



Walworth Community Council

MINUTES of the Walworth Community Council held on Monday 21 June 2010 at 7.00 pm at Inspire, The Crypt at St Peter's, Liverpool Grove, SE17 2UD

PRESENT: Councillor Martin Seaton (Chair)
Councillor Neil Coyle
Councillor Catherine Bowman
Councillor Patrick Diamond
Councillor Dan Garfield
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE
Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Helen Morrissey

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Fiona Colley
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai

OFFICER SUPPORT: Jon Abbott, Project Director
John McHenry, Markets Development Manager
Pauline Bonner, Neighbourhood Coordinator
Alexa Coates, Principal Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked councillors and officers to introduce themselves.

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies received from Councillor Abdul Mohamed and Councillor Bowman had indicated to the chair that she would arrive late.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Members declared interests regarding the following agenda items:

Agenda Item 16 School Governor Nominations.

Councillor Neil Coyle, prejudicial, as he had nominated one of the candidates.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

5. MINUTES

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2010 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were no deputations or petitions.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no community announcements but the chair advised that this was a new standing item and encouraged members to use the opportunity to publicise local community events in the future.

8. INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY COUNCILS

This item was removed from the agenda due to time pressures.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

The safer neighbourhoods team and community wardens gave a safety update to the meeting. Sgt Vinnie Cage presented on behalf of the safer neighbourhoods team updating on events in Faraday, Newington and East Walworth. Sgt Cage advised that the safer neighbourhoods team would hold surgeries half an hour before Walworth community council meetings were residents could ask questions and raise issues.

Jo Skelton presented on behalf of the community wardens and advised that the team had restructured, were no longer structured on a community council area basis and would now be based in Elephant and Castle.

10. REGENERATION - ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

The cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy presented an update on the regeneration of Elephant and Castle. Advising the meeting that the new administration hoped to sign a regeneration agreement with Land Lease in July 2010. The cabinet member requested to attend a meeting of the community council in the autumn to provide more information on the regeneration project once the agreement had been signed.

The cabinet member indicated that the agreement would contain a commitment to housing and training and employment opportunities for local residents and that there were no longer plans to build on Nursery Row Park.

The cabinet member and project director for elephant and castle took questions from the floor regarding the briefing.

Residents raised concerns relating to: the level of affordable housing in the re-development, temporary uses of the land before the development work commences, communication with residents, the financial implications of the project and the allocation of trading units to local residents and the impact on the local shopping parade.

The cabinet member and project director advised that: temporary uses of the site would be explored, there was a meeting concerning the demolition of phase 1 [comprising the Wingrave blocks and 43-53 Rodney Road] of Heygate estate scheduled with local residents on 20 July 2010 which would be publicised shortly through a newsletter . Residents were advised that the proposed agreement contained commitments on local labour and training, affordable housing and retail units. The cabinet are to consider a report on leisure facilities at the Elephant & Castle at it's meeting on the 7th July. .

There was a question relating to whether planning permission was required for demolition of the existing site and whether this could be brought to the community council planning meeting. Officers advised that this would be passed to the relevant officers for a response.

The cabinet member reiterated the intention to report back to the community council in the autumn when the agreement would have been signed and when more information could be provided on: the level of social housing, plans for temporary uses of the site, shopping facilities and employment opportunities for local residents.

The Chair thanked the cabinet member and officer for their presentation and invited them to attend a future meeting of the community council once the agreement with Lend Lease had been finalised.

11. EAST STREET MARKET

John McHenry, markets development manager provided a briefing on East Street market, informing the meeting that the community council would be advised of the final scheme at the October 2010 meeting, following consultation during the previous months. Work was planned to commence in January 2011 to be completed by March 2011.

12. FORWARD PLAN

The Chair invited suggestions from members of the public attending the meeting on topics and themes for discussion at future meetings of the Walworth community council.

The following topics were suggested:

- The development of Burgess Park
- Review of regeneration in Walworth
- Healthy eating – the relationship between the health statistics in the borough and opportunities for local people to grow their own food
- Recycling
- Policing
- The level of alcohol outlets in Walworth and the relationship to anti-social behaviour
- Training needs for young people and employment opportunities for skilled workers in the area and the impact of regeneration in the area on employment opportunities
- Responsiveness of call centres
- Anti-social behaviour
- Controlled parking zones – low car emissions discounts in existing zones
- The impact of the Olympics in the local area in terms of: revenue, job opportunities and potential disruption
- Elephant and Castle re-development – traffic control measures and impact of non-residents parking to use the tube station.

The chair thanked participants for their suggestions which councillors would take consider in their agenda planning for the year ahead.

The chair requested that suggestions relating to controlled parking zones and traffic control measures at Elephant and Castle be taken forward as public questions and written responses provided at the next meeting.

13. SOUTHWARK ACTIVE CITIZENS HUB

Natasha Plaister from the southwark active citizens hub gave a presentation on the role of the voluntary sector and how members of the public can get involved. Participants and councillors praised their organisation for their work particularly in terms of the training they provided and the work they did with young people.

14. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND ALLOCATION

Members considered the allocation of the community council fund 2010/11.

Resolved

That the following community projects be awarded the following amounts under the Walworth community council fund 2010 – 2011:

- All About Us - £350
- Big Breakthrough - £1000
- Brandon 1 TRA - £1000
- Comus House TRA - £750
- Cooltan Arts - £500
- Get Down Dance - £1000
- Islamic Prayer Group and Community Centre - £750
- Latin American Disabled People's Project - £1000
- New Image Youth Centre - £1000
- Saturday Chinese Mandarin Group - £900
- Somali Youth Action Forum - £1000
- Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers - £560
- Tangled Feet - £950
- The Friday Club - £1000
- The McKenzie Tree - £850
- The Mayhem Company @ Future Trust - £1000
- The Royal British Legion (Southwark Branch) - £900
- Victory Community Park Committee - £750

15. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were submitted, the chair advised that written responses would be provided at the next meeting.

Burgess Park and Development

1) Why were we not consulted as resident on the recent Burgess Park development?

- We learnt about the meeting by chance.
- The meeting was organised by the developer and the Council.
- The meeting was held recently in the sport centre at Neat Street.

2) What is the International Concert Centre about?

- Heard it has a capacity of 100,000 people

Regeneration

1) How does the council feel that the past, current and proposed developments in Walworth, Canada Water, Bermondsey Spa and Aylesbury Estate will have an impact on crime statistics, unemployment, economic growth, rental and house prices in the area?

2) How does the council plan to grow in sustainability; will we be providing more recycling facilities for residents and local businesses?

Elephant and Castle Regeneration

Will the percentage of affordable housing in the Elephant and Castle re-build be over 35%? Will it replace that demolished?

Elephant and Castle Regeneration

Is a new library with a proper reference section still on the agenda as part of the elephant and castle regeneration? We were told the current arrangement at the Newington library is temporary.

Elephant and Castle Regeneration

Could plans for the demolition be considered by the Walworth community council planning meetings?

Aylesbury Estate

Noting massive cuts in public spending on the way and the ongoing weak economy do you agree there is no way the anti-democratic privatisation demolition scheme can continue on the Aylesbury estate? Therefore, will the council drop the scheme and review the way forward with the intention of returning residents rights and decent home improvements and proper environmental upgrade?

Bus Lanes

Is it necessary for the Heygate bus lane to be enforced 12 hours per day 7 days a week (07.00-19.00) for one bus - the 343 when bus lanes elsewhere e.g. the Old Kent Road are only enforced 07.00 – 10.00 and 16.00-19.00 6 days a week and cover hundreds of buses per hour.

Charity and Community Group Networks

Walworth community council should work closely with charities and community centres.

Creating a database of these organisations and sharing information between them. Also creating a network and support systems between organisations around Walworth. Sharing: community centres, office space as this will alleviate running costs of the projects in this financial crisis.

Controlled Parking Zones

Can low emission discounts be applied to older controlled parking zones?

Elephant and Castle – Parking issues

Can the time of parking restrictions be looked at in the area as non-residents who use the Elephant and Castle tube station are taking parking spaces which local residents wish to use?

The chair advised that that was the end of the open section of the meeting. The chair thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in the meeting.

16. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Resolved

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1, access to information procedure rules of the constitution.

17. SCHOOL GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS

Members considered the nominations for appointment as a school governor to Cobourg Primary School.

Resolved

That Sophie Moullin be appointed as school governor for Cobourg Primary School.

CHAIR:

DATED: