



PECKHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Peckham Community Council held on Monday 31 October 2011 at 6.30 pm at Oliver Goldsmith Primary School, 83 Peckham Road, London, SE5 8UH

PRESENT: Councillor Cleo Soanes (Chair)
Councillor Michael Situ (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Chris Brown
Councillor Barrie Hargrove
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Catherine McDonald

OFFICER SUPPORT: John McHenry, Markets Development Manager
Tim Walker, Senior Engineer
Marian Farrugia, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator Nunhead and Peckham
Nadine James, Community Council Development Officer
Alexa Coates, Principal Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The chair thanked Mark Parson head teacher and his staff for allowing the meeting to be held at Oliver Goldsmith Primary School.

The chair also thanked the welcomed singers who performed prior to the start of the meeting and invited them to perform again.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Michael Situ.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair informed the meeting that a late and urgent report relating to Cleaner, Greener, Safer funding reallocation had been accepted as 1. The decisions on the reallocation of funding are required in order to ensure that the projects which required additional funding will be completed within the current financial year.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2011 be agreed subject to an amendment minute number 7 that the slogan on the plastic free Peckham bags is: "Green Up Peckham."

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

The chair advised that a petition had been received, relating to market stalls on Peckham Square, which met the criteria to trigger a debate at a community council meeting.

6.1 PETITION

The chair pointed out that the report included a response from the Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure which stated that: "a decision had been taken to terminate these temporary licensed pitches from Saturday 29 October 2011, and to place these traders on other available pitch locations around the Peckham area" which appeared to bring a resolution which the petitioners sought.

The chair invited the petitioners to address the meeting. The lead petitioner asked for clarity between the draft Nunhead and Peckham area action plan which stated the square may have occasional use as a market and the markets strategy which saw the square as a large-scale market.

The chair invited John McHenry, Markets Development Manager to address the meeting. He stated that the council wished the markets to reflect the needs of the community and therefore the decision to terminate the temporary licenses had been taken. The council would carry out further consultation and report back to the community council to ensure that any markets on the square met the needs of the local community.

Councillors did not debate the petition further and the chair welcomed the proposed way forward.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chair awarded Revealed certificates to: Grace Tetteh from GLOT fashion and Niki Cole from Surrey Canal Allotment Society for completing training.

8. FUTURE PECKHAM - A HEALTHIER PECKHAM

The chair introduced the theme for the meeting which was Future Peckham – a healthier Peckham. Health had been a running theme for the community council in the preceding year and obesity was a big issue in the area. The meeting would focus on health issues including bowel and breast cancer.

8.1 LOCAL BOWEL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAMME

Jo Zhou from South East London Bowel Cancer Screening programme explained some of the causes of bowel cancer including: high red meat consumption and lack of physical activity. Bowel cancer was more likely to affect people over the age of 60. It could be difficult to detect as systems were not often visible to the eye. Bowel cancer test kits were being sent to people over 60. Jo encouraged people to use the test kits and to call the advice line: 0800 707 6060 if they had any concerns.

The chair asked if there was a preferred diet. Jo stated the people should eat no more than 500g of red meat each week and increase their vitamin D, calcium and green vegetable consumption. Jo also stressed that spring greens, kiwi fruit and papaya were good foods for preventing bowel cancer.

In response to questions from the floor Jo said that if people under the age of 60-69 they should see their GP and that the programme was also involved in developing awareness of the symptoms of bowel cancer with GPs. Lifestyle was not the only cause of the disease and that genetics were also a factor. Bowel cancer screening was free and could be arranged by calling the number above.

8.2 BREAST CANCER SCREENING

Abi Ajose-Adeogun from Better Day Breast Cancer informed the meeting about breast cancer screening. Abi explained that there was a particular focus on raising awareness of breast cancer screening amongst BME women, as uptake was low in this group. BME women were less likely to develop breast cancer but it tended to be more aggressive and appear at a younger age. Abi was working with the NHS to look at the barriers to people attending the NHS screening programme and how these could be overcome.

Abi explained some of the risk factors of breast cancer including: age, family history, obesity, alcohol consumption and the contraceptive pill. Some of the following could decrease the risk of developing breast cancer: exercise, healthy lifestyle, breast feeding and having children. She encouraged people to take part in the NHS screening programme and to know the signs and symptoms.

In response to questions from the floor Abi explained the contraceptive pill only had a slight impact on the risk of breast cancer and that Better Day Breast Cancer were not promoting teenage pregnancy. When promoting the screening programme with young people the focus was on promoting a healthy lifestyle. Abi encouraged people to talk to their GP about contraceptive pill and HRT choices.

8.3 WRINKLIES DIRECT

Mike Saunders, from Wrinklies direct, talked about getting back into work at a mature age. He explained that legislation existed relating to age discrimination and there were things employers could not do.

He encouraged people seeking employment opportunities to think about how they presented their skills and if the role they were applying for matched those skills. He also stated that sometimes mature candidates could suffer from expectations from employers that they can 'hit the ground running' without adequate support and training.

In response to questions from the floor Mike explained that legislation did not make it easier for employers to sack employees without tribunals and that employers need to have clear procedures for changing people's roles. For example employees should have a clear expectation of what their role is and how they will be measured against those objectives.

Residents asked about training opportunities particularly in terms of IT skills. A representative from Age Concerns stated that this kind of thing was on offer from Southwark Pensioners or local libraries.

8.4 HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY

Julie Scott, from housing services, explained that the home improvement agency had been set up a few years ago to help elderly and disabled private tenants stay in their homes longer. She explained that the service was different to that of the housing adaptations team. Grants were available to private tenants and home owners for things like renovations and disabled facilities. Grants were means tested so people with high savings or pensions may have to contribute towards some of the works.

Julie gave some examples of some of the works which had been completed which included installing a ground floor bathroom for one resident.

The home improvement agency also offered advice to residents on income maximisation, Julie had helped one resident claim £9,000 in backdated incapacity benefit which they should have been receiving. Julie explained that the agency was having a big impact: 108 housing adaptations were completed last year and small things like installing a stair lift in people's home could have a big impact on their quality of life. The work completed could help people stay in their homes longer and save money as it can cost at least £650 a week from someone to live in a care home.

Cllr Soanes encouraged residents to tell others about the grants available.

9. CLEANER GREENER SAFER

Tim Walker, from public realm, informed the meeting that the Cleaner, Greener, Safer fund was being launched for 2012/13, the initiative involved residents in projects which shaped the public realm. Projects which had been completed in the Peckham community council area included: window boxes on King's Grove, Caversham House gardens and a playground at Leyton Square.

Tim advised that forms were available at the meeting for residents to apply; £249,317 was available in the Peckham community council area in 2012/13. The closing date for applications was 6 January 2012.

Tim explained that there was a criteria for applications and they had to be capital projects which did not require a continuous stream of funding. Projects should make the local environment: cleaner, greener or safer, should not contravene council policy and should be completed within a two year timescale.

10. CAR CLUB PROJECT

Tim Walker, from public realm, talked about the car club project. It was council policy that by 2014 every resident would be a 5 minute walk away from a car club car. Being a car club member was an affordable alternative to owning a car and have environmental benefits. The car club scheme was being extended and councillors would consider the allocation of additional parking spaces later in the meeting.

Zipcar were at the meeting and were offering half price membership and £30 of free driving to anyone who signed up at the meeting.

In response to questions from the floor Tim explained that petrol was included in the cost of using the vehicles.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Prior to public question time the chair asked Sgt Jeff Jenkinson from Livesey Safer Neighbourhoods Team to give an update. He explained that he had recently joined the team and following the backlog of issues following the disturbances the team were now focused on ward issues.

The chair explained that a full response had not yet been provided on the jobcentre issue raised at the previous meeting but that jobcentre Peckham had been invited to attend the next community council meeting in January to address the issues previously raised.

Residents raised concerns about potholes on Peckham Hill Street as the road had recently been resurfaced and then dug up again by utility companies. Residents asked if utility companies were required to reinstate the road and whether there were penalties for not completing the work.

Action: officers to provide a written response at the next meeting

Concerns were also raised relating to parking on Peckham Square, near the post office which was meant to be an emergency exit.

Action: officers to provide a written response to the next meeting.

A resident asked about the closure of Camberwell jobcentre and whether the council or councillors had made representations to government.

Councillors responded that Cllr Colley had taken up the issue as relevant cabinet member and had written directly to the job centre expressing concerns about the proposed closure.

12. HIGHWAYS CAPITAL INVESTMENT 2012/13

Executive Function

Members considered the report.

RESOLVED

That the following works be funded:

- Sumner Road carriageway - £74,250
- Green Hundred Road footway - £30,000

13. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS AND CAR CLUB EXPANSION

Executive Function

Members considered the information in the report.

RESOLVED

1. That the following local parking amendment, detailed in the appendices to this report, be approved for implementation subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:
 - Meeting House Lane - Reduce the length of existing “at any time” waiting restrictions (double yellow lines) at the junctions with Springall Street/Montpelier Road and Naylor Road/Carlton Grove
2. That the shortlist for potential future car club locations set out in table 1 of the report be approved: Geldart Road, Peckham Grove, Sumner Road, Blakes Road and Glengall Road
3. That three locations from the shortlist be selected (Sumner Road, Geldart Road and Peckham Grove) for implementation during 2012/13
4. That prior to implementation, each location is subject to local (informal) consultation and the completion of any necessary statutory procedures

14. CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER FUNDING REALLOCATION

Executive Function

Members considered the information in the report

RESOLVED

That the reallocation of a total of £93,893 CGS funding be awarded to the following five projects:

- Gloucester Grove Estate – Quenington Court garden improvements - £20,000
- Peckham home energy efficiency project - £20,000
- Peckham Park Road hanging baskets - £2,393
- St James the Great Catholic Primary School Cycle Link - £26,500
- Cardiff and Grantham House extension of the green railings - £25,000

15. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND REALLOCATION

Executive Function

Members considered the information in the report.

RESOLVED

That the available community council funding under spend of £643.00 be reallocated to Caporales San Simon UK.

16. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Members considered the information in the report.

RESOLVED

That the content of the report be noted

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: