of the EWNF asked for the councillors' views on the application for designation of the area. The chair responded that she was a member of the neighbourhood forum and was positive and supportive of it and that there were some exciting ideas for the Walworth Road. Several councillors supported the proposals and thanked those involved for their work.
4. A resident asked:
 - a) Has the council heard anything yet from the Government about the Housing Bill.
 - b) Was there an abstention from Neil Coyle MP, and if so why.
 - c) Following the Brexit vote, could housing officers put up notices giving details of who to contact, if anyone was having issues with hate crime or negative comments, following the referendum.

The chair responded that the Housing Bill had gone through. If the resident wanted a response from Neil Coyle MP, he could be contacted directly at neil.coyle.mp@parliament.uk. Re the hate crime question, the chair explained that Councillor Barrie Hargrove was preparing a speech in response to the issue on behalf of the council. Councillor David Noakes added, that a cross party motion would be debated at the next council assembly meeting on 13 July 2016. Several councillors emphasised the need to combat hate crime and to report incidents to the safer neighbourhood teams. Police Inspector Nicholson added, that so far there had not been a rise in hate crime in Southwark but the situation was being monitored across the community networks.

5. A resident expressed concerns about officers recommending disabled parking bays should be removed. Ward councillors responded that they had not seen any proposals about disabled parking bays in Wansey Street and they would follow that up with officers.

The following question was asked later in the meeting:

6. Why does the council expect residents to pay for the green recycle food bags. Previously, they were free. The chair asked for a written response to be provided.

2.4 UPDATE ON LOCAL POLICING

Inspector Martin Nicholson, from the local police team, gave a summary of recent activities.

Local knife crime

There had been a rise in knife crime in recent months. Councillors expressed concerns over the rise and asked for action to be taken in schools to prevent the normalisation of knife crime. Inspector Nicholson explained that two sergeants, from a dedicated schools team, were working daily with schools. Officers had given a lot of crime prevention advice at schools and there had also been visits from Operation Trident officers and a road show in the area.

Stop and search

Inspector Nicholson explained that stop and search was on the rise locally but emphasised that "it wasn't a fishing expedition" and it was intelligence led. The main target was the search for weapons in the area.

Police levels

Inspector Nicholson said that the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) were re-organising under the new Mayor. Unofficially, it seemed that there would probably be a rise in the number of dedicated ward officers in the area but the number of cluster officers across the three clusters may be reduced.

Policing of community events

Councillors expressed concerns over the policing of large scale community events and enquired how the Police were notified of such events. This followed a recent Burgess Park fair where knife crime occurred. Inspector Nicholson, explained there were various methods of notification. For local community events, a list is usually sent to the senior leadership team who then carry out a risk assessment on whether it needs to be policed. If appropriate, then officers are assigned to attend. If not considered a risk, then details can be passed to the neighbourhood team for their attention. Inspector Nicholson commented that since the Burgess Park event was missed, he now received a comprehensive monthly list of events.

3. THEME - "HEALTH AND FITNESS"

3.1 FREE SWIM AND 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 18s 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 during pilot = 11,347; total attendance during pilot = 30,383.

Full Free Swim and Gym

- 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.

What's next?

Free Swim & Gym for all residents starts at the end of July 2016.

How to register?

- Online at www.everyoneactive.com/southwarkfreeswimandgym/
- Online at Southwark libraries
- Pick up an application form at libraries and leisure centres.

3.2 THEME - FOOD / NUTRITION ITEM

Silverfit - presentation by Eddie Brocklesby

Silverfit uses a sandwich formula for its activities. The general idea was to socialise for around 30 minutes before and after the one hour of activity.

Silver Tuesdays are weekly sessions, not time limited and free. A typical session consisted of:

- Tea and coffee
- Gentle warm up together
- One hour's activity of choice, outdoor option
 - Walking, Nordic walking
 - Dance, badminton
 - Pilates / yoga/ t'ai chi
 - Walking football, walking basketball
 - Silver cheerleading

Activity benefits hearts, lungs, strength and balance. Benefits of social gatherings include combatting depression, dementia and isolation.

Silver Fit was inspired by London 2012 and has expanded rapidly.

18 venues – 17 activities

- Average weekly attendance - 283

- Average age of participants - 66
- Venues include: Burgess Park, Docklands Settlement, The Castle, Southwark Park, Herne Hill.

For further information, see www.silverfit.org.uk

3.3 HEALTH AND FITNESS - WORKSHOPS AND FEEDBACK

Russell Carter, consultant in public health, explained that the rates of obesity among young people in Southwark, were the highest in the country. The new strategy was about taking a life course from maternity services through to old age.

- Family based approach.
- Whole systems approach, working with the clinical commissioning groups and major hospitals in Southwark.
- Prevention and treatment of overweight and obese people.
- Fully evidenced based strategy. Looking at what has worked elsewhere, nationally, internationally and locally.

Actions include:

- UNICEF baby friendly initiative to enable mothers of new born children to feed their babies properly, including the promotion of breastfeeding.
- Free healthy school meals.
- National child measurement programme (weight and measurement) with feedback and options for parents of overweight and obese children.
- Free Swim & Gym.
- Referrals to weight loss groups.
- Specialist services in hospitals including some surgery.

Generally:

- The new Southwark Plan would include restrictions on fast food outlets within 200 metres of secondary schools in the borough.
- Southwark provided safe and attractive parks to encourage physical activity and play.
- Cycle lanes and storage helped to encourage cycling.

The meeting went into workshops for 15 minutes to discuss the issues.

Workshop notes were collected by officers and a brief summary read out by councillors.

4. OTHER OFFICIAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

4.1 COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Members of the community council discussed a possible question to be sent to the meeting of council assembly on 13 July 2016.

RESOLVED:

That the following question be submitted to council assembly as the official

community council question:

“What is the Leader of the Council’s response to concerns following the referendum [on EU membership] about the effects of hate crime on council services.”

The chair asked that written responses to previously submitted community council questions to council assembly, be brought to the next community council meeting and circulated.

Meeting ended at 9.40pm

CHAIR:

DATED: