



## ROTHERHITHE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Rotherhithe Community Council held on Monday 8 November 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Norwegian Church in London, 1 St.Olav's Square, London SE16 7JB

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

**OFFICER SUPPORT:** Forid Ahmed, Neighbourhood Coordinator  
Gill Kelly, Community Council Development Officer  
Beverley Olamijulo, Constitutional Officer

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

### 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Columba Blango.

### 3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Members declared interests in relation to the following agenda item:

#### 15. LEA School Governor appointments

Councillor Paul Noblet, prejudicial, as he is a school governor at the school in question.

### 4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

## **5. MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 October 2010 be agreed as a correct record of the meeting, and signed by the chair.

## **6. UPDATES RAISED AT THE MEETING**

The following issues were highlighted at the meeting:

Members discussed the pathway at Surrey Docks Water Sports Centre and suggested Councillor Veronica Ward, Cabinet member for culture, leisure, sport and the Olympics is invited a site visit with local Councillors to resolve this ongoing issue.

In addition, feedback notes from the workshops for Albion Street were noted. Members suggested that Cleaner greener safer money for next year's funding programme 2011 could be used to improve the area.

## **7. DEPUTATION PRESENTATION**

The community council heard the deputation from a spokesperson (on behalf of Alan Chadborn), regarding the lack of toilet facilities within Southwark.

The deputation reads as follows:

We the undersigned deplore the reduction in the availability of public toilets across London, and specifically in Southwark.

We bring to your attention the recent closure to the public of the toilets at Canada Water bus and tube station; we also regret the closure of toilets in 'the Blue'.

We understand the problems of vandalism and anti-social behaviour, but ask you to consider initiatives taken by other boroughs. We read that Richmond piloted a scheme whereby shop owners were offered an annual payment if they made a toilet available to the public (not only their own customers).

We urge you to take action for Rotherhithe and Southwark, but also raise it with London boroughs as a whole. This is of particular concern to the elderly, but affects the whole population. Absence of toilets tends to promote a hygiene problem in covert locations.

Members agreed with the deputation. It was noted that the GLA Member for transport had been contacted about this to see if it were possible to contact Transport for London (TfL) about the position concerning toilets in Southwark, particularly the one at Canada Water bus station.

Councillor Richard Livingstone stated the issue was not about renovating the toilets but the cost of maintaining and keeping them clean. However the council are trying to find a solution to this.

A local resident asked about the toilets in 'the Blue', Southwark Park Road saying why the Council could not employ someone to man the facilities from 9 am to 5pm. It appears that local shops are not keen for their toilets to be used for public use, because if an accident were to occur, they would be liable. Instead libraries could be used or mobile toilets could be installed.

**RESOLVED:**

That the deputation be noted.

A written response from the environment and housing department was circulated at the meeting and is attached to the minute book.

**8. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

The following announcements were made:

1. Nomination forms for the Southwark Civic Awards are now open until the end of January 2011. Forms are available from the Southwark Civic Association website: <http://www.southwarkcivicassociation.org>. The Awards Ceremony takes place in May 2011. For a hard copy of the form, contact the Civic Association on 020 7525 7303 or at [info@southwarkcivicassociation.org](mailto:info@southwarkcivicassociation.org).
2. Aerobics class every Saturday at 9.45am – 10.45am at Surrey Docks Water Sports Centre, Rope Street, SE16 7SX.
3. Local Remembrance Day Services 2010 – Armistice day, Thursday 11 November 2010 at 10.45 am at the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe War Memorial, SE16. Remembrance Sunday, 14 November 2010 at 10.45 am at the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe War Memorial.
4. Norwegian Christmas Fair from the 9 November until 21 November 2010 at the Norwegian Church, 1 St Olav's Square, SE16 7JB. For further information go to: [www.sjomannskirken.no/london](http://www.sjomannskirken.no/london) or email [london@sjomannskirken.no](mailto:london@sjomannskirken.no)

**9. THAMES WATER CONSULTATION EVENTS**

Phil Stride, Head of London Tideway Tunnels and Nick Tennant, Communications Manager for the Thames Tunnel were present at the meeting.

The following information was noted:

- They were here to consult with residents on the proposed routes for the Thames Tunnel and the proposed use of King Stairs Gardens and St. John's Estate.
- This was phase one of the public consultation which was to hear the views of residents on their preferred route and sites, and all the other short-listed options.
- The present sewerage system does not meet modern day London and Thames Water want to avoid further sewage going into the Thames.

- Thames Water received a directive from DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) that a tunnel offers by far the most effective solution to the unacceptable problem of raw sewage is being regularly discharged in the Thames.
- Thames Water were told to come up with a design, construction and maintenance of a scheme for collecting systems connected to Beckton and Crossness sewage treatment works.
- Thames Water are consulting other London Boroughs to consider what sites are viable.
- There are 769 potential main tunnel shaft sites and 373 potential CSO sites and one of the possible sites in Southwark is King Stairs Gardens and the other shaft site Shad Thames.

There are a series of consultation activities, drop in exhibitions available around the Borough. Residents were encouraged to check the Thames Water website: <http://www.thameswater.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/corp/hs.xsl/6071.htm> The closing date for comments would be 20 December 2010 and the second round of consultation would take place in January 2011.

Residents asked the following questions:

- Q1: Please comment on the general concern about the loss of green space, children's play area and the Church and you considered other sites like Convoys Wharf in Deptford?
- Q2: Who have you consulted?
- Q3: Have Thames Water considered the views of residents at previous meetings?
- Q4: What about the impact it would have on traffic?

The Head of London Tideway Tunnels responded:

- A1: A site closer to the River had been chosen to avoid minimal disruption and disposal of sewage. Thames Water had looked at Chamber's Wharf and Convoys Wharf but due to boring and gravelling issues it would cause problems and is not hydraulically feasible.
- A2: Leaseholders that are Thames Water bill payers but not tenants. Also owner occupiers who were not Thames Water bill payers. Thames Water apologised for missing out the tenants but confirmed that they would be included in the second phase of this consultation.
- A3: We have taken on board comments and would ensure that everyone is consulted. Other viable sites are being looked at and they fully understand the impact this would have on local communities. Another possibility is the Brownfield Site and after hearing people's views today they could revisit Chambers Wharf.
- A4: Thames Water fully understands and notes residents' concerns of the traffic

problem in Rotherhithe area particularly in Jamaica Road.

On conclusion Thames Water said they would minimise the footprint, look at the alternatives to reduce the amount of construction work undertaken, reanalyse the situation on preferred options for the Thames Tunnel. Also take into consideration the environmental impact following any findings during an archaeology survey which would be treated with respect in accordance with the law.

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

## **10. FAIRER FUTURE FOR ALL IN SOUTHWARK**

Cllr Richard Livingstone, cabinet member for Finance and resources introduced the second stage of the council's budget consultation.

He explained that following the government's Comprehensive Spending Review, the council was likely to have to save over £80m over the next four years, most of which might be in the first year.

Cllr Livingstone invited people to feed into the consultation process: each resident had been given a bundle of 'colour coded cheques' with a value of £1 million, green cheques represented investment and reds for savings. Residents and councillors were asked to drop them into the boxes relating to each service area and make comments on the cheques and the reasons for their choices.

### **Feedback on the budget exercise**

The chair announced that there were more green cheques which was an indication that most felt service areas should be retained as much as possible. Most especially Adult Social Care and Children's services. In addition more money should be provided for 11 – 19 year olds by way of education, training and youth facilities.

Those areas which received the red cheques were CCTV and Corporate Services.

It was noted that a cabinet member would attend a future community council meeting to feed back the results of this consultation, which would also be available online.

People were also encouraged to go on the Southwark website:  
<http://www.southwark.gov.uk> to submit their comments.

## **11. 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 £60,138 for highways and £37,000 for lighting. This under spend was available for community council to allocate this year.

**RESOLVED:**

**Highways allocation: £160,138**

Renforth St	£40,000
Lavender Rd	£60,000
St Helena (up to)	£60,000
<b>Total;</b>	<b>£160,000</b>

**Lighting allocation: £112,000**

Surrey Canal Road	£4,000
Hillbeck Close	£12,000
Cranswick Road	£16,000
<b>Sub total;</b>	<b>£32,000</b>

Foundry Close	£8,000
Gunwhale Close	£8,000
Midship Close	£10,000
Acorn Walk	£14,000
<b>Sub Total;</b>	<b>£40,000</b>

Clifton Place	£4,000
Gataker Street	£4,000
Middleton Drive	£6,000
Stalham Street	£6,000
Cookham Crescent	£8,000
Hardy Close	£8,000
Kinburn Street (up to)	£4,000
<b>Sub total;</b>	<b>£40,000</b>

**Total: £112,000**

**12. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The following question was submitted:

“About a year and half ago regeneration funding was given in February /March for statues on the Heygate Estate could be moved to Southwark Park. This was listed as money given from the Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS) funding programme money allocated list of public realm projects. Could we have an update on those public realm projects?”

**ACTION:**

Officers to provide this information at the next community council meeting.

**13. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND DECISIONS**

Executive function

At the Rotherhithe Community Council meeting on 23 June 2010, Members agreed to allocate £7,990 of community council funding from the £15,260 total to community groups. The remaining £7,270 would be used to encourage groups to apply for Christmas and winter activities.

**RESOLVED:**

Rotherhithe Community Council approved the community council fund allocation of £7,270 for the following projects:

- Bede Youth Adventure Project - £800
- Bermondsey Artists Group - £500
- Bonamy/Bramcote TRA - £650
- Hawkstone Tenants & Residents Association - £770
- Mayflower Tenants & Residents Association - £500
- Redriff Primary School £1,000
- Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Choral Society - £365
- Stroke Club - £685
- Surrey Docks Farm - £1,000
- Time and Talents - £500
- Tustin Community Association - £500

**14. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:**

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.

**15. LEA SCHOOL GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS**

Executive function

**RESOLVED:**

That Joanne Jones be appointed as a local authority governor representative at Redriff Primary School.

The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**

