



Peckham and Nunhead Community Council

MINUTES of the Peckham and Nunhead Community Council held on Wednesday 16 September 2015 at 7.00 pm at St Mary Magdalene Church, 17 St Mary's Road, (Off Queens Road) London, SE15 2EA

PRESENT: Councillor Johnson Situ (Chair)
Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Evelyn Akoto
Councillor Jasmine Ali
Councillor Fiona Colley
Councillor Sunil Chopra
Councillor Nick Dolezal
Councillor Gavin Edwards
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Jamille Mohammed
Councillor Michael Situ

OFFICER SUPPORT: Alistair Huggett, Planning Projects Manager
John Kissi, Flood Risk Manager
Michelle Normanly, Senior Project Manager
Ambrose Omoma, Community Involvement Project Officer
Gill Kelly, Community Council Development Officer
Beverley Olamijulo, Constitutional Officer

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

The chair also thanked St Mary Magdalene Church for hosting the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Sandra Rhule and apologies for lateness from Councillors, Evelyn Akoto, Renata Hamvas, Barrie Hargrove and Richard Livingstone.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The following member made a declaration regarding the agenda item below:

Agenda item 12 – Secure Cycle Parking (Bike Hangar)

Councillor Fiona Colley, non pecuniary, as a resident of Surrey Road which was one of the roads involved in the public consultation for cycle parking.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

5. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 6 July 2015 be agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

There were none.

7. YOUTH COMMUNITY SLOT

Representatives of Leaders of Tomorrow were present to give an overview on what the project did which was a leadership mentoring programme designed to raise academic achievement of children and young people particularly from ethnic minority groups. They run the community project in the Nunhead area.

Lindsay Johnson, main spokesperson, volunteer and mentor of Leaders of Tomorrow explained Val Miller who had worked in the community for 30 years set up the group in 2002. One of its purposes was to challenge the stereo typical attitude and images of young people. He said it was about raising achievements and heightening their academic level. The group consists of people from different age ranges and their motto at the group is 'mind is power'. They meet at least once a week and have debates about current affairs and they tackle issues like knife crime. Guest speakers have been invited to provide inspiration to young people so they were able to broaden their horizons outside their local area.

The project organised trips to the theatre so the young people were able to improve their language skills. Project members received mentoring on academic achievements. The Leaders of Tomorrow usually ask young people to mentor the younger members of the project to share their reading skills and knowledge and raise awareness about great leaders. The other topics they talked about was diversity in Peckham.

The young people that were in attendance spoke about what it was like to be part of Leaders of Tomorrow.

Nadia, 16 years old said she had been member of the Leaders of Tomorrow for five years. Nadia explained that since being a member it had raised her confidence, awareness and levels of achievement. She recognised and embraced the cohesive community which was about acceptance and respect.

Tia, 12 years old said she had been a member for two years, since being a member it had increased her confidence and raised her awareness. She also does well at school.

Richardo, 14 years old said since he joined Leaders of Tomorrow it had more of a focus and has done well in his studies and explained that there was more to life than being involved in gangs. He made reference to the recent fatality of a 16 year old boy in Elephant and Castle who was set upon by several youths.

Other representatives from Leaders of Tomorrow gave their experiences and shared them with the meeting. They also thanked the community council for the funding the project had received.

In response to questions from councillors the representatives responded to the following:

The key motivation to keep young people involved would be:

- People, parameters and discipline.
- Achievements and try to aim for their potential full in whatever they wanted to achieve.
- Reading and learning would be encouraged.
- To encourage young people to have respect, care, keep eye contact and stand in upright position – notably referred to as ‘soft skills’.
- Interact with other community groups – as they currently use the community space at Peckham Platform (formerly called Peckham Space).

How does the community council get young people more involved in their community? The main spokesperson said usually by word of mouth.

The chair said at the meeting that he would encourage young people to get involved with Leaders of Tomorrow and other community groups.

For more information about Leaders of Tomorrow - visit: lotlondon.org.uk

8. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nunhead Art Trail 2015

The chair announced the Nunhead Art Trail – which was about artists, arts and crafts. It involved people that showed and sold their work in their homes, studios or local venues within the Nunhead area. People were also given the opportunity to meet artists. The Art Trail took place from the 19 to 20 September 2015. More information was available on the website: <http://www.nunheadarttrail.co.uk>

Southwark Tenants Conference

The Southwark Tenant Conference was held on Saturday 17 October 2015 between 8.40 am to 5.00 pm at William Booth College, Champion Park, London SE5 8BG.

Flood Risk Assessment – consultation

John Kissi, flood risk assessment manager spoke about the local consultation on the flood risk assessment. He wanted to raise people's awareness because of the floods that occurred in the borough.

The flood assessment team have identified the following areas as key flood risk areas: Herne Hill, Elephant and Castle, Peckham Rye and Camberwell:

- Consultation and assessment were undertaken and the results of these were displayed at the meeting.
- The council would develop a business case to the Environment Agency in order to establish where there would be a greater risk of flooding (with reference given to the Herne Hill flooding in 2011).
- Held community conversations on the 26 October 2015 at St Thomas Calton Centre between 6.30 pm until 7.30 pm.

Flyers were available at the meeting. John said they would be having further discussions with the community on the plans and interactive map which was available to view on the council's website.

Cleaner greener safer (CGS) funding – launch

Michelle Normanly, senior project manager from public realm spoke about the projects that were on display at the meeting. Michelle referred to cleaner greener safer (CGS) funding that had been used for public area improvements like public green spaces, street lighting, and improvements to housing estates. People were asked to submit their ideas. Michelle agreed to be available during the break.

The CGs application forms were available at the meeting and would be open from 5 September 2015 to 9 November 2015. Michelle mentioned the display exhibition on the 25 September 2015 at the council offices, in Tooley Street.

Further information available. Contact: michelle.normanly@southwark.gov.uk or Tel. 020 7525 0862.

Peckham Weeklies

Ulrike Stevens from Peckham Weeklies spoke about the Livesey ward project and feedback details of event which was on the 9 June 2015 at the Safe House in Peckham.

The Peckham Weeklies is a multi-disciplinary, multi-age, free range community group which derived out of the station co-design commission. The group meets every Tuesday at All Saints Church. Peckham Weeklies provides a valuable forum for debate about local engagement with issues concerning planning, the local economy and identity.

The group meet every Tuesday and have published three magazines which were on display at the meeting. Ulrike said she would welcome the Leaders of Tomorrow to attend the forum.

For more information visit the website: <http://peckhamcodesign.org/weekly/>

Peckham Heritage Townscape Initiative

Alistair Huggett, planning projects manager was present to encourage people to apply for funding from the heritage lottery. The initiative was coordinated by Julie Mallett in the team. The focus would be for people to be part of the partnership fund and manage the capital programme. People have to live or work in Peckham and have an interest in the history of the area.

Further information available contact: alistair.huggett@southwark.gov.uk or Julie.mallett@southwark.gov.uk Tel. 020 7525 5576 or 020 7525 3265.

Peckham Platform

Peter Rosewater spoke about Peckham Platform and its involvement with the youth platform for young people aged from 13 to 19. The aim of the project was to encourage groups like Leaders of Tomorrow and young people interested in arts and organised visits to the gallery. The aim was to ensure there was accessibility for all young people (including children of primary school age) so they could be diverse in arts and take part in different schemes. Peter thanked the community council for their contribution to the project.

Announcement about women from Niger Delta

Dr Cynthia Cockburn, a writer and researcher at City University, London explained that she was working on a book and one of the chapters would be about women from the Nigerian community, particularly women from Niger Delta who have sought refuge and resettlement in Southwark. She asked if people knew anyone from this region they contact her. Cynthia was available during the break. She said she would share information from the book once it was completed.

9. CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND CULTURE

The chair introduced the theme for the meeting which was about celebrating diversity. He invited Ambrose Omoma, an officer responsible for leading on the multi faith forum and integrated cohesion amongst the faith groups to talk about the importance, recognition and the role of faith groups in Southwark.

Ambrose mentioned the Southwark Peace breakfast which was organised by Southwark to bring people together – those that were of faith and those without a faith. The Southwark Peace breakfast held its event at the Unicorn Theatre on the 21 September 2015. Ambrose said he had worked with a number of faith groups and churches in the local area. He was available during the break to respond to questions.

The chair introduced the faith groups that were invited to the meeting. Each representative

summarised what their faith meant to them and shared their experiences about the work they had done in the community.

The following representatives also took part in a question time panel:

- Marianne Caitane from Heart of Southwark Chapter Buddhist
- Saba Tahzib and Isabella Djalili from Southwark Baha'i community
- Iman Konate from the Peckham mosque, Choumert Road
- Deepak Singh and Mrs Sudershan Singh from the Hindu centre
- Revd. Fred Francis and Revd. Abigail Adetayo, St Mary's Magdalene Church
- Pastor Ann Luther, Peckham Baptist Church

The questions referred to the following:

- What could religious leaders do to encourage more inclusion and connectedness in our neighbourhoods?
- What would faith groups do to encourage social cohesion and a strong community ethos in young people?
- How could the faith groups help to provide support and motivation for the most disadvantaged people?
- What would the churches and religious establishments do to bring about changes of practice and attitudes?
- What were the main issues that each of the panel consider to be of most importance to the success and wellbeing of Peckham and Nunhead residents?

A summary of the responses were outlined as the following:

Buddhist – encouraged diversity, faith and wisdom. Referred to karma and working with young children to help boost their confidence.

Baha'i – offer spiritual education to children and adults particularly for adolescents.

Hindu – organise cultural awareness events and understanding towards the Hindu religion. Organised a Sunday event for older people and shared experiences about for example breathing and yoga exercises. Different faith groups were invited so people could educate one another.

Muslim – works with local community, organising events, fundraising and raise awareness

of Islam.

Christian – organise community events where other faith /cultural groups were invited. One of those events was Café Church where people would choose a topic of interest for debate. The representative made reference to the fact that there should be more community space made available for faith and church groups.

The chair thanked the representatives for attending the meeting and responding to questions from members.

10. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT LIST (CIPL)

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED:

That Peckham and Nunhead community council noted the funded schemes and agreed to update the community infrastructure project list set out in Appendix 2 of the report, subject to the inclusion of the following additional scheme:

- Footpath improvements to One Tree Hill, Nunhead.

11. SECURE CYCLE PARKING (BIKE HANGAR)

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the community council agreed the following recommendations that are due to be made to the cabinet member for environment and the public realm:

- 1.1 Due to a majority of respondents supporting the introduction of a cycle hangar: 89% in Dayton Grove and Southwark's on-going commitment to improve and promote cycling and safety in the borough, it was recommended that the scheme proceeds to implementation subject to necessary statutory procedures.
- 1.2 Due to split opinion on the introduction of a cycle hangar: 40% support Surrey Road and Southwark's on-going commitment to improve and promote cycling and safety in the borough, it was recommended that the scheme proceeds to implementation at a revised location on the same road, subject to the necessary statutory procedures.

- 1.3 That the community council note the majority of respondents opposed the introduction of a cycle hangar on:

Harlescott Road, Limesford Road and Hollydale Road but that many of those also suggested alternative nearby locations where they support the introduction of a cycle hangar.

- 1.4 It is therefore recommended that the scheme proceeds to implementation at the following reserved nearby locations, subject to the necessary statutory procedures:

- Hollydale Road
- Brabourn Grove junction with Hollydale Road
- Limesford Road
- Harlescott Road – 2 x hangars onto Inverton Road between junction with Harlescott Road and Limesford Road.

12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following were submitted as public questions:

PQ1 - Peckham Co-design: When would it be re-evaluated? Would local people have a democratic vote on the design process.

The community council agreed to re-visit this at a future meeting.

PQ2 – Council employees were recently offered redundancy packages and a number of council employees within Southwark decided to take the redundancy package. This could hinder local services particularly as many of the staff were long serving employees with extensive experience. Many of those would be replaced by agency staff. How many agency staff are there currently employed by Southwark and could council services still be maintained or would it have an impact on services?

Councillor Colley responded and outlined that £96 million saving had to be made by the council over the next three years. This would mean a significant reduction in staffing levels. The council as much as possible were trying to avoid compulsory redundancies hence the reason why the enhanced redundancy package was introduced to council employees. Currently the council has around 350 agency staff which has significantly reduced since 2010, when at the time there were 1200 agency staff working at the council.

The chair mentioned that an item on the budget would be considered at the next meeting. Any suggestions would be welcomed at the meeting.

PQ3 – Would it be possible for the community council to re-visit the crossing and bus stop on Peckham High Street? This follows the recent fatality of an elderly resident that lived in Peckham who crossed this road when the accident happened.

The chair said this would be presented as a community council question to the council assembly meeting. A response on this issue would be provided at a future meeting.

13. COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUESTION TO COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Community council question submitted in July 2015:

At the meeting on the 6 July 2015 members agreed to submit the following community council question to the council assembly meeting in November 2015:

“Will the cabinet member for regeneration give an update to the Peckham and Nunhead community council on the Peckham Square arch?”

Community council question submitted in September 2015:

At the meeting on the 16 September 2015 members agreed to submit the following community council question to council assembly:

“We would like to ask the cabinet member for Environment and Public Realm to lobby Transport for London (TfL) for the installation of a new bus stop along Peckham High Street. This was in light of the recent fatality of an elderly resident in Peckham?”

Note:

The question should be submitted at a future council assembly meeting.

14. LOCAL TRAFFIC AND PARKING AMENDMENTS

Note: This is an executive function.

Members considered the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following local traffic and parking amendment, detailed in the Appendix 2 of the report, be approved for implementation subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory consultation and procedures:

- 1.1. Elm Grove – install double yellow lines adjacent to planned vehicle crossover dropped kerb outside No. 60.

15. CLEANER GREENER SAFER - CHANGE CONTROL REPORT

The item was withdrawn.

Meeting ended at 9.35 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: