



Rotherhithe Community Council

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Rotherhithe Community Council held on Wednesday 18 April 2012 at 7.00 pm at Canada Water Library, 21 Surrey Quays Road, SE16 7AR

PRESENT: Councillor Jeff Hook (Chair)
Councillor Wilma Nelson
Councillor David Hubber
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Catherine McDonald
Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Michael Situ

OTHER MEMBERS

PRESENT: Councillor Graham Neale

OFFICER

SUPPORT: Ann Cochrane (Organisational Development Business Partner)
Paul Cowell (Events, Film and 2012 Manager)
Jonathan Toy (Head of Community Safety & Enforcement)
Forid Ahmed (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator)
Gill Kelly (Community Council Development Co-ordinator)
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 absence were received from Councillor Columba Blango.

3. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2012 be agreed as a correct record of the meeting, and signed by the chair.

Matters Arising

There was an update on the deputation that went to Council Assembly on 28 March 2012 that spoke against the planned merger of Bermondsey and Rotherhithe community councils.

6. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Council Fund 2012/13

This year's programme had been launched and was open for applications until 25 May 2012. Residents were encouraged to use the online form and could apply for funding for community events and activities. Applications could be made for amounts from £100 - £1,000. The decisions would be taken in June or July, at the first round of community council meetings in the new municipal year. In order to allow for administrative time, events which people wanted to apply for should take place from late July onwards.

Contact Forid Ahmed, Neighbourhood Coordinator, Tel 020 7525 5540 or email forid.ahmed@southwark.gov.uk

Alfred Salter Campaign

Gary Glover and Cathy Dale explained that there was a questionnaire available which was consulting local people on the plans for a replacement statue. The Council were supporting the project. The new statue would feature Dr Salter, his wife and the cat. The replacement cost would be around £100,000 which would include security to protect the new statue. Residents were encouraged to give their views on location and materials and to help with the fundraising. The council would match fund all amounts raised.

Contact Andrea Allen, Project Manager, Tel 020 7525 0860 or email andrea.allen@southwark.gov.uk

Southwark Apprentice Scheme

Ann Cochrane, Organisational Development Business Partner, explained the council's apprenticeship programme, was currently being advertised with 36 positions to start in September 2012. There were a wide range of opportunities available including surveying, civil engineering, business administration, plumbing and electrical through several different contractors. The closing date was 30 April 2012. The apprenticeships were real paid jobs for four days a week including college study on the fifth day. Many of the previous apprentices had gone on to permanent employment and completed university degrees.

Contact Ann Cochrane, Ann.Cochrane@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 1490

Bubble Theatre Dickens app

Shipra explained that the theatre was working with the Cuming Museum on a sound application. The application could be used on smart phones and computers to bring alive Dickensian London. There would be workshops.

Contact londonbubble.org.uk

Bermondsey Carnival

Gary Glover explained this year's event would take place on 2 June 2012. It was the Diamond Jubilee's main event in Southwark and there would be a range of performances and activities. On Sunday 3 June a community event was being considered for King Stairs Gardens on the day of the Royal River Pageant.

Flood Risk Management Strategy

Lindani Dlodlo, Flooding and Drainage Manager explained that Southwark was now a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) responsible for flood risk from ordinary water courses, surface water and ground water. There were two documents that tackled the potential flooding problems and officers were now looking for community input and volunteers to assist the studies:

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment

- Significant flood risk
- Critical drainage areas
- Consequences of past and future flooding

Surface Water Management Plan

- Identifies flooding – sources and mechanisms
- Investment to reduce the likelihood of flooding
- Community engagement to reduce impact

In response to questions, Lindani said officers linked with the planning process on applications and that was something they were looking to increase in future.

Contact john.kissi@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 2062

7. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

8. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATES (IF ANY)

Sergeant Al Irvine, Rotherhithe and Surrey Docks Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) explained that an information sheet for each SNT had been circulated which detailed local priorities and recent actions.

Sgt Irvine said that two prolific robbers had recently been arrested and charged. Since then there had been a dramatic drop in the number of offences. Residential burglaries had also fallen but there had been a rise in bicycle thefts in Surrey Docks. Crime prevention measures were being encouraged.

9. CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER 2012/13 FUND ALLOCATION

Executive Function

Members considered the information in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Cleaner, Greener, Safer capital funding be allocated:

1. Albion Street market electric pop up points - £48,000
2. Canada Water planting - £18,575
3. Garden Access for Brunel Museum Shaft - £16,200
4. Brighten up Bowness House - £30,000
5. Air conditioning for Bonamy and Bramcote Hall - £25,000
6. C.O.P.S. Rejuvenation at Surrey Docks Adventure Playground - £36,000
7. Strategy for Subsidence and Tree Roots at Greenland Dock - £25,000
8. Russia Dock Natural Ribbon - £12,500
9. Lavender Pond boardwalk replacement - £12,960

Total allocated = £224,410

10. LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS / PARALYMPICS

Paul Cowell, Events, Film and 2012 Manager, and Jonathon Toy, Head of Community Safety and Enforcement, outlined some of the projects and opportunities around the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics (the Games).

The Olympic torch would land in the UK on 18 May, followed by a 70 day tour around the country. It would arrive in London on 21 July and pass through Southwark on 26 July.

- The Olympic opening ceremony would take place on 27 July 2012.
- The Paralympic opening ceremony would take place on 29 August 2012.

During the Games an extra 4 million visitors were expected, taking 20 million extra journeys. The majority of the trips would be made by train (over ground and underground).

The Games were being promoted as a public transport event and people were encouraged to use the network facilities. At the busiest stations such as Canada Water or London Bridge a delay of 30minutes was anticipated on top of normal journey times.

Transport for London (TfL) and partners were working towards reducing demand pressures as much as possible.

There will be maps of alternative routes and ambassadors to assist travellers.

A special group had been set up to engage young people in the Olympics through five elements: schools / sport / culture / volunteering / communications.

Since September 2011, the group had been working with teachers on curriculum elements related to the Games and 96% of schools had signed up to the Get Set Network which was an Olympic educational programme with access to event tickets (2,500). Over the past year there had been mini-Olympic events involving local schools.

There would be a series of cultural events over the summer including dance, theatre, a library readathon and computer games challenges.

There was also a capital legacy fund of £2million. 40 submissions were made and 10 projects were agreed which were now being implemented. The first was a new disability pool hoist at the Peckham Pulse, others include a new BMX track in Burgess Park. The projects were aimed at increasing participation in sport and healthy activities.

In response to questions, Jonathan Toy said some of the road signage and road access points may change during the Games. There were no plans to alter bus lanes during the Games at this stage. Existing businesses were being asked to allow visitors to use their toilet facilities during the Games.

See www.getaheadofthegames.com for further information.

11. DECATHLON SITE UPDATE

Chris Horn, CHA Ltd, explained that the process of planning, design and development on the site was just beginning. There would be further opportunities for comments and questions in the future. The aim at Site C and Site E was to create the town centre set out in the Canada Water Area Action Plan. Decathlon would be protected as the key retailer at the heart of Canada Water. The town centre would be more in tune with the needs of people living on the peninsula.

There had to be a certain amount of development to enable the Decathlon works. There would be improved open linked routes for pedestrians that would encourage walking to the area. There would be a major consultation event in mid-May probably at Canada Water Library. A planning application would follow in October 2012.

In response to questions, Chris said his team were co-ordinating plans with British Land. In terms of affordable housing, it was early days and discussions with the Council were taking place on the sort of housing investment that would take place. The height limit for any building would be along the lines of the Barratt building of 26 storeys. There would be about 200 car park spaces beneath the Decathlon site. There would be an environmental assessment to look at the potential impacts of the development. There were some exciting design and ecological opportunities raised by the development.

12. COMMUNITY COUNCILS - CHANGES FOR 2012-13

There was a lengthy discussion on the proposed merger of Rotherhithe with Bermondsey community council. The large majority of those in attendance were against a merger. Residents were advised to write to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Peter John if they wanted the plans reversed.

There were various suggestions put forward including setting up a parish council in the area and reviewing the mergers on an annual basis.

13. HIGHWAYS DEVOLVED CAPITAL FUNDING FOR 2012/13

Executive Function

Members considered the information in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Highways devolved capital funding be allocated:

1. Rope Street - £50,000
2. Warndon Street - £25,000
3. Albion Street - £25,000

Total allocated = £100,000

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A resident enquired about the proposed removal of three plane trees in Rotherhithe New Road. There was a health and safety issue with the pavement area and alternatives were sought by some residents. Councillor Richard Livingstone said there was an issue with the narrow pavement which made access difficult. Members said that it was worth examining other options to cutting them down.

There was an issue raised concerning a planning application for a proposed nursery. Members said they would call-in the planning decision and look into it.

Meeting ended at 9.25pm

CHAIR:

DATED: