

**CLAPHAM COMMON MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Thursday 10th May 2018

7.00pm at Omnibus, 1 Northside, Clapham, SW4 0QW

Present: Simon Millson (SM) (Chair), Helen O'Malley (HO'M) (Deputy Chair), David Beldon (DB), Tim Bennett (TBe), Cllr Linda Bray (LB), Cllr Tim Briggs (TBr), Gary Clark GC), David Dandridge (DD), Adrian Darley (AD), Cllr Nigel Haselden (NH), Jeremy Keates (JK), Martin Read (MR), Andrew Summers (AS) (The Clapham Society - CS) and Marion Vray (MV) (Bandstand Beds - BB).

Guests: for item 1, PC Aamon Ali (AA) and PC Rosie Greenwood (RG) from Clapham Common police; for item 2, Barbara Kaucky (BK) from Erect Architecture and Elsie Josland (EJ); for item 3, Kevin Crook (KC) and Chris Jude (CJ) from LBL; for item 4, Olivia Pearcey (OP) and Lee Fiorentino (LF) from LBL.

Apologies: Patrick Spencer (PS)

1. Clapham Common police

Operation Sceptre is in place to provide additional effort in tackling knife crime, though it has not significantly spiked in Clapham Common ward. The Clapham Common Safer Neighbourhood Team also works closely with teams in Clapham Town and Ferndale wards.

Southwark & Lambeth's new commander Simon Messenger is also Chair of the Met's response on knife crime. He'll be coming to Clapham Common's ward meeting at Lambeth Academy on 26th June, 7pm. Interested members of the public are encouraged to attend.

The Committee supported the police continuing to include the Common in their evening and night time patrols which focus on Clapham High Street.

There have been incidents of begging outside tube stations. The police are aware and looking into measures to deal with it.

2. Polygon old toilet block

BK and EJ presented provisional options for landscaping on the site of the old Polygon toilet block, and across the wider area at the west side of the Polygon. The plans seek to create a civic space for community events and reduce the link with Common to create more of a town square. New features could include a drinking water fountain, lights under trees for night-time reading, more formal planting, more evergreen plants, floor plaques and a large steel or timber curved bench. The area would be paved with York stone. Additional green space would be 10-15m².

Several committee members expressed concerns about the extent of change proposed. DD and JK favour allowing more of the recently planted scheme to become established. Others also queried the premise of creating a sharper division between the Polygon and the rest of the Common. NH agrees there should be softening of the design but does advocate 'placemaking' and believes this is an opportunity for development of a town square.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be amended. BK and EJ will return to present an amended design.

Estimated construction cost will be provided by Interserve, Lambeth's cost consultant for the project.

3. Lambeth Landscapes

Capital projects

LBL's Asset Management Committee will consider a request for capital funding for parks and open spaces on 22nd May. This includes £3.3m for Clapham Common. Most is for new buildings including a new structure by Long Pond, improvement or conversion of the Bowling Pavilion and possibly funds for the changing rooms. There would also be a new building to replace the Battersea Rise toilet block, as LBL has found paperwork from 2012 condemning it to demolition. The next biggest category is play including refurbishment of both areas, potentially a new wet play area by the Windmill Drive play area and funds for repairs and replacing site furniture.

Parking for electric vans

LBL is introducing two electric vans as part of its fleet for Clapham Common. CJ said this necessitated having two charging points outside the depot beside the men's toilet block, with the vehicles parked on tracking. It is envisaged that the vehicles will charge in the daytime but the charging points will not be available to the general public. KC told the Committee that the land that would be taken up is not part of the original metropolitan land. The Committee agreed to the proposal for these two vehicles.

CJ said that considerably more charging points may be required in future if the full fleet converted to electric.

Gravel entrance

CJ will work with MR on trialling gravel at the smallest earth foot entrance close to the skatepark.

Wildflower meadow

CJ will look at mowing the immediate area around the wildflower meadow.

Litter

The Committee welcomed improvements in litter picking. In particular, MR noted that rubbish was cleared effectively during the recent weekend of hot weather.

LB noted that bins near Mount Pond are overflowing.

LBL is increasing the number of Eurobins and installing bins with caps to prevent litter being disturbed by birds.

Paddling pool and drinking fountains

The paddling pool is due to be operating by the late May bank holiday. KC reported that funds are not available to start earlier.

In 2019 the period for drinking fountains will be extended, from March to November.

4. Event Lambeth

OS confirmed that Winterville's promoter would like to hold the event again this year, on the same site as before. OS and LF acknowledged that restoration of the site had been disappointing, and partly attributed this to unusually wet weather.

Most Committee members said Winterville should only be permitted on the circus site, citing the damage Winterville had caused in recent months and expressing scepticism that this could be reduced to an acceptable amount. Committee members were particularly exercised by the length of time the event site had been fenced off for following Winterville. AS also said that the state of the Common following Winterville sets a poor example to the rest of the community.

NH disagreed, believing that restoration can be done much faster and that the site is now better than it was. He favours building Winterville into the annual programme and worries about depriving residents of the opportunities it offered.

The Committee recommended that Winterville only goes ahead if it is on the circus site. The Committee also noted that the upcoming Events Strategy should review how to charge for restoration and the definition of a major event.

5. Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 5th April 2018

The minutes were passed.

6. AOB

Green Waste site

The green waste site remains in a poor state.

Sport 'assets'

HO'M raised a concern about nomenclature of sport 'assets'.

Clapham Rangers presentation day

Clapham Rangers will have its presentation day on 19th May.

Old Town Fair

This is Clapham and Omnibus will hold the Old Town Fair on 1st September.

Ballet Under the Stars

Ballet Under the Stars have resumed plans for winter performances.

7. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is 7th June, 7pm at Omnibus.