



COMMUNITY COUNCILS
A voice for your community



Camberwell Community Council

Draft Minutes of the Camberwell Community Council,
held on Tuesday 10th May 2005
at Camberwell Leisure Centre, Artichoke Place

PRESENT

Councillors:

Veronica Ward (Chair), John Friary, Peter John, Dermott McInerney, Ian Wingfield

Council officers included: Stan Dubeck, Mick Lucas, Tracy Dickinson, Debbie Gooch, Ben Scanlon, Nadine James, Tim Hetherington.

1. Introduction and welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed residents, members and officers.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Vicky Naish, Alison Moise and Dora Dixon-Fyle.

3. Disclosure of members' interests and dispensations

None.

4. Notification of any items of business that the Chair deems urgent

There were none.

Matters from the Previous Meeting

5. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting on 1st March 2005

Cllr Ward wished it to be noted that she had inadvertently voted on School Governors at the last meeting, when she should have declared an interest.

AGREED: That the above is noted, and that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2005 be approved as a true and accurate record and be signed by the Chair.

6. Matters arising

6.1 Camberwell Arts Market

Cllr Friary noted that a pilot had been agreed for Camberwell Arts Week on Saturday 11 June 2005.

6.2 Blue Plaques

See separate item.

6.3 Lighting and Furniture on Camberwell Church Street

Cllr Friary noted that that he'd met with Jeremy Lyndon regarding lighting and furniture proposals for Camberwell Church Street. He said that despite TfL having control of the street, that there was still 'room to move' on progressing these issues.

6.4 Signs in Coldharbour Lane

A resident noted that Coldharbour Lane is taking on a cluttered appearance because of the addition of more signs to poles in the street.

6.5 Valmar Road

A resident noted that nothing had as yet been done about adding double yellow lines to Valmar Road.

6.6 Report to the Executive

Cllr Ward reported that the presentation of the Report had some impact and that it is hoped Executive members would attend the next community council meeting on June 28, 2005. Cllr Wingfield commented that he believed Cllr Stanton mentioned that the Executive might consider a regeneration project for Camberwell, similar to the Bellenden renewal project.

Cllr Friary said that he could not understand why the Executive had resisted the representation proposal. He mentioned concerns with the structure of community councils in that there was a void when it came to presenting community council issues to the Executive.

6.7 Proposed Injecting Room and Street Drinking Issues

6.7.1 Proposed Injecting Room

Stan Dubeck reported back on issues surrounding the injecting service. He referred to the drawing up of a Protocol between the SLAM and Southwark Partnership.

The Protocol deals with management of possible anti-social behaviour, on the premise that the Maudsley Hospital and Marina House must work with the Safer Southwark Partnership to stop such behaviour from injecting service clients.

Clients not meeting expectations are to be identified by outreach workers for attention. A process will be started with such clients, with clients being asked to sign informal Acceptable Behaviour Contracts first, and then Anti-Social Behaviour Orders being sought for clients do not comply with their ABC.

The effect of an ASBO might be to exclude a client from the SE5 area except when receiving treatment. An officer in the Multi-Agency Group would be nominated as a contact officer; all concerns with clients should be reported to the police.

Contracts would be broadly drafted to include a broad range of criminal and anti-social behaviour, including fighting, urinating and spitting.

It was agreed that the Protocol can be circulated to community groups and that accessible contact details are very important.

Cllr Wingfield noted that the broader issue of proliferation of treatment services in Camberwell needed to be addressed and that he was seeking a petition to do this, involving the Safer Southwark Partnership. He stated that while there was some acknowledgement that the issue needed to be reviewed, there was not necessarily agreement to change, but that he would keep the community council informed.

6.7.2 Street Drinking/Wet Centre

Constable Tim Otway of the Neighbourhood Team described how police are focusing on 30 individuals who cause the majority of the anti-social behaviour in Camberwell. Fifteen of these individuals have now signed Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, after some breaches four individuals have received interim ASBOs and two of the four have breached these. These are to go before court this Thursday. It is likely that the final ASBO orders will include clauses prohibiting the individuals from consuming alcohol or congregating together in SE5, and may be extended to cover the whole of Southwark. They will only be able to come into the area to receive treatment.

A resident stated that these ASBOs would not work as the individuals would use their treatment at Marina House as an excuse to be in the SE5 area.

One resident stated that a 700-signature petition was sent to the Secretary of State for Health, John Reid, but that this was passed to Southwark PCT. He stated that residents had been treated with contempt.

Cllr Peter John asked if police had any other useful powers, like dispersal laws. Constable Otway said that tools like dispersal orders and street drinking laws were hard to police and that the focussed approach worked better; he noted that as a result of this approach one street drinker had abstained from alcohol for over four months.

A number of residents including a representative of the Camberwell Society, asked who was party to the Agreement. Stan Dubeck listed the police, SSP, probation services, health services and the Maudsley. They asked for copies of the agreement to be made available and Stan Dubeck said that this could be done.

A number of residents stated that they still thought there would be problems, especially from clients of the services who received treatment twice a day. Hugh McCrossen, the manager of Marina House, said that only 20 clients were treated twice a day, not 60 as some residents stated.

6.8 Toilets on Camberwell Green

A resident asked that the toilet in Camberwell Green be fixed as it is broken again.

ACTION: That the toilet on Camberwell Green be fixed.

7. Cleaner, Greener, Safer

Cllr Ward noted that the item on at this meeting was not to finalise CGS bids but to publicise the process.

Mary Morrissey briefly described the objectives of the CGS program, including dealing with eyesores, making the borough greener, more attractive and safer, the requirements that projects be viable, represent value for money and are able to be delivered. She detailed the types of projects covered, including playground improvements, landscaping and fencing and lighting works. She detailed the process, and said £425,000 will be available for Camberwell this year.

Cllr Friary was concerned that council needed to ensure that projects were not doubled up, as there was potential that some areas would also be eligible under other council programs. Ms Morrissey said that liaison with other areas of council spending funds should ensure that this will not occur.

Allen MacPherson Manager, Camberwell Area Housing Office, described bids that were being developed by Tenants Associations and encouraged residents to think about using TAs to develop bids.

A resident noted the good work done in Burgess Park as an example. Cllr Friary suggested lighting improvements. Mick Lucas stated that the work done in the past was for replacement of concrete columns.

8. Camberwell Arts Festival

Jackie Coghlan described the events at the forthcoming 15-day Camberwell Festival, including community events, a parade and a play on Camberwell Green. The Festival commences on *****

9. Borough Spending Plan

Kendal Mackay Project officer, Transport & Traffic Group, Southwark Council, described the BSP process, in which bids are submitted in July and decided by November, including last year's expenditure of £369,000 in Camberwell.

The Council is currently bidding for road maintenance works, 20mph zones and bus priority works. Shared funds across the borough are supporting cycle paths and training, travel awareness and planning, motorcycle parking and traffic monitoring. He detailed the types of schemes to bid for, including Principal Road Maintenance, Bridge Strengthening and Local Safety Schemes/20 mph Zones, area-based schemes and bus accessibility and priority schemes.

A resident asked what 'heaven' was – an acronym used in the presentation, it is apparently a technical term referring to air pollution.

A resident asked if that when installing bumps, could council take into account elderly people and those with bad backs ?

A resident stated that there were problems accessing Denmark Hill Station; Kendal Mackay stated that this should be communicated as work is going on to improve both the interior and exterior of the station.

A resident stated that bus priority measures needed to be decided strategically, and noted the example of priority lanes being removed along Walworth Road and then introduced in Camberwell.

Kendal Mackay said a demonstration project was ongoing on Walworth Road and that there was more funding for this than in Camberwell' if successful it could be extended.

A resident then raised specific concerns with illegal parking in front of his shop; however the road in question is a TfL Red Route and concerns on this need to be addressed to TfL.

AGREED: That Council follow up with TfL on the problem of illegal parking outside shops at 225 to 253 Camberwell New Road [a Red Route].

10. Deputation on Grove Lane Traffic Issues

Karen Tass spoke on this item. She detailed the following problems with traffic in Grove Lane:

- no speed restrictions
- the area includes a primary school
- it is a 'rat run' to Camberwell Church Street
- has a high volume of traffic
- recent accidents including a boy having his foot run over
- problems are becoming worse
- a surgery on this issue and funding has been requested
- the mooted traffic survey has still not been done

- when will it be done ?

Cllr McNerney asked if Ms Tass had heard back about the 20mph consultation. Ms Tass said that the residents had not heard back and the only action they'd seen was the installation of 'slow' signs. He said that he could not answer for the survey but said he had received information on the plans. Cllr McNerney suggested contacting the Planning and Transport Department for copies of the maps, distributing them in the area and sending them in to council.

Cllr Wingfield thanked Karen Tass for her deputation and said this related to earlier decisions of Camberwell Community Council. He commented that an overall approach was needed to manage traffic in Camberwell and to stop mere displacement of traffic from one street to another. He suggested a general survey of traffic in Camberwell and said this might trigger funding for traffic schemes to resolve some of these problems.

Cllr Wingfield noted that there would be a Transport consultation at the Salvation Army on 14 May between 10am – 2pm and on 18 May between 2pm - 7pm. The deadline for responses is 31 May.

Kendal Mackay noted that a deputation on this issue had been taken at Camberwell Community Council last year, and that money had been allocated for an investigation, and a preliminary consultation had been done with 700 forms sent out and 100 replies had been received. Of those who responded, 75% were in favour of traffic calming and traffic count surveys. This work has informed the current work that Traffic and Transport are doing. Kendal Mackay said that Traffic & Transport would happily send further leaflets.

Karen Tass responded that she did not get a survey form and noted that the primary school had not been consulted. Kendal Mackay said that this might be due to a problem in the form not being sent to the correct person, this sometimes occurred when trying to contact schools.

Cllr Ward noted that the Report to the Executive did include a request for an overall audit of traffic into Camberwell.

A resident asked if **Flodden Road** had been included in Traffic & Transport studies, Kendal Mackay said that it had not, that displacement of traffic there occurred because of traffic calming measures in Lambeth and that Lambeth Council and the TfL had been petitioned on this and that he would check how this was progressing.

Cllr Friary mentioned complaints he had heard about the speed of cars in Flodden Road and stated that there had been a meeting with Lambeth concerning this.

Cllr Wingfield stated that clearly transport was an important issue and asked that there be a regular update for Camberwell Community Council on this.

ACTION: To have a regular update for Camberwell Community Council regarding transport issues.

A resident asked queried Southwark's transport budget. Cllr John said that it was an Executive decision to have a small budget for transport.

11. Equalities and Diversity Scheme

Nathalie Hadjifotiou gave a presentation on Southwark's Equalities Scheme including the aims, which were to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination, promote good race relations and equality of opportunity. She said Southwark had extended this scheme to include gender, faith/belief, sexual orientation, disability, and age.

She raised questions for Southwark, particularly how Council was affecting the educational attainment of African-Caribbean, White and Travellers children, good community relations, services for the elderly, access to services for people with disabilities, higher levels of BME young people in the criminal justice system ? She also asked what people felt Council's knowledge of differing communities was, whether we had an impact on BME businesses, hate crime, and if new/emerging communities had sufficient access to services.

Cllr Friary asked if this was an internal checklist or whether it was for Council's external clients ? Ms Hadjifotiou said that it was a way of doing checks by involving communities.

A resident noted similar concerns in Lambeth and asked what protections were built in at Southwark. Ms Hadjifotiou said that it was described the whistleblowing policy at council.

A resident asked how staff who gave evidence to the Ouseley Report were protected. Ms Hadjifotiou referred again to the whistleblower scheme and said that a Working Party examined these issues and she felt these issues were dealt with in a proper manner.

Cllr John noted that Labour is not on the Working Party on the Ouseley Report and would like more information as Labour councillors have serious concerns about it. Cllr Wingfield also stressed these concerns that what was written on paper did not necessarily reflect what was going on.

A resident asked how staff would know whether a whistleblower issue was a genuine one or whether it was a mischievous complaint. Ms Hadjifotiou said that discerning this was one of the skills of complaints staff.

A resident said that she was involved in the Pensioners' Group and said that Southwark was one of the best boroughs to be a pensioner and thanked the council for doing well in this area.

12. Community Games

Tim Hetherington gave a presentation on the Community Games. He detailed the role of the Games in increasing sports participation and physical activity, reducing crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, improving educational attainment raising self-esteem and fostering local community Spirit.

Tim focussed on the scale of the games, stating that they were based on the 8 Community Council areas, involved 3,590 10-16 year olds (16% of total age group), were delivered on 45 housing estates, involved 61 primary schools out of 77 and totalled 29,000 coaching and competition hours.

Cllr Friary was pleased with the work done on estates by Cleaner, Greener Safer and the links between upgrading facilities and getting people to use them. He said that Community Council would value Tim's feedback on particular sites, particularly for football and basketball.

A resident suggested the area behind Champion Hill estate near Sainsbury, as it had an overgrown tennis court that could be used.

Another resident suggested a Camberwell football team to play in local leagues.

A resident noted that the facilities in Burgess Park were woefully inadequate for sports needs.

Tim Hetherington noted that there was redevelopment work in Chumleigh Gardens, particularly a BMX track. Pressure needed to come from local communities to get improved facilities.

ACTION: That the issue of sports facilities be explored more fully at a future Community council meeting.

13. Public Questions

13.1 Cllr Ward noted that forms for Blue Plaques were at the rear of the room and people should collect a form and remember to vote on them.

13.2 A resident asked if there could be an item on Emergency Planning at a future Community Council meeting.

ACTION: That Emergency Planning be considered at a future Camberwell Community Council meeting.

13.3 A resident asked how the Camberwell Community Council saw the issues raised in Lord Ouseley' report being progressed. Cllr John suggested that Lord Ouseley might be asked to address the Council Assembly as a way of progressing matters.

The Chair confirmed that next general meeting of the Camberwell Community Council would be held on Tuesday, 28 June 2005 at the Camberwell Leisure Centre.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Chair:

Dated: