



## **SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE B**

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the meeting of the SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE B held on WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3 2008 at 7.00 P.M. at the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

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### **PRESENT:**

Councillor David Hubber (Chair)

Councillors Lorraine Zuleta, Althea Smith, Alison McGovern, Denise Capstick, Paul Bates

### **OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councillors Dora Dixon-Fyle (Chair of Camberwell Community Council), Ian Wingfield (Vice-Chair of Camberwell Community Council), Sandra Rhule (Brunswick Park Ward), Veronica Ward (South Camberwell Ward)

### **ALSO PRESENT :**

Poddy Clark – SE5 Forum  
Don and Doreen Phillips – Friends of Camberwell Baths

### **OFFICER SUPPORT:**

Stan Dubeck – Neighbourhood Renewal Manager  
Debbie Gooch – Legal Services  
Shelley Burke – Head of Overview and Scrutiny

### **APOLOGIES**

Councillor Jenny Jones

### **NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMED URGENT**

There were none

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were none

### **MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED**

**That the minutes of the meeting held on October 22 2008 be agreed as a correct record**

## **1 ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS**

- 1.1 The committee received with thanks two additional submissions – an email from Brunswick Park Tenants and Residents Association which the chair had circulated, and a written submission from Councillor Ian Wingfield which had been. The chair noted that the Brunswick submission was in support of the Controlled Parking Zone, expected to go ahead in April 2009. Since Councillor Wingfield was present, he was invited to present his paper to the committee.
- 1.2 Councillor Wingfield highlighted the key points in his paper and added that since he had written it, news had come to light that the Salvation Army is proposing to invest £30M in its Champion Hill site. It had been thought that they are considering selling the site. He also asked the committee to note that he is a Brunswick Park ward councillor so had written from his ward perspective – other Camberwell councillors might have different views.
- 1.3 Councillor McGovern supported Councillor Wingfield's point that Camberwell's transport issues are analogous with Vauxhall. It needs to both permit large volumes of through traffic and public transport interchange, and to provide a town centre environment that is pedestrian friendly.

## **2 DISCUSSION ON FINAL REPORT**

- 2.1 Councillor Hubber said that he had been very struck by the priority given to traffic during the committee's walkabout in Camberwell. The speed and volume of traffic are major concerns and any solutions will need to strike an appropriate balance between safety and keeping traffic moving.
- 2.2 He felt that the committee could commend Living Streets' work on traffic management to the executive. He invited the committee to start to move to conclusions and draw together ideas on areas for recommendations. He was keen to recommend that the council works with Kings College Hospital on its interest in acquiring more property. He also wanted to pick up the point that several contributors had made about improving signage.
- 2.3 Councillor Dixon-Fyle asked the committee to prioritise traffic and particularly the safety aspects. She was concerned about the number of fatalities and had recently been pursuing an argument for a pedestrian crossing with Transport for London, who had told her that there is a delay of two years before new crossings can be implemented.
- 2.4 Councillor Hubber also felt that the committee could make a recommendation around the empty sites on the Elmington estate, and the empty shops in Southampton Way. He wondered if some enforcement action from the planning team might be productive. Also the empty corner site opposite the Town Hall – which is a technically difficult site because of the bunker beneath, but must be possible to do something with it.
- 2.5 Stan Dubeck reminded the committee of the arts theme that is emerging in the vision for Camberwell. The Community Council was shortly to hold a public meeting to bring together interested organisations. Councillor Dixon-Fyle felt that the council could do more to promote this.

- 2.6 A number of members discussed the impact of the council's move to Tooley Street, and the uncertainty this may create for commercial and residential communities in Camberwell as it is not yet clear how long the Town Hall will remain in use. Councillor Wingfield suggested that the sub-committee recommend that the executive bring forward their plans for the Town Hall as soon as possible.
- 2.7 Don Phillips asked whether Councillor Wingfield had any more information about the sites for potential large development he had listed in his submissions
- 2.8 Councillor Wingfield explained that he had selected those sites to illustrate the point that Camberwell has potential for development. He was concerned that it tends to be seen either as purely a residential area or as a place to pass through, and as a result it suffers from piecemeal development. He felt that the first step is to establish a town centre manager to proactively engage in these types of discussions. The council should not simply react to applications it receives, but should go out and engage with stakeholders such as the NHS and try to pull it together into a framework.
- 2.9 Councillor Zuleta felt that it is incumbent on the Camberwell councillors to formulate a vision. She wondered if there was potential for a technology hub – a convergence of entertainment, art and technology, given the demographic of a large number of creative young people living locally.
- 2.10 Councillor Bates was concerned that whatever ideas are finally put forward by the committee, they are followed through to implementation. He cited examples of a number of scrutiny reports which had involved considerable effort by the committee members, and had not been actioned.

**RESOLVED:**

**The committee asked the head of overview and scrutiny to draft a report with the following areas for recommendations:**

**Town centre manager  
Leisure Centre  
Street drinkers  
Transport planning  
Planning/regeneration - housing gaps  
A hub for creative industries  
Investigation of LAGBI  
The look and feel of the area  
Community hub**

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**