



COMMUNITY COUNCILS
A voice for your community



Rotherhithe Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 28th September 2004

Mayflower TRA Hall, Neptune Street, Plough Way SE16

PRESENT

1. Councillor Lisa Rajan – Chair
Councillor Columba Blango
Councillor Jeff Hook
Councillor David Hubber
Councillor Jonathan Hunt
Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Richard Porter

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

2. The meeting commenced at 7:05pm.
3. Chair welcomed the public to the Rotherhithe Community Council Meeting and outlined housekeeping matters relating to the venue.

APOLOGIES

4. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs, O'Brien and Yates.

NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

5. There were none

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

6. There were none.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7. The minutes of the meeting held on 26th July 2004 were agreed by Members subject to the following change:

That the correct spelling of John Hellings be noted.

UPDATE ON ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

8. Chair reported that with regard to previous discussions about the possible closure of Rotherhithe tube station, TfL (Transport for London) had confirmed that the station would stay open.
9. Chair said that she had received a letter from Acting Superintendent Brian Cherek regarding the 24-hour opening of Rotherhithe Police Station.

Copies of the letter were distributed.

POLICING IN ROTHERHITHE UPDATE

Inspector Mark Johnson and Sergeant Roy Dawson

10. Inspector Mark Johnson said that there continued to be problems with youths on bikes. He asked residents to forward details of vehicles involved, number plates etc. and he would make sure that the matter was followed-up and reported back on.

He said that around Albion Street work was being done to stop loitering by young people. Youths could be asked to disperse and taken home by officers to their parents.

He said that one of the home beat officers would concentrate on the Silwood Estate and other areas.

11. Sergeant Roy Dawson said that he was leading a new team,

Rotherhithe's First Safer Neighbourhoods Team

- Surrey Docks Ward
- Newly Established
- 1 Sergeant / 2 Constables / 3 Police Community Support Officers

Goals and Objectives

- To address longer-term issues in the Neighbourhood
- To enhance the quality of life for residents
- To work in partnership on issues determined in consultation with residents & stakeholders

The Team

- PS Roy Dawson
- PC Richard Skinner
- PC Gary Dark
- PCSO Arslan Mirza
- PCSO Leon Smith
- PCSO Paul Gbogidi

What we cannot do

- Respond to emergency calls 24/7
- Run away

MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) commitment to Community Policing

- Patchy history of community policing
- Initial phases of project to be extended to all wards

So what now ?

- Engage community groups and individuals
- Establish priority concerns
- Develop further community consultation
- Establish community panel
- Progress identified concerns

Provisional Identified concerns

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) on and in motor vehicles both on and off-road
- Low level Crime – theft – damage – graffiti
- ASB around Odessa Street
- Fly tipping
- Drugs misuse

12. Sergeant Dawson explained that he was still learning about the area but two officers had a lot of local experience.

13. He said that the panel formed from residents would help to set out the priorities which could be issues such as robbery and burglary or perhaps dog mess and un-taxed cars.

14. Sergeant Dawson said that they wanted to hear the views of residents. Further that the team would welcome the revitalising of Neighbourhood Watch schemes and the forming of new partnerships.

15. Chair asked if people could contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team directly ?

Sgt. Dawson said he could not promise an immediate response to an urgent enquiry and 999 may be better. There were contact sheets available but the address was about to change. New sheets would be available in due course that would also include an email address.

He added that the team was on 5 days a week, over the weekend but not on night duties.

16. Michael from the community said that liaising with local areas was the job of the local police station before it was moved to Borough.

Sgt. Dawson said that it had not all moved to Borough and that he worked out of Rotherhithe. He said there were local police for local problems and that they operated out of local stations.

17. Steve from the community said that Val Shawcross was currently sending out questionnaires and that the results would be passed on to the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

18. Barbara Lawless from the community asked for clarification on the coverage of Surrey Docks ward. She said that it left out a lot and asked who had made that decision ?

Inspector Johnson said that the decision was made by the partnership with him. He said that each ward had problems and each was looked at in isolation. Surrey Docks ward had lots of anti-social behaviour and local concerns. He said there were 3 pilots and now 5, he was pushing for another and if successful it would be rolled out.

19. Barbara asked if it was based on reported crime ?

Inspector Johnson said not just that. They were trying to get people to report crime but that was not the whole basis.

20. Barbara asked who else was in the partnership ?

Inspector Johnson said the Chief Inspector.

21. Chair asked if Rotherhithe Community Council could lobby to get one other ward added next time.

Inspector Johnson said yes and that the more information they received the better.

22. Chair said that the community council would lobby via her for another local ward to be next.
23. A woman from the community said that Albion Street had the worst record of anywhere in Rotherhithe. People driven out of Russia Dock congregate in Albion Street.
24. Inspector Johnson said that was not down to the Police. He said that displacement was something that happened and that the Police were aware of the problems in Albion Street.
25. Inspector Johnson was asked how long was the wait ? He said that concerning Human Rights it would not be done lightly but it would be done shortly. Also that as soon as a decision was made it would be in the local media. He said that the new legislation was powerful but both sides would be considered and it would be used effectively.
26. The woman asked if the Police would take into account people with Mental Health problems ?

Inspector Johnson responded that the Police had protocols for dealing with Hostels etc.

27. A woman from the community said that her area had similar issues with youths aged 16 and 17 outside her estate every day causing problems. There was ASB, racism and needles. These had been reported to Police so many times. She urged that the Police should work with residents and neighbourhood offices. She could not sleep as youths kick a ball against walls at 3am and that something should be done. There had been a meeting on anti-social behaviour (ASB) on 15th September at Millpond but the Police had not attended. She said the next one would be on 27th October 2004.

Inspector Johnson said that they would try and get to meetings if asked to attend. He said that people often knew the addresses of ringleaders but would not say. With ASB units people could give information anonymously. He added that they were looking to get backing from the local authority.

28. Mark from the community said that there had been a lot of problems with ASB over spilling from the leisure park. When the Police are called they take hours to arrive. He added that if the local police station was used they could be there in 3 minutes.

Inspector Johnson said that his hands were slightly tied on that one. He added that Rotherhithe station was open from 6am to 10pm every day.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMUNITY WARDENS

Roy Wayre from Environment & Leisure introduced 2 new community wardens Cat Morath and Frank Moore

29. Roy explained that he had parks experience and Cat was from regeneration. The structure was Roy plus two supervisors, Cat and Frank, and ten wardens. The operational hours were 8am – 9pm, two shifts, seven days per week. There would be a steering group and the wardens would patrol at various times, sometimes on bicycles and build relations with the police while providing them with information.

30. Roy said that there had been five new starters so far and others were doing core-training. That training included work in water and first aid.

A map of the Community Wardens base at Stave Hill and a timetable were distributed

31. Roy said that the benefits of Stave Hill were that it was at the heart of Russia Dock woodland and gave easy access to streets and the woodland. He said that the aim of the steering group would be to agree operations and performance targets. An Open Day was planned.

32. Cllr Hubber enquired about how mobile the wardens would be as Russia Dock is quite far from Rotherhithe ?

33. Roy said that if a vehicle was required that would be done. The plan was initially to do six miles a day foot patrols. The steering group would determine their approach. He added that the wardens would work with the Police to identify hotspots.

34. Chair asked what were community wardens doing / reporting ?

Roy said work included, ASB, Mellish Fields, graffiti and dumped vehicles.

35. Chair asked for the community wardens contact number.

Roy said there would be a contact number. At the moment consultation was still taking place and that a contact number would be circulated in due course. If anyone had an enquiry they could reach Roy on 020 7525 1086 or email roy.ware@southwark.gov.uk He said that tonight they had received a call from Time and Talents and that two officers were there patrolling aiming to stop some problems.

36. Alan from the community said that the times 8am – 9pm were wrong as everything happened after 9pm.

Chair said that was something for the steering group to consider.

37. Alan said that some of the blocks had hellish problems.

Roy said that they could look at CCTV there.

38. Chair said that the steering group would look at the issues raised including hours of operation. Further that the more information received the better.

39. Helen from the community said that groups of youths were smoking drugs in her stairwell and asked what powers the wardens had ?

Roy said they were building a profile. They would give intelligence to the Police to identify offenders. He said their presence often helped and people would move on. They could use a diplomatic approach but not apprehend.

40. Cat said that they often spoke to young people in stairwells. We ask them not to loiter, to move on. Talking to them usually worked.

Chair added that the wardens worked alongside the Police.

41. A man from the community said that he had just come to the meeting and there were youths outside. He said that what young people needed was something to do and then they would not be in stairwells. If the youth service got adequate funding they would not be hanging around etc. He said provision should be made at reasonable hours and it was time to get realistic about the problem.

Chair said that there were two sides to the issue and the other was engaging with those causing the problems. She said that facilities were needed and that was being looked into through the Cleaner Greener Scheme and also Rotherhithe Community Fund.

Alan from the community mentioned the Time and Talents youth facility.

42. Roy said that a lot of those involved would not talk to the Police but would talk to community wardens. The community wardens can build a relationship and collect information from residents. We could be the eyes and ears for many incidents. He said that there were about 23 people in Rotherhithe tackling crime.

A woman from the community said that youth facilities were needed to address the children's problems in Russia Dock Woodland. These children should be talked to but nothing was done.

Chair said that they were trying to improve youth facilities, e.g. Mellish Fields and that this community council had put money aside and there was another fund available that could be used to improve youth facilities.

43. A man from the community asked why there were no community wardens / neighbourhood Police working at night ?

Chair said that the timings issue could be looked at by the steering group.

44. Anne from the community said that when gangs were approached could you tell them Tissington Court do not want them moving there.

Cat said that wardens do not tell people to move anywhere specific.

HISTORIC WALKS

Stuart Rankin gave a talk. Leaflets / Booklets were distributed

45. Stuart said that he had moved to the area in 1991 and for more than 12 years he had written many reports. He thanked the local libraries and in particular Ruth Jenkins and Stephen Humphrey.

He said that the local studies library had over 20,000 illustrations and 600 maps. There were 16th century London maps and historical electoral reports.

He said that for its size Rotherhithe has one of the most interesting histories in London. The local shipyards built significant ships and visitors from the Far East and USA would find influences on their countries.

Stuart hoped that his publications would encourage people to walk more. He said that the walks started at our 3 London underground stations. It was difficult to get children to go for a walk and he had included a fun/competitive element. The interior of the peninsula was also a haven for wildlife.

Stuart highlighted the walkway that enabled people to walk by the river around the peninsula.

46. Stuart said that copies (more) of the booklet were available free from libraries and if these proved a success there would be more in the future.
47. Stuart said that on the last Wednesday of every month, except August and December, a meeting of walking enthusiasts takes place at Time and Talents.

NEW LICENSING LEGISLATION

Jane Dyer and Kim Harlow gave a presentation. Information packs were distributed

The Licensing Act 2003

A Single Integrated Licensing System

- Replaces existing alcohol, public entertainment, cinemas, theatres and night café licensing law
- Personal licences – The retail sale of alcohol
- Club Premises certificate – The supply of alcohol in certified clubs to members
- Premises Licence – The provision of regulated entertainment, plays, films, indoor sports, live music, recorded music and dance
- Occasional Public Entertainment & Temporary Event Notices
- The provision of late night refreshments – Premises Licence

Why has it been introduced ?

- Proportionate regulation
- Greater consumer & tourist choice
- Family friendly
- Development of community culture
- Regeneration – investment & employment opportunities
- Protection of residents

The Licensing Objectives

The four main licensing objectives under the Act are –

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

Each objective has equal importance

The Statement of Licensing Policy

- Each licensing authority must prepare and publish a statement of licensing policy every three years
- The statement forms the basis upon which every licensing decision must be taken
- Must be based upon consultation
- Must be consistent with local issues & national strategies

Safeguards & Benefits

- Benefit of Relaxation in Licensing Hours
- Cumulative Impact Policy
- Licences can be reviewed at any time
- Gives new appeal rights for residents
- Local Authority & Police main enforcement – Police powers of premises closure

- Problem premises – Council powers to amend, suspend or revoke licenses
- Temporary Event Notices

Timetable for Transition

- Act received Royal Assent in July 2003
- The DCMS Guidance approved
- 6 months to establish policy and process – Consultation on policy ends 15th October 2004
- 1st appointed date – 5th February 2005 transition begins
- 6 months to apply for ‘grandfather’ rights – 9 months for transition
- 2nd date – November 2005 new system in force
- No dates for secondary regulations

Consultation with residents in the area for the statement of licensing policy

- Work Shops – facilitated by the Community Involvement and Development Unit
- Survey Form – Feedback on Licensing Policy Form
- If you wish to give further feedback, contact the Licensing Unit or download from the Council’s web site at www.southwark.gov.uk/business/licensing or email licensing@southwark.gov.uk
- Round up – General consultation event 10am, Saturday 9th October 2004, Southwark Town Hall

48. Chair invited the meeting to split into 3 groups and for residents to ask questions of licensing officers.

BREAK

Chair explained that the Steering group on community wardens would include 2 local residents. She said that if anyone wanted to be involved they should give their name to the Clerk (Tim Murtagh). Contact could be made via email or on 020 7525 7187 and an election would be organised.

PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVISION STRATEGY

Mick Daniels – Assistant Director Manager, Education – gave a presentation

49. Mick said that a review of Primary school provision was being conducted. There were two reviews, one for Dulwich and one covering Bermondsey and Rotherhithe.

50. The review looked at current demand for places and projected future demand. It looked at issues around parental preferences and objectively measured how schools were performing. He said that it was a complex and

critical issue that needed to be addressed.

51. The Commission had an independent Chair with a strong background in education. Prior to the summer break various groups had been asked if they wanted to take part. It was an opportunity for Headteachers and Governors to come and talk to the Commission. It was hoped to get a report to the Executive by the end of November 2004.
52. Mick said that in Southwark there were lots of opportunities in terms of Primary provision. There was also a Government commitment to have a major refurbishment of every secondary school. It was hoped to have this matched to primary schools locally. There were lots of funding options. There was a plan to review all areas over time. There was also a plan to move out from Rotherhithe and Bermondsey to the neighbouring areas.
53. Mick said that the amount of spare capacity at each school is looked at and how best to use the resources we have. There was no point keeping lots of surplus places. The Local Education Authority (LEA) had requested a solution where the surplus of places exceeded 25%.
54. Mick said that like most London boroughs Southwark did not meet the Department for Education & Science (DfES) minimum requirements. He said that a number of our schools had one and a half forms of entry and that it would be good if we could move to two forms of entry.
55. Mick predicted that demand would increase and that by 2011 there would be a shortage of primary places. The picture for reception classes was more serious, with a shortage predicted for 2008.
56. Mick said that the position in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe would become tighter even sooner and we need to look at ways of responding to possible demands in the future.
57. Mick said that if anyone wanted the Commission to consider other issues they should contact Martin Wilcox at John Smith House on 020 7525 5018.
58. Cllr Blango said that considering there was under capacity were there sufficient grounds for another school to be built ?

Mick said that spare capacity was about 14% and that was likely to change with increased demand in future. He added that there was the need for a new Secondary school in Rotherhithe.

59. Cllr Hunt said that at least one more Primary school in the area was needed and that we had seen the foolishness of selling off school land for flats. He asked where was the extra space ?

Mick said that it was the LEA's responsibility to ensure that there were sufficient places available. The preferred model was for two forms of entry.

Some that currently had one or one and a half forms could expand. Another option would be to identify new areas of land.

60. Cllr Hunt said that less green spaces would lead to increased child obesity.

Mick said that would be considered.

61. Cllr Hunt said that councillors should have their say and that they would listen to views too.

62. David Meagher questioned the figures as he had experienced a lot of difficulty in getting his child into Reception class.

Mick said that if anyone experienced difficulties in getting their children into school they should consult the admissions section at John Smith House.

63. Janet from the community asked what developments, such as Canada Water, were taken into account when capacity was looked at ?

Mick said that figures were from the Greater London Authority. The figures anticipated new housing not just that at the planning permission stage.

64. Pauline a local school governor said that the figures on surplus were misleading for her school.

Mick accepted and noted the point.

65. Cath Witham asked if the movement of people was being taken into account ? She said that not one of her friends stayed in the area once they had children.

Mick said that factors like that were hard to quantify and that all we could do was look at reality versus projection. He added that it was not a precise science.

66. Gary Glover said that regarding the terms of reference and Galleywall school, it was different from what was said at Galleywall. He asked what would come out of it ?

Mick said that the review started with Galleywall and looked at the likely need for primary places in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe over the next 20 years. That had developed into something else which would be used borough-wide.

67. Michael from the community said that 52 schools were below capacity and that cost us in the budget. He said that it was important to get the projections accurate and that over-provision was as much a problem as under-provision.

Mick agreed that it could be devastating not to recruit enough pupils and that we need to manage the transition from a surplus towards a deficit.

68. Simon Hughes said that he welcomed the Commission. He said that threatening schools with closure was working as many bad ones had recovered brilliantly. He asked if nursery places had been included in the review ?

He said you could get a Nursery place but were not guaranteed a Primary place and these needed to be looked at together.

He also asked if a common admissions policy had been included ?

He also asked about old Victorian schools, apart from selling off land was there any guarantee of match funding from government for wider building ?

69. Mick said that regarding Nursery places the Commission had been asked to look at it. He agreed that there were enough Nursery places and that Primary places should be increased pro rata along with them.

Mick said that regarding the common admissions policy, it was not part of the brief but the department was looking into it. He agreed that the position was iniquitous.

Mick said that there was no equivalent Primary school buildings policy. He said any capital from the DfES or our own resources would be concentrated on the needs of Primary schools.

70. Cllr Neale said he was aware of many children moving in and out of the borough. He asked if there were any children educated across the boundary ? He asked if Lewisham was in a similar position to Southwark ?

Mick said that he could get the information to Cllr Neale but did not have it at his fingertips. He added that people could not be stopped crossing boundaries and he would find out what the situation was.

ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY FUND

Donald Forde and Julie Humphreys gave a presentation

71. Donald reported that since the last meeting there had been 56 ideas received.

The Environment – 14 proposals with a consistent theme being Russia Dock Woodland but also including suggestions to improve signage to cultural facilities such as the pump house and the riverside environment

Children / Young People – Very popular theme which included practical suggestions for engaging young people, including free leisure access and...a roller skating park

Community Safety – Obviously a very high local priority with the majority of calls to introduce more CCTV [9 suggestions]

Community and Culture – Innovative ideas including disability access and free access to internet for OAPs

Transport – Emphasis on encouraging cycling and new bus routes

NEXT STEPS

- Further consultation in those areas such as the Tustin / More press
- A gut feeling that there were a lot of things happening around suggestions and part of our job is to put proposals in context [Community Cohesion Path Finder, NRF, Core services etc.]
- Start carrying out feasibility / working with Council departments in developing project ideas – in earnest
- Begin the planning for November's special meeting
- Invite all applications to the special meeting on 25th October 2004

72. Julie said that the communications plan had 3 objectives

- Inform residents
- Promote the pilot funding
- Evaluate it

A briefing paper had been developed and sent to residents, community groups and faith groups. Information was also published on the web site, including an email address.

Postcards with the Rotherhithe brand-colour had been distributed to residents. This had encountered some problems but they had also been sent to libraries, leisure centres, SAVO and police stations. There had been a freephone number for people to leave a message.

73. Donald said that the special meeting of the Rotherhithe community council would take place on 25th October 2004. The projects would begin in December / January 2005.

Donald said that the ideas list would include some carried over from the Cleaner Greener Safer scheme 2004/05.

74. Chair said that they wanted more ideas and encouraged residents to take away postcards and fill them in. She said that at the special meeting in October there would be workshops similar to those for the Cleaner Greener Safer scheme. Following that meeting the Councillors would meet to decide on the schemes based on the following criteria

1. Geographical spread
2. Local support
3. Workshop results
4. Range of ideas
5. Cost

75. Alan Halliday asked for an assurance for his committee that if he filled in a form it would be considered.

Donald said yes, part of the process was transparency. Councillors could see all the suggestions that had come in and what had happened to them.

Chair added that everything would be considered.

76. Theresa asked if the fund was only open to local organisations ?

Chair and Donald said that it was open to individuals and organisations.

77. Theresa asked if organisations could get help with application forms ?

Donald said yes, the person listed on the form should be the first point of contact. They could also help with the project idea.

78. Barry Mason asked if they could embellish ideas with more detail prior to the special meeting ?

Donald said yes.

79. Barbara Lawless said that thousands of people in Rotherhithe had not received the postcards and time was short.

Donald said that there had been some problems but the team had tried to reach everyone. He added that the Tustin Estate had experienced problems but this Saturday or next there would be a meeting in the area.

Barbara said to the Chair that she was not happy.

Chair said that there had been quite a few gaps in the distribution list. She said that she had done a poll of her contacts and where there were gaps she had asked Donald to issue more cards and another lot had gone out.

Cllr Hubber said that there were lots of flats with difficult access points and that unless arrangements were made they would miss out completely.

Chair asked that where people were aware of being left out they should let us know so that distribution could be looked at again.

Gary Glover said that there did seem to be a problem with housing estates and that this was not the first time that we had complained about private delivery firms.

Donald said that although the Post Office was helpful they required three months notice.

Chair said it was an Action Point to get the information to all Tenants Associations.

Gary Glover asked that it also go to Rotherhithe Housing Forum.

Cllr Neale said that there had been similar problems with the Cleaner, Greener, Safer scheme and that we ended up using doctor surgeries. He asked that if residents could help us out with blocks not receiving information then they should let us know.

David Meagher said that he never received information for anything for anyone.

Simon Hughes said that the Scouts could deliver cheaper than commercial rates and were more reliable than the Post Office.

Chair said that could be looked into.

80. Jackie asked if an application could be given this evening.

Donald said yes.

INFORMATION ON ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY

Roger Stocker gave a presentation and distributed copies of the draft plan

81. Roger explained that he was looking for comments from residents before the final version was written.

82. Roger said that they were looking at:

- seeking to reduce casualties and why there were so many casualties out there
- the problem of one in twenty vehicles not having adequate insurance
- more 20mph zones for the borough
- planting trees / home zones
- the safety of children
- encouraging more people to walk and cycle

83. Roger said that inside the booklet there's a feedback form that should be returned by the end of October.

84. Chair enquired as to why Rotherhithe was not a 20mph zone.

Roger said he had no idea but it could be due to safety schemes or the sorts of road safety area.

85. Chair asked that with regard to 20mph zones, had the local Police been consulted and how would it be enforced ?

86. Roger said that the Police would be part of the consultation. He added that humps were less popular than cameras or detectors or reminders. There were lots of methods available and it would not be easy. He said the document looked forward five years.

87. David Meagher said that he lived on Salter Road and there had been a death. It would not work if not enforced. He said that the current limit was 30mph but people ignore it.

Roger said that it had been identified as a problem area.

David said that he had raised it at a previous community council meeting but nothing had been done.

Roger agreed that something was needed for the road but a 20mph limit would not be right. He said there was a need to calm down the majority of the users on that road. If a hump or a chicane were put in that could cause big problems for people living there. Local people need to be consulted.

David said that he had gone to workshops but there had not been feedback. He said enforcement was needed.

88. Gary Glover said that on Southwark Park Road money had been spent and it had been a waste. People race down the middle of the road to get there first.

89. Barbara Lawless said that regarding the 20mph zones, there should be sensitivity to the people who live on the main roads. There should be sensitivity to each area's particular needs.

Roger said that the majority of Southwark roads were not 20mph roads.

Barbara said there was a need to consider commuter traffic into central London.

90. Simon Hughes said that he was conscious of the deaths and incidents on Salter Road but you don't solve problems with more restrictions. He challenged people to say that they had never broke the speed limit. We need to provide a place for speed otherwise it would be done on the roads.

Barry said that he was stunned by Simon Hughes comments. Southwark Cyclists had launched the 20mph zone. He thought Salter Road should go for that but Southwark Council was holding out against it as the Police would not enforce it. Barry said the document this evening backs a 20mph limit so there was inconsistency.

91. Patrick asked if the figures took into account fatalities that resulted from stolen vehicles ?

Roger said that any road deaths were included.

Simon said he was conscious of the deaths but it was against human nature to confine people. More slow roads would lead to more fines. He said there was a need to reduce deaths and injuries but it should be done realistically. Let's not have a one mould fixes all approach. A 20mph limit was ludicrous.

92. A man from the community said he had concerns if there were 20mph zones for buses. Speedy public transport should be encouraged. He added that he was not in favour of a lower limit on Salter Road.

93. A man from the community said that it was better to hit a child at 20mph than to hit one at 30mph. He said that on Salter Road people would try and overtake on the bend. Youths come to race down there and Salter Road should have a chicane. It was needed to slow down the traffic.

94. Roger said that people were getting confused. It was originally a consultation document. There were no over 30mph zones in the borough. Regarding Salter Road, consultations were being gone through, then a recommendation would emerge. Some ideas were achievable others were not. Some 20mph roads would not be practical though Mayor Livingstone wanted mostly 20mph limits for London.

Roger explained the document was a draft and that it was a long-term process. The more people that respond the better.

95. A woman from the community said that Salter road was used as a race-track and that drivers need educating. Some race on the wrong side of the island.

96. Chair said that all comments were useful to Roger and his team.

97. Roger said that the deadline was 29th October 2004.

98. Roger said there was a plan to lend pool bikes to business over a few months. This was to encourage less car use and workers could leave bicycles outside offices. These would be free from Southwark – leaflets available.

ROTHERHITHE WATERWAYS

Jon Sheaff circulated a paper and took questions from residents

99. Jon explained that work was still not complete on the London Docklands Development Corporation's (LDDC) de-regulation.
1. Transfer of assets to Council.
 2. Run through of 2004 in Canada Water, Albion Channel, Surrey Water
 3. Move forward in terms of water bodies and how managed.
100. Chair said that Jon was still gathering information especially on funding arrangements. She added that Waterways would be looked at again at the next community council meeting.

Jon said that he felt it should be an ongoing discussion.

101. Steven from the community said that the Albion Channel problems had been there for two or three summers. He asked why nothing had been done until this year ?

Cllr Hook said that work had been done on the Channel but problems had been there since before we were in control.

102. Jon said that regarding water bodies, more water supply was needed to flush through problems. There were only two boreholes and that was not enough. More water resources were needed.
103. Janet from the community said that Jon Sheaff had come to the Forum in July and he had been asked if there was a planned maintenance programme for the Waterways, to avoid problems in the summer. He had said no due to resources. Janet said that conflicted with what they were now telling us. She said that she had lived by the Albion channel for ten years and this year had been the worst.

Janet said that there needed to be a programme for what would happen in future. She said most of the assets had been sold off. She added that when the LDDC sold off assets they used 90 year old legislation (Open Spaces Act) and that resources were not the bottom line. Within that Act there was an absolute statutory duty. She asked what had happened to the money ? Further that there should be no repeat of what had happened this summer.

104. Jon said that he understood her interpretation of the LDDC and the Council. However he had discovered that there was no enforceability in the document. There is nothing that could legally be pursued. The Council could not ring-fence capital assets from one area for another area. He thought that it would be more productive to look at how the money would be distributed.

Janet said that she agreed to an extent. The duty was there and they needed to know the programme of maintenance.

Jon agreed but said that it could not be done in three weeks, it should be properly researched.

105. Cllr Hubber said people living in boats on the marina should have an input on future maintenance.
106. Steve from the community asked how did the pollution from the Thames come here ? He also asked about the pollution in Surrey Water and the fish in the Thames.
107. Jon said that Surrey Water had a tidal exchange of water with the Thames but that was not the sole reason.
108. Jon said that the Job description for the post of Water Manager was currently being written.
109. Barry from the community said that the LDDC did nothing, Labour did nothing and that it's all political.
110. Pauline from the community said that fishing controls and signs needed addressing.

Jon said that was being worked on and it would be policed by Wardens. He added that they wanted to do things in the right order.
111. Barry said that 'No fishing' signs should be put by the shopping centre and elsewhere.
112. Jon promised to come back to a future meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

113. Chair thanked everybody for coming. She said that the next Rotherhithe Community Council meeting would be a special on Revenue Funding on Monday 25th October 2004.
114. Details and the agenda would be available on the Southwark Council website: www.southwark.gov.uk.

The meeting finished at 10.40pm

Chair:

Dated: