



BOROUGH, BANKSIDE AND WALWORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council held on Wednesday 15 July 2015 at 7.00 pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road SE1 7HY (intersection with St George's Road)

PRESENT: Councillor Martin Seaton (Chair)
Councillor Eleanor Kerslake (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Maisie Anderson
Councillor Helen Dennis
Councillor Karl Eastham
Councillor Dan Garfield
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE
Councillor Maria Linforth-Hall
Councillor Rebecca Lury
Councillor Vijay Luthra
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor David Noakes

OFFICER SUPPORT: Eamon Doran (Group Manager - Road Safety & Community Projects)
Jack Ricketts (Planning Officer)
Richard Wells (Principal Network Development Engineer)
Pauline Bonner (Community Council Development Officer)
Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Neil Coyle and Adele Morris; and for lateness from Councillors Maisie Anderson and Darren Merrill.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair announced that there would be an additional item (6A): Martyn Craddock from the United St Saviour's Charity would address the meeting.

The chair also drew people's attention to the following stalls: NHS Commissioning about changes to GP services; Lendlease – Elephant and Castle redevelopment; Delancey (Representatives from Elephant and Castle Shopping centre); and the following stalls related to the theme of the meeting: Bermondsey Street Festival, Unicorn Theatre and Living Walworth Day.

The chair also made the following announcement:

Quietways

The council was working on a Quietway cycle route from Elephant & Castle to Crystal Palace. Quietways were a network of bike routes for less confident cyclists using low-traffic back streets. The routes were not just for current cyclists, but were for people who have always been put off cycling by the thought of sharing the road with high volumes of cars, vans, buses and lorries. The route traversed Falmouth Road - New Kent Road - Rodney Place - Rodney Road - Content Street - Brandon Street - Portland Road into Burgess Park. The proposals would improve safety conditions for all road users, and formal consultation for the route would commence from September 2015. For further information, residents could contact Clement.Agyei-frempong@southwark.gov.uk

11,000 new council homes

The council wanted to highlight the opportunity to get involved in this important consultation. Feedback would help the council identify the most important design features, community facilities and amenities that residents wanted to see around these homes, such as improved lighting, green spaces and access to local shops.

This information would contribute to the review of the council's design values and design standards which would inform the development of new council homes. Residents could contribute by completing the design and neighbourhoods survey online via www.southwark.gov.uk/11000homes, or by joining officers at a range of festivals, events and libraries this July and August, such as Bermondsey Carnival, the Eid festival, the Elephant and the Nun. Check www.southwark.gov.uk/11000homes for details.

5. MINUTES

Councillors considered the draft minutes circulated in the agenda pack.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 17 March 2015 and 9 April 2015 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

6. YOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Three representatives from the youth community council spoke about their activities hub, which had seen a high turn out. They had also taken part in a consultation by Notting Hill Housing Association about the regeneration of Elephant and Castle, and given their views regarding facilities for young people. They were taking part in a film-making project about the history of Elephant and Castle, for which they were looking for interviewees.

Nuala Riddell Morales, from Carnival del Pueblo, introduced a salsa dance performance.

6A. OLDER PERSONS' SLOT

Martyn Craddock, from United St Saviours Charity, addressed the meeting to relay the concerns of residents of Hopton's alms houses in Hopton Street, SE1. He explained that they were frequent users of public buses which stopped in both directions at the two bus stops located in the Southwark Street tunnel underneath the large railway bridge close to Blackfriars Bridge. These were subject to very strong gusts of wind through the tunnel, and there was nowhere to sit, rest and shelter. He called on the community council to fund these measures from Section 106 monies, or to lobby Transport for London (TfL) to put these in place.

The chair informed the meeting, that this project may be one members may want to add to the list of new project proposed under item 12 – community infrastructure project list.

Members discussed that it was TfL, who were responsible for these bus stops, and that they would raise the issue with TfL and with the cabinet member responsible.

7. COUNCILLOR NEIL COYLE TO ADDRESS THE MEETING

This item was deferred, as Councillor Coyle had given his apologies.

8. SOUTHWARK MEDIATION SERVICE

David Walker, co-ordinator at the Southwark Mediation Centre, informed the meeting that the organisation was one of the oldest community mediation centres in the UK and also had many links overseas. They had recently received funding from United St Saviour's to train 16 local people to be mediators. The project was focussed on the SE16 and SE1 areas and parts of SE17. The mediators worked on neighbourhood disputes, restorative justice, on preventative measures after attacks and homicides, and also dealt with workplace disputes. The organisation would also be featured on ITV in October, and its youth mediators had won several awards.

Responding to questions, David said that their 5-day mediation course was fully accredited and would require 16 people to run. It would be tailored around the availability of those taking part. Most mediators worked daytimes, but some also had sessions in the evenings and on weekends.

The chair urged people to take a leaflet and to distribute the information about the

mediation service through their networks. He invited David Walker to come back to a future meeting to feed back on how many people had gone through the accreditation process.

9. SUMMER ACTIVITIES IN YOUR LOCAL PARKS AND AREA

The chair introduced this overview of the events taking place during the summer in the community council area.

Elephant and the Nun festival

Lis Ssenjovu from Southwark Events and Leanne Pero from the Movement Factory informed people about the Elephant and the Nun festival in Burgess Park on 15 August 2015 from 12noon to 8pm. They were still looking for performers and people who wanted to run dance workshops on one stage. A second stage would feature performances by “global and local” bands. There would also be jumble sale stalls for people to raise money for their charity, and a choir and youth theatre project (for 14 to 19-year-olds). There was an opportunity for community groups to have information stalls. For more information see: <http://www.southwark.gov.uk/elephantandnun/>

Carnival del Pueblo

Nuala Riddell Morales said the organisation had been founded in the late 1990s. It celebrated the cultures of 19 different Latin American countries, and had intergenerational projects. They work with universities, in partnership with other organisations and were organising a series of “Plaza Latina” summer fun events on 1 August, 8 August and 15 August in Nursery Row Park with arts and craft, food and culture. For more information see: <http://www.plazalatina.co.uk/>

Unicorn Theatre

Sally Pembroke said that the theatre was hosting an urban arts week for young people from 11 to 17 years old from local estates, from 27-31 July, which would include activities like street dance, spoken word, drama and writing run by professional artists. On the last day, the young people would perform the show they had written at the theatre. The activities were free, only some lunch money was needed. There would be a fun palace in the first week of October, which was a fun art and science family days, and Sally said she was looking for ideas of what people wanted to see as part of this. The theatre itself celebrated its 10th birthday on Tooley Street this year and there would be free shows and workshops to celebrate. For more information see: <https://www.unicorntheatre.com/>

Mint Street Music Festival

Jackie Colchester said that the Mint Street Music Festival would be taking place on Saturday 18 July from noon until 7pm. It would feature Latin music, rock, Afrobeats, local groups and a performance by different choirs. There would also be workshops for all ages, food stalls and craft fares. She invited people to attend and to volunteer at the event. For more information see: <https://mintstreetmusicfestival.wordpress.com/>

Millwall Community Trust

Gary from the trust informed the meeting that the organisation was involved in engaging with young people and developing new talent. Training sessions (for both boys and girls 12 to 18 years) were being held every Friday from 8pm to 9pm at Tabard Gardens football pitch. Participants could also take part in tournaments and coaching sessions. All the activities

were supported by the Football Association. There was also a girls only summer soccer school.

Living Walworth

Jeremy Leach reported back on an event which had taken place in Liverpool Grove in May and had celebrated the culture and cultural heritage of the Walworth area and had been supported by Cleaner Greener Safer funding from the community council.

At present the organisation was focussed on preserving the architectural heritage of the area, getting Walworth Road designated as a conservation area, and working on projects including Manor Place Terrace and trying to protect local pubs like the Elephant and Castle pub and the Thomas A'Beckett.

The chair encouraged people to join the Walworth Society, and thanked all the speakers for attending.

The meeting took a break from 8.35pm to 8.50pm to give attendees another chance to look at the displays.

10. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Changes to GP appointments

Harpit Lally (NHS Southeast Commissioning Support Group) outlined the £2m changes to improve GP services. Two clinics, Bermondsey Spa (close to Bermondsey Underground station) and the Lister Clinic (in Peckham) would be open seven days a week from 8am to 8pm. They would take referrals from SELDOC out of hours service and GP surgeries where people found it difficult to get appointments. Residents should initially make contact with their GP to get an appointment, and would then be referred on if there was none available. Patients with complex needs or mobility issues, would not be referred, but would continue to be seen at their local practice. Another change introduced at participating pharmacies was "Pharmacies first": patients, who were eligible for free prescriptions, could fill repeat prescriptions, there without having to go to a GP first.

In response to questions from the floor, Harpit said that pharmacies in GPs practices had a smaller remit than those on the High Street and would be dealing primarily with high blood pressure and other long-term conditions. Because of budget constraints, not all GP practices could open 8am-8pm, 7 days a week, which is why the two clinics had been chosen to provide this service. Appointments offered at the two centres should free up appointments at local GP surgeries for those who needed them. Feedback from users of the two clinics would be gathered.

The chair asked for this topic to be brought back to a future meeting.

Burgess Park BMX Project

Nicholas from the project informed the meeting that, over the summer holidays the project would provide free BMX bike-use at the track to young people, if they turn up three times. In response to a question from the floor, Nicholas said that Southwark council was doing the interfacing with schools about this project.

There would also be a pop-up shop from 10 August in front of Peckham library which would have space for community groups to run their activities.

11. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

There were none.

12. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT LIST - UPDATES ON PROJECTS AND REFRESH

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information presented in the report including the updated project list, and sought clarification from officers regarding adding the “bus shelter” project discussed under item 6A to the list of projects proposed.

RESOLVED:

1. That the funded schemes be noted.
2. That the Community Infrastructure Project List (CIPL) for this community council be updated as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, and that an additional project regarding the provision of bus shelters and seats at the two bus stops located in the Southwark Street tunnel underneath the large railway bridge close to Blackfriars Bridge, be added to the list.
3. That this list replaces the previous CIPL agreed in 2013/2014.

13. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The chair took the following questions from the floor:

1. Walworth Road, the council bins on it and its pavements are dirty. Wheelie bins are in the street. Why is this?

Councillor Darren Merrill responded that officers were currently looking into improving the cleanliness of Walworth Road and reports would be forthcoming on this soon. He would bring this issue back to a future community council.

2. How can the community council help encourage and support the participation of people with additional needs, particularly additional learning needs, in local community gardening groups?
3. Are the Walworth Society working with other local societies, for example in Camberwell or Lambeth?
4. Why are the traffic lights on Borough High Street at Union and Newcomen Street taking so long to change. The 343 had to wait about a minute and then only had 12 seconds to cross the lights before they changed again, even though no cars came out two side turnings. The bus driver said this was normal.

The following public questions were submitted in writing:

5. Would the chair of the community council please advise on what steps the council is taking to bring to the attention of all relevant authorities the unacceptable level of aircraft noise over the community council area, and to promote means of mitigating this detriment to local well-being?
6. How many reference books were on display in the old reference library at Newington and how many will be in the new library? How many lending books will there be compared to Dulwich, Peckham and Canada Water libraries?
7. There is virtually no footway remaining on Elephant Road between Elephant and Castle station and the New Kent Road. At present the pavement is invariably parked on by cars and so people have to often walk in the road. What steps can be taken to enforce parking regulations, so that the pavement is clear for people to walk along?
8. "The crossroad and traffic light at Borough market near Guy's Hospital has no light for pedestrians. When is there going to be a crossing in conjunction with the road between Borough market and Guy's hospital to make it safer for pedestrians to cross?"
9. I have been attending community councils for a few years now, today's meeting is the first where the police have not been present. Their absence has not been discussed with attendees. Is this going to be the norm or could this be just an omission?
10. What is the community council doing about the dwindling number of attendees to meetings?

The chair reminded people that responses to the questions would be given in writing at the next meeting.

14. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

The chair informed the meeting that the next ordinary Council Assembly meeting would not be until 25 November 2015, and that there would be another community council meeting prior to this.

Councillors said that there would be a Leader's question time event in October. If people had a question they wanted to ask the leader they could submit these to their local councillors.

RESOLVED:

That this item be deferred to the next community council meeting on 16 September 2015.

15. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS: PROVISION OF CAR CLUB BAYS ON RODNEY ROAD

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the parking amendments on Rodney Road, shown on the plan in Appendix A of the report, be approved for implementation, subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory consultation procedures.

16. PARKING SPACES AND PROHIBITION OF DRIVING ON PRICES STREET

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report, and commented that the consultation response report had not come out right in the printed version of the agenda packs. The proposal itself would result in a loss of one parking bay and was one of many proposals to pedestrianise streets in the area – this could cause concern among some residents.

Richard Wells, principal network development engineer, explained that the proposal had come from transport officers in conjunction with planning officers, as part of the Hilton Hotel planning application.

RESOLVED:

That the following non-strategic traffic and parking arrangements, detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved for implementation subject to any necessary statutory procedures:

Prices Street

- prohibition of driving within the area of highway to become pedestrianised
- removal of three pay and display bays and one permit holders only bay
- removal of existing waiting restrictions (single and double yellow lines) within the area of highways to become pedestrianised
- addition of new double yellow lines along the western end of Prices Street to ensure access to the existing disabled bays is maintained

Great Suffolk Street

- extend the length of existing double yellow lines along the western side of Great Suffolk Street

17. SUMNER STREET - PROHIBITION OF MOTOR VEHICLES, REVISIONS TO PARKING PLACES AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Note: This is an executive function.

Councillors considered the information contained in the report, and made the following comments:

- There was general support for the changes, which was phase two of the opening up and pedestrianisation of the south side of the Tate Modern. This was aimed at bringing visitors further south into the borough.
- Some residents may have concerns about pedestrianising another street in the area.

Officers explained that they had made comments on the 185 Park Street site from a highways perspective, as part of the planning application process for that site.

RESOLVED:

That the following non-strategic traffic and parking arrangements, detailed in Appendix 3 of the report, be approved for implementation subject to any necessary statutory procedures:

Sumner Street

- Prohibition of motor vehicles between the junction of Holland Street to the western extent of the LSE building (access will be maintained for cyclists as well as pedestrians)
- Road to be made one-way from junction of Holland Street southbound to the junction of Southwark Street (except cycles)
- Relocation of two pay and display bays and removal of one pay & display bay

Park Street

- Removal of 6 no. pay & display parking bays – to be relocated nearby

Holland Street

- Road to be made one-way eastbound from Castle Yard towards Sumner Street (except cycles)
- Provision of 3 new Pay & Display parking spaces (relocated from Park Street)
- Provision of 3 new speed humps

Great Guildford Street

- Provision of 3 new Pay & Display parking spaces (relocated from Park Street)

18. SECURE CYCLE PARKING (BIKE HANGARS)

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

In response to questions from councillors, Eamon Doran, group manager - road safety & community projects, said that of the 67 consultation documents sent out in Horsley Street, only three had come back, but that officers hoped the statutory consultation would create more interest. If the consultation about Sutherland Square showed a majority for an alternative location, the proposed location of the hangar would be moved.

RESOLVED:

That the following comments be fed back to the cabinet member for environment and the public realm:

- The proposals were welcome and requested by residents. More cycle parking was needed.
- The number of responses received for the Horsley Street option was very small, which may indicate that this is not a popular location, and the hangar may be better located in a different street.
- There are some concerns about the Sutherland Square location. More consultation is needed. Other locations suggested by residents should be considered.
- It should be considered that there will be a lot of demand for cycle parking from the new residents of the redeveloped Aylesbury and that this development is probably just outside the consultation area used by officers.

19. EAST CAMBERWELL (EC) PARKING ZONE REVIEW

Councillors considered the information contained in the report.

RESOLVED:

That Borough, Bankside and Walworth Community Council endorses the recommendations of no changes, made in the report.

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In response to question from the floor, councillors explained the dual purpose of community council meetings which consisted of a town hall style section, which was mostly for information, and another section of formal council business.

The council heard a suggestion to have the individual agenda items displayed on the screen, as the meeting progresses.

The chair thanked everyone for attending and informed people that the date of the next meeting was on Wednesday 16 September 2015.

Meeting ended at 9.45 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: