

**COMMUNITY COUNCILS**  
A voice for your community



## Walworth Community Council

### Main Meeting

These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting

Wednesday June 10 2009

Pasley TRA Hall, Stopford Road, Walworth SE17 3BP

*Please note all text in italics is an addition to the minutes after the meeting.*

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#### Present

Councillors: Abdul Mohamed (Chair), Lorraine Lauder (Vice-Chair), Martin Seaton, Caroline Pidgeon, Paul Bates, Kirsty McNeill and Jane Salmon

The meeting opened at 7.05pm.

- Welcome and introduction:** Councillor Lorraine Lauder, the new Chair of Walworth Community Council introduced herself. She thanked Councillor Mohamed, the former Chair, for his hard work over the past three years.
- Apologies:** Councillor Ladipo and Gurling, McNeill (lateness).
- Notification of any items the Chair deems urgent:** None were notified.
- Disclosure of Members' interests and dispensations:** None declared.
- Chair's Announcements:** The Community Council Fund Awards 2009-2010  
**Resolved:** That the Community Council Fund Awards listed in the Appendix to these minutes be approved.
- Minutes of the meeting held on April 27 2009:**  
**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on April 27 2009 be approved. Mr Beadell and Mr Crawford expressed disagreement with parts of the minutes.
- Deputations (if any):** None notified.

#### Main business:

- Police – Sergeants Daly, Brown and Croft:**  
Sgt Croft responded to questions asked at the previous meeting:

Successful stop & searches for knives – Councillor Seaton

There have been reductions in the number of crimes involving guns (down 25%) and knives (12%) in Southwark. The police believe this is due to the high number of police stop & searches carried out. There

has also been a reduction in burglary (down 25%) and robbery (12.5% down), which also could have been affected by the stop and search policy.

Parked minibus with disabled passengers – Mrs Norma Lawrence

Norma reported that a minibus for the disabled had been seen parked in Rotherhithe, with the driver and attendant asleep, and the disabled passengers neglected. The local Safer Neighbourhood Team sent an officer, but the minibus had left. The SNT then contacted the charity that was responsible for the minibus, and the driver and attendant were identified. Disciplinary proceedings were underway.

Newington Ward Priorities: Anti-social behaviour in Pullens Buildings, Walworth Road, de Laune Street and Newington estate, together with street drinking in Walworth Road and de Laune Street. Enforcement of the 20 mph speed limit.

Attempts are being made with a number of agencies to provide activities for young people. The SNT has visited old people on the Brandon estate, warning of bogus callers. The Brandon library has been revamped, and is providing support and rewards to well behaved children. The burglary rate has reduced.

Faraday Ward priorities; Street drinking, youth engagement and public safety in Burgess Park.

The number of reported thefts from vehicles has reduced by 45%. An exercise carried out under Operation Crunch (surely Gurgle) resulted in arrests for street drinking and seizure of alcohol. Follow up patrols have also had successes, with more alcohol seizures and fixed penalty notices issued. The SNT carried out a weapons sweep and found a knife under Operation Hawk. There are daily patrols of Burgess Park.

East Walworth priorities: Anti-social behaviour and safe routes in Burgess Park, youth anti-social behaviour on Barlow and Congreve estates, anti-social behaviour and prostitution in Kinglake Street and anti-social behaviour in stairwells in Hemp Walk blocks.

The SNT held a successful community event in Burgess Park with the Karot bus, which will come to youth groups if invited. A weapons sweep in Burgess Park turned up 2 flickknives. An auto number plate recognition operation resulted in 5 uninsured vehicles being seized, of which only one was claimed by the father of the driver. The Victory House youth club is now open; although it is associated with the church, it is open to all. The next Ward Panel is in the Heygate TRA Hall on August 4 2009.

The following questions were asked:

- Carol asked if something could be done about cycling on the pavements, children could get knocked down or pedestrians could have their bags snatched. An operation was carried out by the SNT and two bicycles had been seized; the police will continue to carry out random operations on pavement cyclists – please could residents tell their SNTs of locations, times and miscreants.
- Councillor Seaton asked about youth activities at Victory House. It appeared that the group meets on Friday night.
- Mr Clark asked about cyclists ignoring the Highway Code, going the wrong way down one way streets, through red lights and riding bicycles against the traffic. Unfortunately, although these actions are against the law, it is impossible to deal with this unless the cyclists are caught in the act by the police.
- A resident asked about an incident in Burgess Park near the tennis courts around 5 or 6pm, when youths grabbed a woman's bag. The resident was asked to talk to the SNT sergeant.

**8. Burgess Park update:**

The money won in the Mayor of London's 'Help a London Park' and from the Aylesbury NDC will not be sufficient to fully redevelop the park. However, the £4 million of funding from the NDC now is fully secured, and will not have to be spent by March 2010.

The project plan, now agreed with Southwark's Chief Executive, has now been agreed:

- The OJEU Notice will be published on 11 June 2009, inviting interested parties to apply
- The first stage evaluation will create a shortlist of 5 applicants to produce a sketch design by 28 July 2009
- The second stage evaluation will choose the best design for the park, and will end in October 2009
- Communications on the design will begin in October 2009
- A lead consultant will be appointed in November 2009
- Works will commence on site in August 2010, for approximately a year

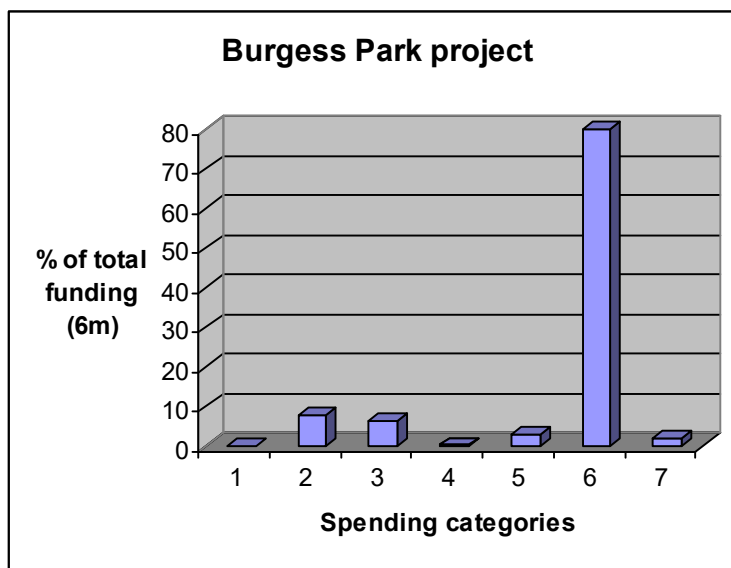
Numerous opportunities exist for involvement in the process: there will be an e-letter, a Burgess Park website, a Facebook fan page, a Bidders day, a Spaceshaper Event, a Stakeholder meeting, opportunities to comment on the design.

There will be a workshop for residents at the next Walworth Community Council meeting on July 14 2009.

In response to a question from Councillor Pidgeon at the last meeting, the percentage spend on services of the total amount awarded is:

- (1) Marketing 0.3%,
- (2) Landscape architect 8%,
- (3) Other consultants eg. quantity surveyors, engineers 6.4%,
- (4) Procurement costs eg EXOR 0.4%,
- (5) Project management 3%,
- (6) Construction costs and
- (7) Contingency 1.9%.

The total percentage of spending for services is 18.1%.



9. **Cleaner Greener Safer:** Just under 40 residents spoke for up to two minutes in support of proposals for Cleaner Greener Safer projects. Following this, residents voted for their preferred proposals.

10. **Public lavatories in Walworth:**

Stephen Douglass introduced the item, reminding the meeting that the Council had no statutory requirement to provide public lavatories, however the Council works with developers through regeneration schemes to provide conveniences and works with local businesses to enable public access to their toilets. There are the following public lavatories:

- In the Elephant & Castle shopping centre
- Portland street (not open on Mondays)
- Dawe Street (not open on Sundays and Mondays)
- The Housing Office in Thurlow Street
- Cholmondley Gardens and the Tennis Centre
- The Cuming Museum
- The Walworth One Stop Shop
- Private businesses such as McDonald's

The lavatories in Westmoreland Road were removed as they were not compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, and were decaying. All the Council-run lavatories are compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act or close to other lavatories which are compliant. Section 106 funding and regeneration schemes should provide more facilities.

The following questions were asked:

- Norma said that on Saturdays the next lavatory after Elephant & Castle was at Camberwell Green; the Portland Street lavatory does not work, and there is no sign to show the nearest lavatory. Old people were afraid to go out as there are no lavatories available; the existing signs do not say when the lavatories are open. There should be a sign outside Morrison's saying what the opening hours are. Stephen Douglass said that all lavatories should comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and have signs; he would arrange some additional signs
- Rebecca said that there were problems for parents when they were out with their children
- Mr Beadell said there was a problem with using private businesses' lavatories, the Council pay them to provide facilities. Stephen Douglass said that many businesses would allow the public to use their lavatories, and sometimes this led to additional trade
- A resident said that foreign visitors had complained about the lack of public lavatories; in some foreign countries it is the law that anyone can use lavatories in bars and cafés. Stephen Douglass said he was talking to local businesses

## Public Question Time

Please see Appendix

## Member decisions

**Decision:** That Mr Fred Sharrock be reappointed to the Governing body of the Cobourg Primary School, and that Mr Angus Norman be reappointed to the Governing body of Michael Faraday Primary School. (Executive decision)

**Decision:** A further appointment of a single candidate to a Governing body was not approved; Members requested more than one candidate for each appointment. (Executive decision)

**Decision:** A recommendation for a local parking amendment to restrictions in Penton Place was not approved. Members requested that consultations of residents of Alberta, Pullens, Newington and Guinness Trust take place prior to the return of the report for Member agreement.

**Signed:**

**Date:**