



BOROUGH AND BANKSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Borough and Bankside Community Council held on Tuesday 13 March 2012 at 7.00 pm at St George the Martyr, Borough High Street, London SE1 1JD

PRESENT: Councillor Poddy Clark (Chair)
Councillor Geoffrey Thornton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Claire Hickson
Councillor Tim McNally
Councillor David Noakes

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Veronica Ward, Cabinet member for culture, leisure, sport and the Olympics

OFFICER SUPPORT: Pauline Bonner (Borough & Bankside and Walworth Neighbourhood Coordinator)
Chris Dossett (Targeted Youth Support Officer)
Ben Finden (Project Manager)
Philippa Beagley (Foundation and Vocational Learning Lead)
Kate Johnson (Senior Planning Policy Officer)
Jonathon Toy (Head of Community Safety & Enforcement)
Gerald Gohler (Constitutional Officer)

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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

2. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillor Adele Morris.

The chair informed the meeting that PS Dutton from Cathedrals Safer Neighbourhoods Team had also given his apologies.

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 11 January 2012 be agreed as an accurate record of that meeting, and signed by the chair.

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS (IF ANY)

There were none.

7. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS / VOLUNTEERING SLOT

The meeting heard that the events diary, which was produced by the Community Engagement team, contained local events which would be happening over the next months including the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNT) ward panel dates.

The meeting heard that there would be a fun day in the Crypt at St George on 21 April as part of the St George in Southwark festival. This would take place around 23 April 2012, and also include a lunch on 24 April and the ballad of St George and the Dragon at Red Cross Gardens in the afternoon of that day.

Issues around Borough High Street

Councillor David Noakes updated the meeting on the scaffolding in Borough High Street, which was something that councillors and residents had long been campaigning on. There was now a timetable for the removal of the remaining scaffolding which King's College, the owner of the building, had agreed to do by the middle of July. The scaffolding would be moved to the inside of the building. The aim was now to get Transport for London (TfL) to redo the pavement, which was currently under scaffolding, and which had previously been missed out. These works would probably have to wait until after the Olympics. He went on to say that the lighting in Christchurch Gardens had been upgraded and a new power supply had been found. The new columns were to go in by the end of March. Responding to a question from the floor, Councillor Noakes said that TfL was responsible for the granting and enforcing the licences for scaffolding on Borough High Street.

Borough and Bankside Youth Community Council (BBYCC)

Chris Dossett, Targeted Youth Support Officer, spoke to the meeting about the Borough and Bankside Youth Community Council and explained that its mission was to give a voice to young people. The BBYCC had been involved in various activities: meeting regularly

with local councillors and running projects and campaigns. The Senior Health Promotion Officer had recently spoken to the BBYCC, who shared ideas about tackling childhood obesity. They had also put together petitions, and had lobbied Parliament. By being involved in the Youth Community Council, young people were able to have a voice and to acquire valuable skills and experience in planning and organising, which they would be able to use on their CVs.

Responding to questions, Chris explained that the BBYCC and its equivalent in Walworth had worked together closely on a petition about betting shops on Walworth Road. They had brought this issue to the Walworth Community Council, and were looking to meet Harriet Harman MP about this.

The chair congratulated Chris on the good work the BBYCC had done.

8. OLYMPICS / PARALYMPICS 2012

The chair welcomed Councillor Veronica Ward, cabinet member for culture, leisure, sport and the Olympics to the meeting.

Ben Finden, Project Manager, outlined the structure chart of the Southwark Olympic Delivery Board and the duties of the operational planning group, which had been set up to ensure Southwark supported inspirational, safe and inclusive Games. There were different work-streams including: volunteering, the Southwark experience group, engaging with young people, travel and networks, and health and well-being.

Councillor Veronica Ward, cabinet member for culture, leisure, sport and the Olympics, said that the Olympics were going to have a great impact on this on part of the borough, and that the council were keen to show off Southwark to visitors from around the world. The two key issues were: what needed to be done while the Games were going on, and what the Olympic legacy would be. There would be lots of activities, including an arts and cultural festival (including plays being put on in 37 languages), cultural heritage trails to attract visitors to the southern parts of the borough (for example, to the 1948 Velodrome) and legacy projects. The activities would be delivered with no extra council resources required. The legacy projects, were designed to leave a legacy of health and wellbeing in the borough.

Jonathon Toy, Head of Community Safety & Enforcement, informed the meeting of the dates for the Olympics. These were:

Torch Relay arrives in London	21 Jul 2012
Olympics – Opening Ceremony	27 Jul 2012
Olympics – Closing Ceremony	12 Aug 2012
Paralympics – Opening	29 Aug 2012
Paralympics – Closing	09 Sep 2012

The transport and road network issues would become important to during the Olympics. In addition to the Olympics, the Notting Hill Carnival and the Diamond Jubilee would also be taking place in the summer, so that Olympic boroughs like Southwark would be very busy. 20 million extra trips would be made within London during the 2012 Games. 80% of

spectators would be travelling by rail (including the Underground). In Southwark, commuters were advised not to use London Bridge and Canada Water stations. While Southwark did not have any Olympic Route Network (ORN) roads, there were some Alternative Olympic route network (AORN) roads and Road Event Olympic route network (REORN) roads in the borough. The marathon route included the A201 New Kent Road and A100 Tower Bridge Road. This would be used on Day 9 - Sunday 5th August 2012, and day 16 - Sunday 12th August 2012. On these days, there would be traffic signal timing changes and adjusted stopping restrictions. Residents and businesses would have to think about how they could best modify their commutes and deliveries.

Philippa Beagly, Foundation and Vocational Learning Lead, told the meeting that schools, which had joined the "Get Set" network had been able to apply for free Olympic tickets, if they had put the Olympics on their curriculum in terms of sports, but also in terms of values (excellence, respect and friendship). 91 schools had done so - over 1,900 tickets had gone to secondary schools and over 620 to primary schools. Sports events had been organised, and the aim was to encourage young people to volunteer and to become sports leaders. There were also a wide variety of cultural and arts events and projects for young people. 120 young people had signed up for an accredited volunteering programme. The legacy of the programme would be for young people to stay engaged with sport, volunteering and to increase their marketability on the job market.

Ben Finden informed the meeting that in the Borough and Bankside area, there were going to be discovery cultural trails, an Olympic market and the rings on Tower Bridge, as well as additional planting and GLA-funded street dressing. The torch relay would pass through the borough on 19 March 2012.

Responding to questions, Jonathon explained that there was no link between the legacy projects and the greater impact some parts of the borough would be experiencing. There were unfortunately no legacy projects in Borough and Bankside, as the projects, which had been proposed, had not been feasible. The officer time involved would help put Southwark on the map for a world-wide audience, and to attract visitors who would spend money in the borough. The council only contributed officer time, the other funding came from the GLA, TfL and other bodies. The footfall would be well managed and illegal street trading would be policed. Council resources would be concentrated in the north of the area, where the main Olympics activities would be.

The meeting heard a suggestion that officers should communicate with residents through the SE1 website, and by targeting those residents who were likely to be affected most by the Olympics, like those living close to Borough High Street and London Bridge, for example around Tabard Gardens.

Fears were expressed that the area would not have enough police and enforcement officer cover during the Olympics. Jonathon explained that policing numbers had almost been finalised, and that the night-time economy team would continue to be in place. In addition to this a multi-agency team had also been put together. He went on to say that his understanding was, that the police would be at about 66% of their normal strength.

The meeting heard a suggestion from the floor that there were opportunities for legacy projects to be put into Malborough Playground and Winchester Palace.

For further information, contact: Ben Finden, 020 7525 1289 ,
benjamin.finden@southwark.gov.uk

9. COMMUNITY COUNCILS

The chair outlined the proposed, new structure and frequency of meetings for community councils, and invited comments.

Councillors discussed the issue. The meeting heard that the changes had not been finalised, but were likely to be at the May meeting of Council Assembly. Further comments were made that community councils engaged residents like no other meeting, and that the current areas reflected the communities people felt part of. Views were expressed that savings could have been found elsewhere, and that the loss of the planning function was regrettable. Other views were expressed: that cross-border working had already taken place around Elephant and Castle, and that Elephant and Castle would be better served by being in just one Community Council area. The council had difficult choices to make, in terms of where to make cuts.

Questions were raised from the floor about the practicalities of having a meeting attended by 15 councillors. A suggestion was made to have geographic subgroups, which could meet could meet in parallel.

There was a discussion about future venues for the merged community council area, and a discussion about alternative ways of funding a group with a "Borough and Bankside only" remit.

The chair asked for a show of hands from the floor about whether agreed or disagreed with the changes. There were no votes in favour and one abstention, with the rest of residents on the floor voting against.

10. OPEN SPACES STRATEGY

Kate Johnson, Senior Planning Policy Officer, informed the meeting about the consultation currently being undertaken. The open space strategy set out a framework for open space provision in the borough, replaced work previously undertaken in 2003 and updated the work carried out in 2010. The document would make up an important part of the evidence base needed in the preparation of planning policy documents. The public consultation on the draft strategy would run until 24 April 2012, and the final strategy was scheduled to be adopted in September 2012. As part of the consultation, a survey among 750 residents had been conducted by telephone. The sample had been stratified by age, gender and location. Some of the results were as follows:

- High levels of satisfaction in open spaces (over 80%); highest amongst older age groups
- Almost 90% rated the quality of open space as good or very good
- Smaller open spaces, cemeteries and amenity spaces were considered to be of poorest quality
- Just 10% of residents stated that they did not visit open spaces. The majority of

these was due to time constraints or health reasons

- Value of smaller open spaces was reinforced, although larger parks were also very popular

As part of the exercise, an open space needs analysis was put together, which looked at various factors, such as population density, child density, health deprivation and accommodation type. A site audit was also conducted, which had looked at the uses and utilisation of the various open spaces, as well as their level of accessibility. The report also looked at different sub-areas.

The Borough, Bankside and London Bridge sub-area had a relatively limited amount of open space provision, consisting largely of small squares and churchyards. With a total of 0.25ha of park provision per 1,000 population, it was also well below the standard of 0.76ha per 1,000 population. The area was also deficient in the amount of natural green space available.

In order to remedy these issues, officers proposed that spaces, which were below the borough average for quality and value, and should be the focus of improvements including:

- Christchurch Gardens - potential to improve landscaping and facilities to address park deficiency in this area.
- Marlborough Playground - potential to improve landscaping and access
- Leathermarket Gardens - potential improvements to biodiversity
- Potential improvements to linkages between spaces.

Kate informed the meeting that there would be two workshops on the Open Space Strategy on:

- Saturday 17 March, 10.30am – 12.30pm, at 160 Tooley St , SE1
- Thursday 22 March, 6pm - 8pm at Peckham Library

More information was available on the council's website:

http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/200272/evidence_base/1611/environment

11. CLEANER GREENER SAFER CAPITAL BUDGET

Executive Function

Councillors considered the information set out in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the following works be funded from the Borough and Bankside Community Council Cleaner Greener Safer capital fund budget 2012/13:

2012-13 CGS FUNDING**TOTAL £230,228****PER WARD £115,114**

Both wards funding jointly	project cost
More BT cabinet box mini-murals in Borough area	£3,900
St Saviour's parish war memorial	£25,000
Jointly funded projects total	£28,900

Cathedrals

Winchester Palace unveiled	£10,000
Planting & Greening at Borough Road Estate	£7,500
Friars Close Urban Garden	£10,800
Compost at Amigo House	£450
Webber Street Herb and Fruit Garden - part of the Pontypool Herb and Street Garden	£10,800
Greening at Algar House yard	£9,500
Geraldine Mary Harmsworth park entrance upgrade and desire line removal	£12,500
Historic Signage for Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park	£16,000
Greening Marlborough Playground	£15,000
Chicken out - at Charlotte Sharman school	£2,160
Copperfield Street Gardens/ Security and Upkeep	£4,000
Total Cathedrals	£98,710

Chaucer

Weston Street/ Wild's Rents corner gardening improvement	£1,080
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Rockingham Estate Community Allotments	£8,000
Albert Barnes House Playground Development (Option 1)	£15,000
Bicycle lockers for Tabard Central	£12,000
Improvements to Shed between Becket and Selbourne	£7,500
Shere House planting	£10,800
Tabard Central EDF sub station and railings	£6,500
Nashe House cycle stores	£5,000
Harper Road/ Falmouth Road corner: Brighten up	£1,080
Improvements to local community hall/hub	£15,464
Lighting improvements	£8,640
Cheery wall art and mural repairs for Rockingham Day Care centre	£2,500
Docklands History BT Boxes around Tower Bridge Road	£3,900
BT cabinet box mini-mural project	£3,200
Total Chaucer	£100,664

12. CLEANER GREENER SAFER REVENUE BUDGET

Pauline Bonner explained that there would be £10,000 of CGS revenue funding available per ward for the 2012/2013 financial year, and that the funding would have to be on something non-physical, for example workshops or extra hours for street cleaners. Councillors explained that the funding could be used for youth provision or events. It was similar to the Community Council Fund, only there was £10,000 per ward. It was clarified that the funding could be rolled over into the following financial year, if not all the funding could be spent in 2012/13.

This year there was no formal application form, due to the timescales for the 2012/13 programme. The funding had only been agreed by Council Assembly on 28 February 2012. Pauline invited residents to submit their ideas directly to her before Friday 30 March 2012. Pauline can be contacted on 020 7525 1019 or at Pauline.Bonner@southwark.gov.uk.

13. DEVOLVED HIGHWAYS BUDGET

Executive Function

Councillors considered the information in the report, and commented that the funding proposals were still not dividing the funding equally between the two wards.

Councillors asked for an update on the schemes agreed in the last two financial years, and for information on who decided on the feasibility of the proposals submitted by residents at the last meeting; and on which criteria they had used.

RESOLVED:

That the decision on this item be deferred to the next community council meeting, as councillors require further information not contained in the report.

ACTION: Officers to provide:

1. An update on the highways schemes agreed in the last two financial years
2. Information on who decided on the feasibility of the proposals submitted by residents, and on which criteria they had used.

14. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public questions were put:

1. Why was the Cleaner, Green, Safer proposal for Mint Street not funded?
Councillor David Noakes explained that the project proposals had been of high quality, and councillors had had difficult decisions to make, as the funding had been oversubscribed by 2 to 1. The chair said that councillors and officers would help groups who had submitted unsuccessful proposals to find alternative sources of funding.
2. Could a group for Borough and Bankside be set up, which is outside of the council structure and supported by sponsorship?

The chair explained that officer time was the main cost factor in running the meetings. Officer time would not be available to any group outside of the council structure. Councillor Tim McNally said that he was meeting with a body in the area who may want to help facilitate such a group, but said people should wait to see how the new arrangements would work. There was a general discussion about options for setting up a group independent of the council, and about the work of the Democracy Commission. The chair said she would ask Councillor Abdul Mohamed, cabinet member for equalities and community engagement, for feedback on the issues raised.

3. Will future savings be made by reducing the number of councillors?

The chair explained that this was unlikely, as it was officer time that was the main cost factor, and that councillors' time was given free.

The chair reminded attendees that the next meeting of the community council would be on 25 April 2012 at the Crypt in St George's.

Councillor Hickson informed the meeting that the British Legion were looking for volunteers for the poppy appeal. Details of this could be found in the events diary on page 2.

The meeting ended at 9.35 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: