

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

Thursday 6th December 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), Adrian Darley (AD), David Dandridge (DD), Cllr Nigel Haselden (NH), Mark Leffler (The Clapham Society – CS) (ML), Martin Read (MR) and Patrick Spencer (PS)

Guests: Kevin Crook (KC) and Mark Fisher (MF) from London Borough of Lambeth (LBL)

Apologies: Jeremy Keates, Cllr Joanna Reynolds and Bandstand Beds

1. LBL update

Restructure

Most vacancies are now filled. MF is the new Head of Parks and Leisure for Lambeth and will be the main manager for Clapham Common.

The recently appointed fundraising officer has moved to a new role, meaning the fundraising role is vacant – funding for it lasts for another six months. MF will keep pushing forward on the projects that are underway.

KC hopes for an improved level of sports pitch maintenance due to more capacity.

KC will provide detail on who is based at Clapham. **Action: SM**

Events site

Talbots has been selected as preferred supplier for works to improve the events site. Funding is likely to come from the Community Infrastructure Levy. Talbots will mulch the grass, decompact the soil, cultivate the ground, level and seed.

The aim is to restore the ground for mid-April. The areas will be fenced off from January to April for this work with Talbots on-site from mid-February. There will be a site visit with Talbots on 12th December. The cost is about £200k.

Events strategy review

LBL's Chief Executive has asked for a more detailed financial forecast under different options. These options will go to the LBL's Management Board in December or January. Alternative formats are being considered for the Lambeth Country Show. Taking into account all changes, LBL Events could move to a break even in the next financial year.

The main change for Clapham Common would be the introduction of tendering the event site. The initial proposals are to offer it for events for a whole summer month, perhaps August, with the site fenced in for the whole month. There would be no events on the site in June, July, September and October. Nevertheless, some Committee members felt that closing the site for a whole month would be excessive. There would be events at other times of year too, including Moonwalk, Winterville and one or two others.

The contract could be for as long as ten years. It would not come into force until 2020.

LBL is considering a more collaborative policy to events, including adopting the Parks for London Charter.

CCMAC is keen to input more. KC wants to wait until it goes through LBL's Management Board. There is likely to be a full public consultation in February. KC agreed CCMAC will be able to input prior to public consultation, specifically on the proposition to close the events site for August.

Greenwaste site fencing

The work is currently being scoped. Bandstand Beds will be consulted.

Rubbish is still being dumped on the site despite previous assurances. MF will tell LBL staff that this should cease.

2. Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 1st November 2018

The minutes were passed.

3. Matters arising

Rats

There has been no progress. LB queried whether the structures maintained by Bandstand Beds volunteers need to be removed. SM will speak with Chris Jude and urge LBL to obtain specialist advice. **Action: SM**

Trees

32 trees have been planted, largely from FCC funds. These trees include one in memory of Fred Uhde, which CCMAC is also donating towards.

Bulb planting

Funds from FCC have been used to plant 1,800 bulbs in the paddocks area and another 700 around The Avenue.

4. AOM publicity materials

The notice for the AOM will be published shortly, on CCMAC's website, Twitter feed, noticeboard, in local shops and through CCMAC's network.

CCMAC's aims and objectives will be added to the information for election nominees.

DD raised whether the constitution should be amended to allow one more Councillor position. There was no consensus for this.

5. PIL spend

There is £42k of Parks Investment Levy money to spend or commit to spend by March.

The Committee discussed the proposed use of PIL funds for revenue expenditure on winter litter clearing. The Committee was split on whether this was the best use of this money but a majority were in favour. This year's funding for this is capped at £6k.

Money would be spent on boundary security.

NH suggested a new lamp near the south side of Holy Trinity church.

NH also suggested re-gravelling at two sites, one at the top of Chase and one by the station side. Winterville may provide funding for this.

NH is also still seeking to use community payback resource for the painting of the paddling pool railings.

There is a separately funded programme for bandstand maintenance (for example, to repair peeling under the bandstand canopy). HO'M believes CCMAC should monitor the bandstand for routine maintenance.

The priority list of projects is likely to be revisited in a few months' time.

6. Working Groups updates

TLE

There will be a wildflower meadow volunteer session on Saturday 8th December from 10am-1pm. There is topsoil to spread out and flowers and shrubs to plant along Windmill Drive.

Two more strips will be planted next year, one on the northside and one an island near Clapham South. LBL will prepare the ground at the end of February/early March.

Playgrounds

SM will draft the previously discussed one-page summary of how CCMAC envisages play strategy across the Common, aiming to have this done by Christmas. HO'M will pass on existing material. **Action: SM and HO'M**

7. Member organisations updates

Bandstand Beds

The garden will close from Saturday 8th December until the end of January. A film capturing activity in the garden this year will be shown at Omnibus on Thursday 13th December.

Money from Tesco Bags of Help will be used along with other BBA funds for pathways for the polytunnel. LBL is getting quotes for the work with an aim of having the paths laid in February or March.

Bandstand Beds is looking forward to being consulted on the future of the green waste site.

FCC

FCC funds have been used for bulbs, trees and gravel entrances. A gravel entrance has been put in near Recovery Café and FCC will fund another one close to Clapham South.

FCC would like tidying up of the turf around the boating lake, near the entrance to Winterville. FCC is looking into getting turf.

CS

CS has worked with FCC on seeking a clarification from LBL on powers being used to allow large events on Common. They have legal advice suggesting LBL may have gone beyond its statutory powers.

8. AOB

Noticeboard keys

Several members of the Committee now have keys to the CCMAC noticeboard.

User groups

SM will circulate a list of the Common's user groups. **Action: SM**

Lambeth Local Plan

The consultation on the Local Plan closes 17th December.

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is 10th January, 7pm at Omnibus.