

Dulwich Community Council

MINUTES of the Dulwich Community Council held on Wednesday 28 September 2016
at 7.00 pm at Kingsdale Foundation School, Alleyn Park, Dulwich, London SE21 8SQ

PRESENT: Councillor Jon Hartley (Chair)
Councillor Anne Kirby (Vice-Chair)
Councillor James Barber
Councillor Jane Lyons
Councillor Michael Mitchell
Councillor Catherine Rose
Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Charlie Smith

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Barrie Hargrove

OFFICER SUPPORT: Stephen Douglass (Director of Communities)
Andrea Allen (Senior Project Manager)
Fitzroy Lewis (Community Council Development Officer)
Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

1.2 APOLOGIES

There were apologies for lateness from Councillor Rosie Shimell.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

1.4 ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

1.5 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2016 be agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the chair.

1.6 COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Dulwich Almshouse

Catrin Waugh from the Dulwich Almshouse spoke about the main service provided by the organisation: sheltered housing for vulnerable people experiencing hardship, need or distress. The current almshouse overlooked Dulwich Park and had a warden on duty 7 days a week throughout the year. There were various activities for residents, for example new keep fit classes, for which the organisation had received a £500 contribution from the community council's neighbourhoods fund, and a befriending service. For more further information, eligibility criteria and an application form see www.dulwichalmshousecharity.org.uk

Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) funding 2017-18

Andrea Allen, Senior Project Manager, announced that the next round of CGS funding was open now, and had been opened out to include "healthier" projects. Dulwich Community Council would have £270,000 to allocate to local groups. In 2016-17, there had been 91 applications to the CGS fund overall, 52 of which had been successful. The closing date for submitting applications was Monday 31 October 2016, with the decisions made by the community council in January/February 2017 and works on the projects starting in April 2017. More information at:

http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/200256/cleaner_greener_safer/1554/applications

Neighbourhoods Fund 2017-18

Fitzroy Lewis announced that the Neighbourhoods Fund 2017-18 would be launched in early November and close just before Christmas. Adverts would be placed in Southwark News and on the council's website. He explained that applications were sought to fund activities, workshops and events by local groups. The funding available for Dulwich Community Council was £90,000. More information at:

http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/200555/neighbourhoods_fund

BluePatch.org

Jane Langley from the organisation informed the meeting that on Saturday 1 October 2016 10am-6pm, there would be a "pop-up department store" event in St Barnabas Parish Hall with donations in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust encouraged. There would be about 100

independent and sustainable business from all over the UK promoting their products. The organisation worked with 250 not-for-profit social enterprises and supported start-ups.

Metropolitan Police

PS Matthew Boniface introduced himself saying that he had only been working in College ward for 2.5 weeks. There were two officers dedicated to the ward who could not be deployed elsewhere. The priorities in College ward were burglaries, anti-social behaviour and car crime. The Met continued to employ stop and search to combat knife crime. He went on to say that there was a traveller encampment with two vehicles on Alleyne Park, and the Met's traveller liaison officer had made contact with them. PS Boniface explained that unless there were six vehicles parked up, the police could not ask them to move on.

Old Alleynians RFC and "Give it a try"

Spike Kenny from the club and the "Give it a try" social enterprise explained that the organisation worked with 22 local schools to get young people into playing rugby. Out of the 750 children they had engaged with, more than 60 now played regularly in leagues including 12 girls.

Quietway 7

The chair read out the following announcement regarding Quietway 7:

"The cabinet member requested officers, following feedback at the last community council meeting, to reconsider various aspects of the design and related issues. In particular officers were asked to conclude the Foundation Schools Coach service study (working in partnership with the Foundation schools) and this work has now been completed and an action plan around the high priority issues has been developed. It is expected that this will lead to significant improvements in the impact of the service on the local community, including the removal of 10 of 11 coaches from Calton Avenue each morning and significantly less coach congestion on Townley Road in the afternoon.

He has also secured a commitment from TfL to attend a stakeholder meeting in Dulwich in the coming weeks, and if the Quietway proposals are to proceed, the cabinet member is committed to continued working with TfL and the community on a holistic study of traffic issues in the Dulwich area over the next year."

The chair thanked the transport officers and the cabinet member for taking on board the community council's feedback.

Northcross Road

The chair read out the following announcement regarding Northcross Road:

"Southwark Council will be talking to people over the coming months about ideas to improve North Cross Road street market, including possible increase to the number of market stalls, and introducing permanent road closure for North Cross Road on Saturdays from Lordship Lane to Archdale Road."

Contact: Helen Laker, Community Involvement, Telephone: 020 7525 0848

Leader's Question Time

The chair informed the meeting that this event would be taking place on Wednesday 19 October 2016, Canada Water Culture Space, Canada Water Library, 21 Surrey Quays Road, SE16 7A. Doors opened at 6.30pm, with the event beginning at 7pm.

The event was free and everyone was welcome, but due to limited capacity at the venue,

people were asked to register in advance to guarantee entry. To register, to submit questions or to get more information about the evening, people should go to www.southwark.gov.uk/asksouthwark. Residents could also tweet their questions to @lb_southwark by including the hashtag #asksouthwark.

2. THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Councillor Barrie Hargrove, cabinet member communities and safety, outlined the proposals for the changes to community councils. These would be going to council assembly on 30 November 2016 for agreement. The changes needed to be made in light of the continuing grant cuts that had been imposed by central government.

As part of a consultation about community councils in 2015, a large number of people had said that the meetings should be less formal, while continuing to give local people a possibility to feed into the council's decision making process. Under the new proposals there would continue to be five community council meetings a year. At two of these, there would be formal, statutory decisions made at the start of the meeting, such as allocating Neighbourhoods Fund and Cleaner Green Safer monies. The other three meetings would be solely engagement focused. The new proposed process for making non-strategic parking and traffic amendments was as follows:

1. The proposals would be publicised with notices and letters being sent to affected addresses for important schemes, and ward councillors being notified.
2. Ward councillors could then ask for items to be discussed at a community council meeting (two out of three ward councillors would be needed for this).
3. After discussion at community council, representations could be made by the community council to the cabinet member for environment and public realm who would be the decision maker about whether the proposal would go out to statutory consultation.
4. There would then be a second chance for the public to make comments as part of the statutory consultation. By law, the council had to publish and respond to the comments received.
5. The cabinet member would then make their decision taking into account the comments received during the statutory consultation.

Addressing concerns raised about accountability, transparency and a potential centralisation of power, Councillor Hargrove said that the new set-up would give local councillors a larger advocacy role. It would also free up time for discussion and engagement at the meetings. The cabinet member would take the comments made by community council into consideration when making these non-strategic decisions. Councillor Hargrove cited the recent Quietway example, where the cabinet member had taken their decision after receiving detailed feedback from the community council. He emphasised that these changes would not be made, if there wasn't a need to make savings on officer time and by delivering meetings in a different way. Stephen Douglass, Director of Communities, explained that this was part of making engagement with the council's decision making process less formal. There would be a dedicated engagement officer for traffic issues in his department.

The meeting also discussed the potential impact of the proposed ward boundary changes

and the introduction of some two-member wards on thresholds, how much would be saved under the proposals, and whether making decisions at community councils would not be more efficient. The meeting heard a suggestion to devolve budgets to community councils.

In response to comments about problems with the Southwark website which sometimes made engaging with the process more difficult, Councillor Hargrove said the website was currently being worked on and the new version launched before Christmas. In terms of the boundary changes, there would have to be some reconfiguration of community councils. Councillor Hargrove also explained that there was a proposal for decisions on CGS and Neighbourhoods Fund underspend to be dealt with by the cabinet member in consultation with ward councillors.

The chair then invited attendees to fill in survey sheets about what they would like to see in future at community councils.

The meeting took a break from 8.30pm to 8.40pm.

3. OFFICIAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

3.1 LOCAL TRAFFIC AND PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function for decision by the community council.

The meeting heard from residents of Barry Road. Councillors considered and discussed the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following local traffic and parking amendments, detailed in the appendices of the report, be approved for implementation, subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory consultation and procedures:
 - Village Way – to install new double yellow lines adjacent to the existing vehicle crossovers outside Nos. 3 and 4 to maintain access to off street parking and to improve intervisibility with vehicles on Village Way.
 - Ardbeg Road – to install double yellow lines adjacent to the new planned vehicle crossover dropped kerb outside No.19 to maintain access to off street parking and to improve intervisibility with vehicles on Ardbeg Road.
 - Upland Road – to provide a 4 hour destination disabled bay for the blue badge visitors to the shops.
2. That the Barry Road local traffic and parking amendment (“Barry Road (B219) – to install double yellow lines adjacent to the new planned vehicle crossover dropped kerb outside No. 91 to maintain access to off street parking and to improve intervisibility with vehicles on Barry Road”), detailed in Appendix B of the report, be rejected, because while councillors are supportive of the request for a dropped kerb, the number of parking spaces lost in this proposal is excessive.

Note: Councillors pointed out that many dropped kerbs in Barry Road did not have double

yellow lines, and asked officers to be more flexible about imposing a requirement for double yellow lines at dropped kerbs.

3.2 COMMUNITY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS CAPITAL INVESTMENT FOR 2015-16 & 2016-17

Note: This is an executive function for decision by the community council.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That funding for the following schemes be agreed, subject to enough funding being available for the individual wards:

East Dulwich ward

Project	Estimated cost
Rodwell Road – Carriage way	£29,870
Landcroft Road – Carriage way	£20,000
Landells Road – Footway	£47,250

Note: Councillors indicated that if there was not enough funding available for East Dulwich ward projects, this would be topped up with Cleaner Greener Safer funding.

Village ward (in order of preference)

Project	Estimated cost
Woodward Road – Footway	£32,000
Dovercourt Road – Footway	£49,850
Danescroft Road – Carriageway	£82,740
Woodward Road – Carriageway	£32,870

College Ward

Project	Estimated cost
Farquhar Road – Carriageway (including putting in full speed humps, rather than speed cushions)	£45,700

Belvoir Road – Footway	£28,000
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Note: With regards to the Belvoir Road project, councillors asked officers to check whether the estimated cost relates to both sides of the road, as one side had recently received a new footway.

3.3 CLEANER GREENER SAFER: FUNDING REALLOCATION

Note: This is an executive function for decision by the community council.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

To allocate the following amounts to the projects listed below:

- £2,400 of available funding to existing project 106983 - Melford Court
- £2,300 of available funding to existing project 106955 - Lapsewood Walk path improvement
- £22,500 of available funding to existing project 106980 - Fix Worlingham Road
- £7,000 of available funding to existing project 106976 - East Dulwich Crime Reduction Fund
- £4,860 of available funding to new project Goodrich School sports equipment
- £4,860 of available funding to new project renew soft playground surface at Goose Green school.
- £3,999 of available funding to a new project “East Dulwich Grove and Lordship Lane junction safety investigation”.

3.4 ALLOCATION OF NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND 2016-17

Note: This is an executive function for decision by the community council.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That an award of £2,400 of Neighbourhoods Fund 2016-17 from the unallocated amount of £2,413 in Village ward be allocated to the James Black Community Theatre project - Judith Kerr Primary School.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ITEMS

4.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were asked:

1. "Residents are increasingly concerned by the growing number of car bays being built in front gardens, which is destroying the character of the street, eroding green space and restricting free-to-all parking; indeed it seems to be a trend in Dulwich generally and I am alarmed that the green character of the area is being dismantled. Turney Road, for example, and the houses in the general area weren't built to accommodate cars in such a way and the installation of concrete in place of garden space is not friendly to the environment. Cars also increasingly stick out into the pavement area, impeding access for those walking, with push chairs etc. Can the council put an initial moratorium on permission being granted for any more of these car bays in Turney Road (and possibly Dulwich generally) before a majority of the space outside houses is taken up by them. At very most there should be a small percentage limit on street space they can take up in front of housing - perhaps 20% in any street - but there really is no reason why they should be necessary." (submitted in writing)
2. "What is the council doing about the big vans parking and selling things in Court Lane?"

4.2 DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

4.3 COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Members discussed which question to send to the council assembly meeting on 30 November 2016.

RESOLVED:

That the community council submit the following question to the council assembly meeting on 30 November 2016.

"What can the council do to help solve the ongoing industrial dispute at Southern Rail and to help alleviate residents' suffering as a result of serious disruption?"

Meeting ended at 9.15 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: