

Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC)
Thursday 5 December 2019 at 7pm
Omnibus Theatre, 1 Northside, Clapham, SW4 0QW

Minutes

Present: Simon Millson (Chair – SM), David Dandridge (Vice-chair – DD), Adrian Darley (Treasurer – AD), Cllr Linda Bray (LB), Cllr Tim Briggs (TB), Cllr Joanna Reynolds (JR), Krishna Siva (KS), Andrew Summers (Clapham Society – AS) Raffaella Principe (Friends of Clapham Common – RP), Bruce McInnes (BM)

Apologies: Cllr Nigel Haselden (NH), Helen O'Malley (HOM), Marion Edwards (Bandstand Beds – BB), Paul Stephenson (PS) and Jeremy Keates (JK).

Guests: Karina Kaatz (KK) and Lisa Millar (LM) – parents whose children use Clapham Common playgrounds.

DD agreed to take the minutes.

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Matters arising

Friends of Clapham Common (FCC) tree planting.

At the last meeting the RP presented a tree planting proposal from the FCC. They would now like to make an amendment to this, adding an extra row of trees/hedgerow between the Battersea Rise playground and the South Circular. RP will email the new planting plan to CCMAC, to be forwarded to Lambeth Council.

Playground update

- In the absence of Lambeth Officer, Caroline Steaks (CS), who is leading on this £350,000, JR informed the committee of the latest developments. Robust, low-maintenance, inclusive (PIPA) play equipment for 0- to 12-year-olds will be selected. The structures will be made from natural or recycled materials which have a low impact on the environment, although possibly not wood it is prone to warp. The project will be put out to groups to come up with a design concept to build.
- It was felt the design should be in keeping with what is already there, although the existing sand pit will go due to health and safety issues.
- Arboreal surveys are being carried out on the safety of the trees in the playground. It's possible the trees will be incorporated into the playground's new design, perhaps for cableways and climbing equipment.
- Concerns were voiced over the potential loss of trees or pollarding.
- Questions were raised about the future of the existing café in the playground. There were plans for The Spinney to make use of the space. It was suggested

that CS and JR should contact Jane Christofi, Assistant Head at Clapham Manor Primary School and Children's Centre, about future plans for the café.

- CS will attend CCMAC's April meeting to present the final plans for the playground. Installation will start in May with an anticipated completion date of July 2020.
- Committee members expressed concern at such a short time frame to complete the project, and the playground being closed for eight weeks during such a busy time of year.

Redevelopment of redgra pitches

- There are two redgra pitches situated between the Common's circus site and Battersea Woods. One overgrown with weeds, the other in poor condition but used for Sunday matches by London's South American community.
- Lambeth would like to redevelop both pitches. SM has met with various sports people and Lambeth officers to explore ways of bringing them back into use. Suggestions are multipurpose sports pitches or creating a hard surface events site, by linking the redgra pitches with the circus space.
- Iain Ross, Lambeth's Head of Parks and Leisure Services, will attend the January meeting to discuss options. Meanwhile, AD will pull together CCMAC's sports working group.

Lambeth PIL (park investment levy) Spend

- The PIL income is £80K less than expected, due to Winterville not happening. Some of the agreed spending will be deferred until the next PIL income round.

Annual open meeting (AOM) – Thursday 6 February 2020

- SM suggested that if any committee members are thinking of standing down, now is the time to let him know. Currently one new committee member will be elected at the AOM. Members stressed the need for someone who will commit to taking on some of the work of the organisation and who will take an active part in meetings.

Working group updates

- **Greenwaste site**
Iain Ross has secured some funding for the development of the greenwaste. He will share plans for the site at our January meeting.
- **TLE (trees landscape & ecology)**
Bird and bat boxes and bird feeders, purchased as part of the PIL spend, are on order. There will be a TLE walkabout at the end of January to decide where best to place them.
AD has applied for free Taylor's bulb from the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association.

Member group updates

Bandstand Beds (BB)

- On Saturday 23 November BB planted 50 whips, part of the Mayor of London's 55,000 tree giveaway. The whips were planted near the community garden on Windmill Drive. Mayor Sadiq Kahn attended the planting event, kicking off this year's National Tree Week.
- The composting toilet unit, funded by the National Lottery Awards for All England, will be delivered on 10 December.
- A purchase order has been raised for laying of pipework for mains water to be connected directly to the shipping container kitchen.
- The garden will now be closed until 25 January 2020.

Friends of Clapham Common (FCC)

- On Sunday 24 November the FCC planted 100 more whips from the Mayor of London at various locations on the Common.
- The group also planted 200 spring flowering bulbs at the edge of Battersea Woods.
- On Saturday 7 December the FCC will hold a litter pick.

AOB

- EventLambeth's Community Event Fund has just launched. CCMAC would be eligible to make an application for an event to celebrate the Bandstand's 130th anniversary next year. The deadline for applications is Friday 24 January 2020. SM, DD and AD will meet in December to discuss further.
- Concerns were raised about the malfunction of the website. SM now has contact details of people who may be able resolve the issues, in readiness to promote the AOM.
- There are rough sleepers in a tent surrounded by cardboard boxes, close Eagle Pond. At our last meeting, Cllr Paul Gadsby suggested contacting him directly about homeless issues. JR will get in touch with Cllr Gadsby.

Next meeting **Wednesday** 8 January 2020.