

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

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 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), Adrian Darley (AD), Jeremy Keates (JK), Martin Read (MR), Andrew Summers (AS) (The Clapham Society - CS) and Marion Vray (MV) (Bandstand Beds - BB).

**Guests:** Cllr Joanna Reynolds (JR), Kevin Crook (KC) (LBL)

**Apologies:** David Dandridge, Cllr Nigel Haselden, Patrick Spencer

**1. LBL update**

Neighbourhoods (Parks, Leisure and Cemeteries) structure

The new organisation structure has taken effect though there remain some positions to be filled. Events is now in the same department as Parks and Leisure (which includes Sports). There is a new Volunteer Co-ordinator post. The Senior Parks and Sports Development Officer is responsible for Clapham Common. A new Operations Supervisor will be based on Common with an apprentice and their responsibilities will include event reparations.

The maintenance team has two members of staff in the Clapham group and two in Brockwell Park. An extra park attendant is being hired, using funds allocated from the Neighbourhood Community Investment Levy. This person will be based in Clapham.

Winter litter clearing

The Committee agreed to pull together evidence on the need for weekend litter in the winter, in particular during warmer weekends. **Action: AS to coordinate.**

Events strategy

LBL's review of its Events Strategy has begun. Proposals will go to the Labour Group on 15<sup>th</sup> October, the Lambeth Parks Forum on 29<sup>th</sup> October, informal Cabinet on 1<sup>st</sup> November, consultation for eight weeks over the winter, Management Board in January, Cabinet in February and to implementation in April (covering budgets, strategy and policy documents).

The events operations budget will be merged with the parks budget. This follows a legal SC ruling that events profit goes to that site. This does not necessarily mean more money for parks as events are not currently profitable overall. The Lambeth Country Show currently costs a net ~£650k and LBL is aiming to reduce this. Across Lambeth the Events team oversees 300 events a year.

Winterville

LBL does not publish the revenue it receives from Winterville so the Committee will make an estimate. KC believes no discount is being given to Winterville this year. **Action: TB**

LBL believes the number of events may decline in future due to competition from other (particularly outer) London boroughs.

### Kayam

There is a proposal for a new music event in June, promoted by MAMA. This will be held in a marquee on weekends over four weeks. The marquee will remain set up on weekdays and be available for community events, though none are yet known of. If Kayam is approved Let's Rock would move. SW4 would still be held, following Kayam.

CCMAC's input has already been sought and the Committee had responded with its concerns.

### Sports

The GLL contract runs to March 2022. It includes a profit share with a development pot for community initiatives. GLL will soon take on responsibility for outdoor facilities in parks. This includes tennis courts and Rookery Road sports facilities. GLL will manage them commercially if they can install kiosks nearby.

### S106

LBL is not providing main capital receipts for parks and open spaces but £293k of S106 funding is available for Clapham Common is available. A steering group will be established of CCMAC members and a project officer from LBL's Capital Development team. Additional funding is being sought and LBL's new fundraiser is helping this effort. Crowdfunding may be used for the play areas and a grant application made to the Marathon Trust.

The two play areas are among priorities for improvement. KC also floated the idea of shutting down the paddling pool and creating a new wet play area by the main play area. Some committee members cautioned against this suggestion, feeling the paddling pool is currently well located.

However, the Committee recognises the operational problems there has been with the paddling pool over a number of years. Its operation is part of LBL's wider facilities management which is held by Engie and due to expire in March 2019. CCMAC recommends that Engie's contract is not renewed.

SM, JR and LB will initially take forward CCMAC's position on spending of development funds. This group will update CCMAC and feedback as relevant to the Playgrounds and Sports working groups. They aim to have an update for the next CCMAC meeting. SM will recirculate the list of priority projects. **Action: SM**

### Green waste site

LBL is still trying to turn the green waste site into a proper composting site. It is obtaining quotes to put in 30 cubic yard skips. Nothing new is being put in the site and scrap metal will be going next week. £30k is available to start on works for concrete pads. It will install a number of bays to shred and compost green waste, and also to take woods chips.

MV requested that KC let BB know if they can be of help.

### Rats

The beds at La Baita are being removed. New beds will be put in only if the problem with rats has been resolved.

### Bandstand maintenance

KC said some maintenance work was undertaken last year. There was a fund for maintenance but this has expired. KC said a specialist is probably required to inspect the bandstand every five years or so.

### Bowling green and cafe

The bowling green generated £3k last year. KC will look at tendering one bowling green for a concession, for example for a café or mini golf. The other bowling green will be kept.

## **2. Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The minutes were passed.

## **3. Matters arising**

### Grassy knoll

This is Clapham BID has agreed the contract and work will start in November. It is not the ideal time for growing grass and this aspect of the works will be redone if necessary.

### Trees

MR met with Iain Boulton and Ajay Joshi from LBL to identify where to plant the trees donated by FCC.

MR has received an offer of a further donation from Audley Care Homes, near Clapham South. It will pay for two, to be located near the care home, perhaps replace two existing ones that are struggling.

### Bandstand concerts

The season has concluded. Donation buckets have been a success, at about £40 per concert. CCMAC pays for insurance, the PA and technical support, and provides medical aid.

Attendance has been good but variable, from dozens to hundreds. The Committee will aim to increase marketing activity next year.

## **4. Bulb and wildflower planting**

FCC is looking at opportunities for bulb planting. Crowne Plaza has offered to provide some staff volunteers for bulb planting. Potential locations are the paddocks, on the Common or on the side of the grassy knoll. SM will email MR the location for any planting on the grassy knoll. **Action: SM**

The Colour Your Common wildflower meadow project continues.

## **5. Working Groups updates**

### TLE

The wildflower meadow strips are flowering. There will be a volunteer session on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 2-5pm and Good Gym will visit on 16<sup>th</sup> October.

### Playgrounds

The Committee discussed the governance of capital improvement plans for the playgrounds. The Playgrounds working group will be able to move forward following feedback from SM, LB and JR's upcoming conversations with LBL.

### Sports

Parkrun has asked the Ambulance Service to provide training in using defibrillator located near La Baita. They are seeking volunteers who are often in the area.

Work on the changing rooms has begun, including providing new female shower facilities.

## **6. Member organisations updates**

### Bandstand Beds

Bandstand Beds has submitted its application to become a Community Interest Organisation.

It is raising further money for the pathways to provide better access to the garden and is awaiting the results of some grant applications. It has also put in a grant application for a composting toilet.

## **7. AOM**

The Annual Open Meeting will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

As part of the communications ahead of the AOM, nominees for election to be a community representative will be reminded of the time commitment that can be expected with the role.

## **8. AOB**

### Noticeboards

The notice board near the entrance to the Common may be moved to a better position.

CCMAC now has a key to the noticeboard at La Baita.

A new noticeboard will be put up near the Colour Your Common wildflower meadows. This could be used for other items too, such as like Bandstand Concert.

### Polygon

A start date for the landscaping works is expected soon.

### Winterville

Planning Application Committee will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

## **9. Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is 1<sup>st</sup> November, 7pm at Omnibus.