



BERMONDSEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Bermondsey Community Council held on Thursday 10 November 2011 at 7.00 pm at St James Church, Thurland Road, Bermondsey, London, SE16 4AA

PRESENT: Councillor Linda Manchester (Chair)
Councillor Graham Neale (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai
Councillor Michael Bukola
Councillor Paul Kyriacou
Councillor Eliza Mann

OFFICER SUPPORT: Michelle Normanly, Public Realm
Gill Kelly, Community Engagement Team
Grace Semakula, Community Engagement Team
Tim Murtagh, Constitutional Team

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 Councillors Denise Capstick, Mark Gettleson and Nick Stanton. There were apologies for lateness from Councillor Paul Kyriacou.

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillors declared interests in the following items:

15. Community Council Fund 2011-12

Councillor Michael Bukola, personal and non-prejudicial, in relation to item number 15, as he was a Board Member for 'Millwall For All', a charity that had submitted an application for the Community Council Fund.

4. ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair accepted a late item regarding a Cleaner Greener Safer under spend. The reasons for urgency were so that any replacement project could be delivered in the current financial year and before the release of new Cleaner Greener Safer funds for 2012/13.

There would also be a discussion of Thames Water's sewer scheme and its plan to use the Chambers Wharf site.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2011 be agreed as a correct record of the meeting, and signed by the chair.

6. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chair said there would be Armistice Day services taking place on 11 November 2011 and that various Remembrance Services would take place on Sunday, 13 November 2011.

7. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

8. SOUTHWARK HEAT NETWORK

David Gee, Energy Programme Manager, explained that the project was about taking heat wasted at the SELCHP plant near Millwall Football Club and using it to provide low carbon energy to heat about 3,000 homes in Southwark. Good progress was being made with the project and it appeared technically feasible. There had been some delay over the finances. The next stage would be to agree heads of terms by mid-December and then a report would go to Southwark's Cabinet. A full public consultation would take place with the affected homes.

9. CHAMBERS WHARF SITE AND THAMES WATER SEWER PLANS

Phillip Miller spoke on behalf of the Save Your Riverside Campaign Group. The group was recently set up to challenge the use of any site in Southwark by Thames Water (TW) for the super-sewer project. Philip said the impact of using the Chambers Wharf site would be much worse than that for the King's Stairs Gardens site that was previously considered for the project. Chambers Wharf was densely populated with four schools in the vicinity. The

construction would be 24 hours a day, every day for four years and seven years in total. There would be 90 lorry movements per day and there would be general environmental degradation of the area with dust and noise. The cost of £4.1 billion would equate to £80 per household for its 14 million customers and the taxpayer would have to underwrite the project. There was no sewage overflow problem in Southwark. The Selborne Commission had reported that there were other engineering options available that were cheaper and simpler but those findings had been dismissed by TW.

Nick Tennant (Communications Officer) and Gareth Thomas (Engineer) responded on behalf of Thames Water (TW). Nick explained that they were in the first week of a 14-week consultation period. TW were keen to hear residents' views and had organised drop-in sessions to explain why Chambers Wharf had been put forward as a preferred site. There was a real need to clean the Thames with 39 million tonnes of sewage going into the river each year. That was in breach of an EU directive and central government could be fined. Sewage flowed into the river from several boroughs including Southwark. TW had responded to other consultations when Londoners had asked for brown field sites and for soil excavated during construction to be transported away by river. The project would create more than 4,000 jobs. The Selborne report recommendations would not tackle the problem within a sufficient timescale.

Councillor Anood Al-Samerai said that local councillors were very concerned about the proposals and the impact of lorry movements discussed at a recent briefing. Members would be working with residents and looking at alternatives. Residents were encouraged to take part in the consultation process and to express their views to TW.

The chair said that after the planned consultation had taken place, there may be a further local meeting to address issues and residents' questions.

10. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Sgt Steven Brown from South Bermondsey Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) said Grange and Riverside SNTs were absent as they had been working on other things since early morning.

In Grange the priorities were:

- Rough sleeping on the Kipling estate
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) by youths on the Neckinger estate
- Drugs on the St Saviours estate

Officers had been meeting regularly with the ASB unit to assess progress. The work included mediation with parents.

In Riverside the priorities were:

- ASB on the Four Squares estate, several youths had Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
- Alcohol related issues on Tooley Street, Potters Fields and Bermondsey Street

Arrests had been made for cannabis cultivation and alcohol had been seized from several street drinkers. There would be a meeting on 15 December 2011 at the Tooley Street council offices to address the night time economy and related issues.

In South Bermondsey the priorities were:

- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) by young people, ASB on mini-motorbikes and drug dealing on the Longfield, Manor and Cooper estates
- Sharing some work tackling ASB on the Four Squares estate as the same youths were causing trouble on The Blue

A drugs arrest was made this morning for possession with intent to supply class A drugs. Her tenancy agreement would be under review.

11. SOUTHWARK PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

Daisy Froud of AOC architects, presented plans for the extension and refurbishment of Southwark Park Primary School.

The project had been around in some form since 2007 and the school was currently decanted in the old Galleywall School. Earlier this year the project had come under the umbrella of Four Futures, the local education partnership. The challenge was to protect the Grade II listed building whilst providing a 21st century education for young people. The aim was to start works on site in the middle of next year and then to move into the school the following autumn. Daisy explained she would return at a later date with more detailed designs.

The chair encouraged residents to view the plans and ask questions. Planning permission would be sought in early 2012.

12. FREE SCHOOL UPDATE

Peter Wilkinson, Chair of Compass Schools Trust (CST) explained that the CST had been given approval to set up a new local secondary school. The school would serve the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe area. The aim was for the school to open in September 2012. The school would seek to assist local children to fulfil their ambitions in further education, vocational training or to find jobs via apprenticeships. There would be a strong emphasis on mentoring and coaching. A number of connections with people in business, sports and the arts were being put in place and people would come into the school to help the pupils develop their potential. It was vital that the school was truly local for the needs of the local community. There was a still a lively debate taking place on the venue for the school which had yet to be decided.

In response to questions Peter said there would be up around 600 pupils when the school was full with a yearly intake of up to 150. There was ongoing consultation with residents and discussions were taking place with Southwark Council and the Department for Education.

Simon Hughes MP added that Southwark College was in active discussions to merge with Lewisham College. Southwark College would continue to use its three sites but the majority of those were unused so there would be space for development. Also on the site would be the University Technical College (UTC) for 14 to 19 year olds, specialising in construction industry skills and skills for people working in the health service e.g. in the

laboratories of London hospitals. That would meet the need for a technical school for less academic students who want to develop different areas. There should still be space for the secondary school to go on site alongside the college and the UTC. Discussions were taking place to that end and if the free school did not occupy the site then another more established school would be sited there. There was also space available on the biscuit factory site which could be utilised and would link the whole site to the Bermondsey community.

13. THE BISCUIT FACTORY PROPOSALS

Angus Boag of the Workspace Group (WG) explained that the factory stopped making biscuits in 1989. Since then about 650 jobs had been created on the site and current proposals would raise that level to over 1,000. The role of WG was to nurture and support small businesses. WG currently looked after about 4,000 businesses employing about 30,000 people across London.

Jonathon Shelton explained that the large site offered great potential and was situated in an area that had some regenerated areas nearby. WG had developed several usable areas from previously derelict buildings.

WG had been working with Network Rail so that one of the archways could be opened up, as a permanent public right of way connecting the tube station and 'The Blue' to the North. There was an opportunity for tree planting and greening of spaces and routes that were currently lacking.

There was ongoing consultation to develop the master plan and a planning application would be submitted in spring 2012.

14. CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13

Michelle Normanly explained that the Cleaner Greener Safer budget for 2012/13 was £1.88 million of which £233,698 was allocated to Bermondsey. Applications would be accepted between 31 October 2011 and 6 January 2012. Forms were available and officers would assist where possible. There was no limit on the sums applied for but they had to be capital projects in the relevant community council area and completed within two years. Local groups could manage their own projects if they were deemed suitable. Contact: michelle.normanly@southwark.gov.uk or Tel 020 7525 0862

15. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

CAPIC (Children and Parents in the community) asked:

"What were Southwark Council's plans for the waste land on the junction of Coopers Road and Rolls Road. The land had been abandoned and derelict for 10 years and the community would like to use the land for growing plants and vegetables until any development was confirmed or built."

Councillor Graham Neale said he would follow this matter up with officers.

In response to a question about a further meeting with Network Rail, to discuss the

London Bridge re-development, the chair said nothing had been arranged as yet. Councillor Anood Al-Samerai added that since Network Rail's presentation at the 13 October planning meeting, there had been a meeting to discuss the businesses in the area. She added that councillors and residents were still waiting for some answers to questions raised at the October planning meeting and she would follow those up as a priority.

16. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND 2011-12

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

That the following amounts of Bermondsey Community Council funding (2011/2012) be allocated to:

C.A.P.I.C	Launch Fun Day	£850
SETRA	Trip to Rochester Castle	£136
Longfields TRA	Pensioner and Childrens Christmas Parties	£136
Dickens TRA	Christmas Parties	£700
Cavendish School	Anti Violence workshop	£440
Bermondsey Artists Group	Prescription Gardening	£500
Quay Players	Singing, Dancing, Acting Workshops	£820
S.P.A.M.	Senior Citizens Multicultural Tea Party	£700
B.S.A.P.	Bermondsey Street Carol Singing	£700
Bede Youth Adventure Project	Bede in the West End	£700
Anna Baker	Free Arts Party workshops	£518
PACT / Friends of the Blue	Kids Freeze Festival	£700
St Crispins TRA	Cockney Afternoon	£300

17. HIGHWAYS DEVOLVED CAPITAL INVESTMENT FOR 2012/13

Michele Normanly presented the report. Members expressed their dissatisfaction that they were not being consulted about how the lighting capital budget was being spent this year, as they had in previous years.

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

That the decision on this item be deferred to the next community council meeting at which residents would have the opportunity to identify their preferred schemes.

18. LOCAL PARKING AMENDMENTS AND CAR CLUB EXPANSION

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

1. That the following local parking amendments, detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved for implementation subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:
 - Chambers Street – Convert existing time restricted free parking bay to permit holders only bay.
 - Grange Road – Proposed amendments to waiting and loading restrictions.
2. That the following car club locations, detailed in the appendices to the report, be approved for implementation, subject to the outcome of any necessary statutory procedures:
 1. Leathermarket Street, for implementation 2011/12
 2. Maguire Street for implementation 2011/12
 3. Marcia Road for implementation 2011/12
 4. Monnow Road for implementation 2012/13
 5. Drummond Road for implementation 2013/14 onwards (or before if demand increases)
 6. Longley Street for implementation 2013/14 onwards (or before if demand increases)
 7. Neckinger for implementation 2013/14 onwards (or before if demand increases)

8. Rotherhithe New Road for implementation 2013/14 onwards (or before if demand increases)

19. DETERMINATION OF STATUTORY OBJECTION TO PROPOSED FORMALISATION OF EXISTING WIDTH RESTRICTION IN LYNTON ROAD

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

1. That consideration of the objection be deferred so that members can discuss the proposal with officers.
2. That an officer be asked to attend the next community council meeting to discuss the item.

20. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ON SHAND STREET AND MAGDALEN STREET PROPOSED ONE-WAY OPERATION

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposal to make Shand Street one-way northbound and Magdalen Street one-way westbound be approved.
2. That the relevant Traffic Management Order (TMO) be advertised and implemented on Shand Street and Magdalen Street, subject to the consideration of any objections received.

21. SCHOOL GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

1. That Rev Pat Alden be reappointed as school governor for Federation of Phoenix and Ilderton Schools.
2. That Miss Gilda Chambers be reappointed as school governor for Federation of Phoenix and Ilderton Schools.
3. That Dr James Corner be appointed as school governor for Southwark Primary School.
4. That Miss Stephanie Tang be appointed as school governor for Southwark Primary School.

22. CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER FUNDING UPDATE

Executive Function

RESOLVED:

That £50,000 of Cleaner, Greener, Safer under spend in the Bermondsey Community Council area be allocated to St James Churchyard improvements project.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm

CHAIR:

DATED: