



WALWORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Walworth Community Council held on Wednesday 18 April 2012 at 7.00 pm at Pasley TRA Hall, Stopford Road, London SE17 3BP

PRESENT: Councillor Martin Seaton (Chair)
Councillor Darren Merrill (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Catherine Bowman
Councillor Neil Coyle
Councillor Patrick Diamond
Councillor Dan Garfield

OFFICER SUPPORT: Zayd Al-Jawad (Section 106 Legal Agreements Manager)
Pauline Bonner (Neighbourhood Manager)
Ann Cochrane (Organisational Development Business Partner)
Fitzroy Lewis (Community Council Development Officer)
Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Abdul Mohamed and Helen Morrissey, and from Councillor Lorraine Lauder, due to mayoral duties.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2011 be agreed as an accurate record, and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Council Fund Launch

Pauline Bonner, Neighbourhood Manager, informed the meeting that the next round of the Community Council Fund was open for applications until 25 May 2012. Residents could apply for funding for community events and activities, which this year should be around three out of the following Olympic values: courage, excellence, determination, equality, friendship, respect, and inspiration. Applications could be made for amounts from £100 - £1,000. This year there was also a focus on new and emerging constituted groups, but individuals could also apply. 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. For more information, please contact Pauline Bonner, Neighbourhood Coordinator, Tel 020 7525 1019 or email Pauline.Bonner@southwark.gov.uk.

Tayo Situ Foundation (TSF)

Amos Akin-Adejinmi explained that the foundation had been created to commemorate the work of former Mayor of Southwark Councillor Tayo Situ, who had passed away in May 2011. The foundation aimed at fostering leadership for young people around the Camberwell, Walworth and Peckham areas. There would be many launch activities in May.

Responding to questions, Amos said that Southwark council and councillors had been very helpful in publicising the foundation. Some of the councillors had attended the launch event. The foundation would be involved in many activities in the area, some of which were sports based and others at which local young people would be given awards for having done outstanding work in terms of youth groups etc. People could help by donating money, or their time.

For further information, please visit the foundation's website www.tayositufoundation.com.

The chair thanked the speakers for attending.

Future of Community Councils

The chair drew people's attention to the briefing note contained in the agenda pack, and highlighted that Walworth Community Council would be merging with Borough and Bankside Community Council. While this was necessitated by the budget cuts put in place by central government, there were some synergies between the two areas, as all five wards which currently made up the community council areas bordered the Elephant and Castle area. There was no name for the new area, as yet.

There was a discussion in which concerns were raised about:

- choosing future venues which were unaffected by the congestion charging zone as it may impact on the possible start time of the meeting,
- the number of councillors which would attend the new community council,
- the withdrawal of the planning and other functions,
- making future meetings relevant to residents in all five wards,
- not missing out lesser known or neglected green and open spaces in Cleaner Green Safer (CGS) allocations,
- the impact of the new Localism Act,
- the reduction of staff, and
- alternative ways of making savings which should have been worked out by the community council.

Councillor Neil Coyle urged residents to get involved in organisations such as the Walworth Society to help shape and protect their area. Councillor Patrick Diamond called for more powers to be devolved to the local level and asked people to share their ideas about this. He suggested that ward councillors should organise more ward based meetings about issues of concern to residents.

8. CONTROLLING DIABETES

Sabeena Subba, User Engagement Manager, explained the work of the Diabetes Modernisation Initiative (DMI) which was funded by Guy's and St Thomas' Charity and aimed to improve diabetes health outcomes in Lambeth and Southwark in partnership with patients and across organisational boundaries. She went on to say that 22,000 people in Southwark had been diagnosed with diabetes, with an estimated 18,000 people being undiagnosed. Diabetes was on the increase and it was a life-threatening condition. It could cause long term complications in the eyes, kidneys and feet. 5-10% of the NHS budget was spent on diabetes. The three main areas of work were: improving patient self-management of the disease, redesigning and improving local services for people, and redesigning education for young people.

To get involved with the project, people could attend the next Lambeth and Southwark Diabetes Patient Forum, which would be on 30 April 2012 at Inspire, St Peter's Church, Liverpool Grove, SE17. There were also locality-based patient groups which people could attend, as well as focus groups and education taster sessions, a parent support group, and a patient database, which was used to promote events and distribute the newsletter.

Responding to questions from the floor, Sabeena said that the project was focused on raising awareness and on education around healthy eating and prevention of diabetes

generally. Funding for the project came from the Guy's and St Thomas' Charity, but the project worked with all health care providers and professionals in Lambeth and Southwark. There were some demographic groups who were at a greater risk of diabetes such as people from a South Asian, African, African-Caribbean background.

For more information visit: www.londondiabetes.nhs.uk

A suggestion was made that a new medical centre should be built in Elephant and Castle, as the population there would be rising due to all the new developments taking place. Sabeena responded that this was beyond the scope of this programme, but that the self-management approach and the educational programme would empower people with knowledge and skills.

The chair summed up that diabetes had a great impact on the community and asked attendees to pass on the information about the project.

9. APPRENTICESHIPS WITH THE COUNCIL

Ann Cochrane, Organisational Development Business Partner, explained the council's apprenticeship programme, which allowed participants to work and acquire work-based skills, while at the same time earning a wage that was equivalent to, or more than, minimum wage. Participants worked four days a week and went to college on the fifth day. The qualifications they received at the end of the programme were nationally recognised. There were a wide variety of different subjects, from office based work to trades like electrics and plumbing. The programmes varied in length from 12 months for the office-based programme to 48 months for electricians. The programme was supported by the Apprenticeship team, whose role was to support and empower participants. Since the scheme had started in 2005, participants had achieved 44 higher qualifications, 124 had fully qualified, with 73 going straight into work. 36 apprenticeships were available right now, the deadline for applications was 30 April 2012.

The criteria for participating in the programme were: being at least 16 years of age and a Southwark resident, having achieved grades A-D in English and Maths at GCSE level (or having an equivalent adult literacy and numeracy qualification. For some programmes grades A-C were needed), being able to work full-time, and not having a qualification at degree level already.

Responding to questions from the floor, Ann Cochrane said that her team worked closely with the housing, major works and planning teams, in order to identify placement opportunities for apprentices. In the major contract the council awarded, one apprenticeship place for every 1 million pounds spent was stipulated. Apart from the minimum criteria outlined above, applicants also underwent a careful selection process, including assessments at colleges and interviews. For those applicants who fell short of the required criteria, the team would signpost alternative routes of receiving the qualifications required to enter the programme (such as the programmes run at the Thomas Carlton Centre). The team had been working successfully to encourage other organisations in the borough to take on Southwark apprentices. Some had even started their own apprenticeship schemes. The council also provided the Youth Fund to help young people with their tuition fees, and so stay in education. The team's challenge for the future was to reach out to more companies, including smaller companies to take on

apprentices.

For further information contact Ann Cochrane, Organisational Development Business Partner, 020 7525 1490 or email: Ann.Cochrane@southwark.gov.uk

Councillors commented that they needed to have regard to whether a company would provide apprenticeships, when awarding contracts, and suggested that the community council should write to the cabinet member responsible and that any new or replacement contracts with the council should take the provision of apprenticeships into account.

The chair said he would raise this as a community council question at the next Council Assembly meeting.

10. WORKSHOPS AROUND S106 / HIGHWAYS BUDGET

The chair announced that rather than workshops, this item would be an introduction to the Section 106 programmes, and that the workshops on this would take place at a later meeting.

Zayd Al-Jawad, Section 106 Legal Agreements Manager, explained that the Section 106 regime was changing with Community Infrastructure Levies (CILs) coming in next year and would widen the range of possible funding. At the moment Section 106 agreements, which were contracts between the council and a developer, were aimed at off-setting some of the negative impact of a development by providing funding for education, open space, children's play areas, health or employment opportunities. Once secured, Section 106 contributions started coming in, when the work commenced. The project bank which contained possible Section 106 projects, was set up in 2008 and renewed in 2010, and would be reviewed in the summer. The council's website (www.southwark.gov.uk/s106) listed all the projects in the project bank, and the Section 106 agreements in place, as well as the balances of each agreement. In June/September there would be a consultation about the project bank in relation to amending the existing list and potentially adding new projects to it, which would then be used to determine funding for the new CILs.

In response to questions, Zayd said that the existing Section 106 projects would remain on the project bank which are their priorities. However in future, with the CILs part of the consultation would be about priorities, but funds may be ring-fenced, e.g. at ward level. Section 106 projects were to be used for the infrastructure of the area, or for open spaces, but not for housing. Running costs for a respite home, for example, could also not be funded, unless there was a new building being constructed, which provided sheltered accommodation. All monies available via Section 106 were published online. Responding to a question from the floor, Zayd said that in theory, Section 106/CIL monies could be used for public toilets, but it would have to be linked to a new development which would bring more people into the area who would need to use the facilities.

There was a general discussion about the provision of public toilets. The meeting heard that there were numerous shops along the Walworth Road which allowed people to use their toilet facilities, and that there was little in terms of public toilet provision between Elephant and Castle and Kennington tube station which was being expanded, thus increasing the number of people using the area. Councillor Patrick Diamond reminded the meeting that Section 106 monies could be used to improve and protect green and open

spaces. He said he would like to see this happen.

ACTION: Officers to produce a list of establishments which allow people to use their toilets, even if they are not customers.

The chair urged people to include projects to benefit their communities in the upcoming consultation, and reminded residents that at a future meeting there would be workshops around this topic. These would be aimed at helping communities put together project proposals.

11. CLEANER GREENER SAFER REVENUE FUND

Executive Function

Members considered the information in the report:

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Cleaner, Greener, Safer Revenue funding be allocated as follows:

Ward:	Location:	Idea:	Approx cost:
East Walworth	57-59 Browning Street SE17	Dyason road safety initiatives and projects	£2,101
East Walworth	Peabody Estate, Rodney Road SE17	Peabody Community Centre environmental wildlife garden	£1,219
East Walworth	Peabody Estate, Rodney Road SE17	Street awareness/ personal self-defence	£1,230
East Walworth	Peabody Estate, Rodney Road SE17	Neighbourhood watch scheme	£1,450

East Walworth	Wansey Street SE17	Wansey Street community garden events	£1,000
East Walworth	Wansey Street, SE17	Wansey Street community garden maintenance	£1,000
East Walworth	Wansey Street SE17	East Walworth Green Corridor (EWGC)	£1,000
East Walworth	Surrey Square Park SE17	The Friends of Surrey Square park poster and DVD initiative	£1,000
Faraday	Art in the Park,	Art in the Park growing	£2,240

	Chum Leigh Gardens, Burgess Park SE17	without a garden workshops	
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Newington	Lorrimore Square Gardens SE17	Surrey Gardens TRA Sensory Garden	£1,151
Newington	Lorrimore Square Gardens SE17	Surrey Gardens TRA wildlife and sensory park community open day	£2,150
Newington	Walworth Garden Farm, Manor Place SE17	Walworth Garden Farm	£6,695
Total			£22,236

12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were raised:

1. The small park on the Morecambe Street is not being cleaned. Why is it not being managed by Quadrant?
2. The pavement in East Street is constantly being redone. Does the council's contract with the company not include an agreement to fix the pavement properly?
3. Who gave permission for a cash point to be put outside to William Hill in East Street, which restricts the width of the pavement?

ACTION: Officers to produce a report regarding the under spend in the Cleaner, Greener, Safer budget.

The following questions were also raised.

4. When was there going to be plaque commemorating Lady Diana's visit to Southwark?
The chair said that this question had been answered as part of the feedback related to an earlier meeting.
5. A number of TRAs are struggling financially. Can councillors help?
Councillors said they would look into this.
6. Can public toilets be funded out of the CGS budget? –
Councillor Coyle responded that the capital side of the funding was usually no problem, but that the problem was the maintenance. Councillor Bowman reminded

the meeting that most people wanted staffed toilets, and that council offices and buildings had a policy of letting people use their toilet facilities.

ACTION: Officers to produce a list of council buildings who offer free access to toilet facilities.

7. Why does the council not employ people to teach young people at the basketball and football pitches on estates, to prevent the young people getting bored?
Councillors asked the questioner to speak to them after the meeting.

The meeting also heard a comment that trains rather than buses, should be the focus of public transport improvements.

Councillor Patrick Diamond informed the meeting that the Walworth Society was organising walkabouts which were aimed at identifying local buildings and spaces which people wished to preserve and protect. The walk in Newington ward would be held on 5 May 2012 at 10am and commence at the Sturgeon Road entrance to Pasley Park. The walk for Faraday ward would take place on 12 May 2012 at 10am starting from St Peter's church in Liverpool Grove.

Jeremy Leach from the Walworth Society fed back that 15 people had participated in the walk held in East Walworth recently, which had identified buildings and places in that ward, which people deemed worth protecting.

In closing the meeting, the chair said that it had been a very interesting year for Walworth community council, and that many exciting meetings were to come in the future: Elephant and Castle was a real area of interest and would attract much inward investment. He thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting ended at 9.10 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: