NUNHEAD AND PECKHAM RYE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Nunhead and Peckham Rye Community Council held on Monday 8 November 2010 at 7.00 pm at Ivydale Primary School, Ivydale Road, SE15 3BU

PRESENT:	Councillor Victoria Mills (Chair) Councillor Sunil Chopra Councillor Fiona Colley Councillor Nick Dolezal Councillor Gavin Edwards Councillor Mark Glover Councillor Renata Hamvas Councillor Althea Smith
OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:	Councillor Peter John (Leader of the Council)
OFFICER SUPPORT:	Marian Farrugia (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator) Nadine James (Community Council Development Officer) Tim Murtagh (Constitutional Officer)

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Sunil Chopra.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

5. MINUTES AND FEEDBACK ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair.

The chair drew residents' attention to various updates on previous issues contained in the agenda. She gave a verbal update on the Thomas Carlton Centre and how the Community Youth Provisions Association (CYPA) had been asked to vacate the building as the Council was carrying out refurbishment works. They had been given a list of alternative facilities but decided not to vacate. There will be a preliminary hearing on the matter on 20 November 2010 to determine if there were grounds to remain or if the Council had acted properly.

Cllr Smith said when the CYPA were first asked to vacate there was no mention of asbestos. Cllr Mills added she would look into that to get a fuller understanding of the asbestos issue and why the alternative facilities offered were not accepted.

In response to a resident's enquiry about replacement lighting, Cllr Colley said there were two issues. One was the allocation under the highways budget and the other was around the housing renewal area. Members would look into what was deliverable.

6. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diane Regan from the Nunhead Community Choir explained that the choir received a grant last year which had gone towards a celebrity community concert. The concert would take place on 28 November 6pm - 7pm. It was free and all were welcome. Since the award of funding, choir attendance had doubled to 60 - 70 people. The choir was open to all and it meets every Thursday at this venue (Ivydale Primary School).

7. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

8. A FAIRER FUTURE FOR ALL IN SOUTHWARK

Cllr Peter John, Leader of the Council, explained that following the comprehensive spending review there would be a cut of about £80million to the overall budget. The cabinet of the council would ask MPs for clarity on what the cut would mean and voluntary groups had been asked to consider the implications. There was uncertainty and there may be challenges to the Government about the legality of some of the cuts. Virtually every service would have to be re-organised.

In response to residents' questions, Cllr John said the council was looking at joint services with other boroughs which was challenging. The council did not want to get rid of discretionary services which meant residents' input was very important. The three town halls were being looked at in terms of revenue as they were expensive to retain.

Councillor John invited residents to take part in the budget consultation. There were 27 red cheques and 7 green cheques. The cheques were worth £1million and the idea was to save £20million overall and to see where people thought money should be spent.

Cllr John and Cllr Colley fed back on a sample of the budget cheque ideas submitted.

Cllr John said he would be working with Cllr Livingstone (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources) on a holistic budget for the next three years. The plan was to return to the community council in January to explain more about that.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

PC David Turner (Peckham Rye Safer Neighbourhoods Team) explained that the current ward priorities were burglary and anti-social behaviour (ASB) on the Rye Hill Estate. Officers had put up notices in shops to raise awareness about burglaries as they tend to increase in the run up to Christmas. Following burglaries in the area known as The Gardens a neighbourhood watch group was set up. There had been no burglaries in the area in the last three months in that area.

Residents were reminded not to let strangers into their home without an agreed appointment. Reputable utility companies would arrange meetings in a safe way. There had been a number of incidents involving bogus contractors and even fake policemen.

Anti-social behaviour on Rye Hill Estate had been very quiet and a number of people had been stopped and searched. There was very little disorder during the Halloween / Fireworks period.

In response to questions, PC Turner said that he would look into whether some detailed statistics could be made available without infringing data protection. The next Peckham Rye ward panel would be at the Harris Girls Academy.
ACTION: He would find out and circulate the details of the other ward panel meetings.

10. ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING

Cllr Hargrove had sent his apologies due to illness and so this item was postponed to a later date.

11. LIVING STREETS

Jeremy Leach (Southwark Living Streets) gave a visual presentation to generate ideas among the community. The aim was to improve streets and public spaces in the local area. The Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan (PNAAP) was currently being developed and everyone was encouraged to feed into that. The PNAAP was looking at what Nunhead and Peckham would be like in 2020. It should be an accessible place, a good place to live and of clean and green character. Jeremy invited residents to express views and to attend the monthly Southwark Living Streets meetings.

In response to questions, Jeremy agreed that some of the crossings were appallingly

maintained. A new cycling superhighway would go East to West along the A202 and there was a good chance that pedestrian improvements would come to the area.

Members agreed that the Walworth Road improvements came out of local voluntary groups' ideas working with TfL over a period of time. If something similar was done in this instance there was a good chance that similar improvements could come to this area. The PNAAP was about developing a coherent vision. There was a need to develop Jeremy's ideas and make the area more pedestrian and cycle friendly.

The chair said that the PNAAP would be looked at again in the new year.

12. BREDINGHURST SCHOOL

Officers from Schools for the Future explained that they were part of the way through the design process. A planning application would be submitted in early 2011 with building to commence in mid-2011. Wright & Wright were the architects.

The project team would welcome the views of local people and there would be further information sessions to seek feedback as the design developed.

In response to residents asking for opportunities for community use, officers agreed and highlighted the value in conversations with the community so that architects could include local ideas in the design.

The chair of governors of the school added that they were really keen to have it used by the community on evenings and weekends where possible. The performing arts studio could be used for drama or by choirs.

13. SOUTHWARK LEGAL ADVICE NETWORK

Sally Causer, the network's co-ordinator explained it was a partnership of legal advice centres in the borough. The partnership was led by the Citizens' Advice Bureau but was made up of nine independent advice centres. The partnership's aim was to increase access to advice, particularly to the vulnerable members of the borough.

It offered advice on debt, benefits, employment and housing issues. The front line services had been a lot busier during the recent economic difficulties and the partnership worked closely with statutory service providers. Sally added that she would be happy to speak to other groups on the services offered where that would be of help.

www.southwarkadvice.org.uk

Members expressed concern over the number of loan shops and pawn shops that had opened recently. Sally explained that those on the lowest incomes had the least access to affordable credit. The network worked closely with the credit union and tried to move people beyond a crisis debt situation. It was about educating people about what their priority debts were such as rent and council tax.

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident asked about the sculpture and flowers at Nunhead Station and their poor state, which was a previous cleaner, greener, safer scheme.
ACTION: Cllr Colley to find out what had happened.

A resident asked about the shrubs at Inverton Road / Stuart Road that were badly maintained. Members asked the resident to email them details.

A resident asked if the council could control the number of money / loan shops. The chair said if there was a change of use then permission may be needed but categories for use tend to be broad.

A resident announced that a month ago about 200 people had taken part in the launch of the Green Chain Walk. Looking at the vision ahead the idea was to link with the Thames footpath and another link was possibly with the canal in Burgess Park.

Following feedback, the chair had looked into the issue of food at community council meetings and costs generally. The hall venues were very reasonably priced schools and food was provided by a Nunhead based company. She would look at the issue again if people felt strongly.

15. COMMUNITY COUNCILS HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING CAPITAL INVESTMENT 2010-11

Executive Function

In addition to this year's £100,000 allocation for highways and £75,000 allocation for lighting, there was an under spend from 2009-10 of £55,346 for highways and £30,531.25 for lighting. This under spend was available for the community council to allocate this year.

RESOLVED: The following projects were approved for funding:
Highways
Cheltenham Road – £80,000
Rye Dale – £50,000
Philip Walk - £25,000

Lighting
Cerise Road - £11,900
Loder Street - £5,100
Clayton Road - £23,800
Philip Walk - £17,000
St Aidans Road - £8,500
Chadwick Road - £15,300
Hollydale Road - £13,600

The remainder of the money available will be allocated between Astbury Road, Dayton Grove and York Grove. Cllr Fiona Colley will discuss further with officers.

The chair thanked everyone for attending and advised that the next meeting would take place on 8 December 2010.

The meeting ended at 9.35pm

CHAIR:

DATED: