

# Kennington, Oval & Vauxhall Forum

Centenary Hall, Cottington St, SE11

**9 June 2009, 6.30 for 7.00 pm**

## Minutes

**Present:** Maureen Johnston (Chair), Priscilla Baines, Gordon Johnson, Mary Acland Hood, Dylis Cossey, Elizabeth Scott, Michael English, Ian Adams, Alison Kennedy, Marilyn Evers, Jill Gregson, Angela Rayner, Alison Packer, Frank Manning, Veronica Ledwith, Lee Amarteifio, Charles Pender, Matt Griffiths, Tetla, Laura Morley, (Into University), Cllr Mark Harrison, Frances Forrest (minutes)

**In attendance:** Clive Fraser

**Apologies for absence:** Angus Aagaard, Eamonn McMahon, Tricia Anderson, Celia Stothard, John McEwen, Heather (South Connections).

1 **Minutes of the previous AGM** (June 2008): These were agreed as an accurate record.

1.1 **Matters arising:**

**1.1.1 The Beaufoy:** Cllr Mark Harrison provided an update. The latest proposal is for an Arts and Crafts Academy for 14-18 year olds. The Arts and Crafts Museum, in partnership with the de Morgan Foundation, was looking less likely owing to finances not being available. Different options were being explored and negotiations were still continuing, as is the position with the Beaufoy Trust.

**1.1.2 Lilian Baylis** (former) school site: Cllr Harrison said that negotiations were ongoing. All agreed that the current use was a very good temporary use and that we looked forward to ongoing community use of the site.

**1.1.3 Dangerous Dogs;** The Met Police now used the term 'status dogs' and the subject continued to have a high profile.

2 **Vauxhall Supplementary Planning Guidance** (SPG): Clive Fraser said that this was a response to development pressure and was designated an area of growth in the London Plan. Consultation had started at the Forum on 20 October 08. Two thousand newsletters leaflets and questionnaires had been distributed around residents and local businesses, an on line survey had been posted on Lambeth's website and public exhibitions had been held at Vauxhall Bus Station, Phoenix House, the Redfearn Centre, the Durning Library and The Spring (Vauxhall Gardens Community Centre) during the six weeks of statutory consultation. Press releases had been sent out and he

had visited the Kennington Association's Planning Group. 689 questionnaires had been returned and 396 street surveys had been completed, of which 25% had been workers. Just over 30 responses had been received from local organisations.

In parallel to this, TfL had been working up their Vauxhall, Nine Elms and Battersea proposals, which Lambeth wish to be in alignment with. The GLA had produced an initial draft and had consulted in September. Work was being done by TfL on the transport issues – what level of transportation – buses, interchange improvements, tram, extension of the route through Nine Elms to Battersea Power Station, was required.

The response to that consultation included:

- improved access to the river and river walk
- Improved access around the railway station
- New pedestrian cycle route through the new developments
- New cultural/leisure facilities in Vauxhall
- More shops in Vauxhall
- The least contentious area for tall buildings appeared to be around the interchange

In answer to questions from the floor about why Lambeth appeared to be fitting in with the London Plan rather than challenging it, Clive explained that there was a planning hierarchy of national guidance, regional guidance and local policy and there would be general conformity. He also said that the boundary between Vauxhall and Waterloo in the SPG documents was Lambeth Road, Lambeth Bridge and the roundabout and that tall buildings were defined as 8 stories or more. Until the SPG had been approved existing guidance including the draft SPD would be used to deal with applications, and common sense would be used.

Vauxhall Tube Station was the core area, and Albert Embankment was separate.

Comments were that tall buildings had proved to be a disaster for the country in the 1950s and that what Vauxhall needed was open space. Another comment was that the gyratory system needed to go, that the amount of open space should at least be preserved per head of population. Bicycle parking was needed at the Oval, and although it had been promised in an earlier S106 agreement, it had never been provided. Clive confirmed that St George's (builders) were obliged to provide a pier at Vauxhall if a river bus could make use of it. Clive confirmed that there would be further consultation prior to the Cabinet deciding on the final version in the autumn of 2009.

### 3 **AGM:**

3.1 **The Chair's report** of the year 2008-09 was accepted. The Chair reported that KOV, with Waterloo Community Coalition (WaCoCo), would be organising an Expo community event on 10 October 12-4 at Waterloo Action

Centre, 14 Baylis Road SE1, with a £10k budget and a theme of People and Places. Catering and publicity tenders were being invited from local providers. The format would be similar to last year's pilot organised by the Town Centre Office, with interactive community and provider stalls, entertainment, food, a debate and the identification of three local priorities. Part of the agreement with the funders (Lambeth) was that there should be a minimum of 250 people attending, 28 neighbourhood based groups or services and at least 35% of attendees should be people who are not regular attendees at consultation events.

She would be attending the Lambeth Forum Chairs' network meeting on 23 June.

She reported back from the Prince's Safer Neighbourhoods Panel that controlled drinking zones were being considered and it was confirmed that the subject had also been raised at the Oval SNP. It was agreed that such by laws gave the Police discretionary powers to confiscate alcohol from people creating a nuisance and there need not be a blanket ban on people wishing to drink and not creating a nuisance.

A Lambeth Citizens Panel was being set up, to review proposals and agree a shortlist of ideas. The Chair was thanked for her work throughout the year.

**3.2 Treasurer's Report:** Veronica Ledwith's Treasurer's Report was accepted. It was announced that KOV had been granted £4,000 running costs for the year, with the likelihood of more being available later if necessary. Veronica was thanked for her work as Treasurer and for the Board in general.

**3.3 Elections to the Board:** The following Forum members were elected unopposed:

Ian Adams, Tricia Anderson, Chris Cossey, Marilyn Evers, Marilyn Gould, Maureen Johnston, Eamonn McMahon, Frank Manning, Alison Packer, Angela Rayner.

#### **4 News from Forum members:**

**4.1 Lambeth Community Care Centre, Monkton St;** Dilys Cossey reported that a review of care services in Lambeth, by NHS Lambeth, was underway. Monkton St was part of the provision of care services but intermediate care in the home was the priority. Pulross Centre in Brixton had 20 intermediate beds so, with Monkton St, Lambeth was in theory over provided for. Monkton St would be 25 years old next year and had beautiful gardens and renowned architecture. To make more space for wheelchairs and hoists it was operating at 17 beds. If fewer than 16 beds were available it would be economically unviable and Dilys feared this could mean that Monkton St could be considered surplus to requirements. Friends of Lambeth Community Care Centre had been formed in 2007 and were members of KOV. They had about 80 members and were looking for more. Michael English commended Dilys and the rest of the committee for their achievements and

suggested that health issues should be on KOV's agenda once a year starting in September.

**4.2 Kennington Park;** Gordon Johnston, Chairman of Friends of Kennington Park, said the playground had been opened by Kate HOEY MP in march and a new nature trail for children was being planned for the autumn.

**4.3 Durning Library:** Priscilla Baines, Chairman of Friends of Durning Library said they were holding their annual summer party on 15<sup>th</sup>, the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Friends group and of the saving of the library, 6.45 till 8.30. Entrance donations of £2.00 were being requested.

**4.4 Friends of Vauxhall Park** reported that their summer fete would be held on 21 June from 2 to 5.00, everyone would be welcome.

**4.5** Alison Kennedy reported **that St Peter's Vauxhall** at 310 Kennington Lane was holding a summer festival between 28 June to 12 July. [www.crossoverlambeth.org](http://www.crossoverlambeth.org) for booking arrangements.

**4.6 Lollard St Adventure Playground:** Lee Amarteifio said that International Play Day would be celebrated locally, on 5 August, in Kennington Park with workshops and family activities. It was suggested that youth provision might be a suitable topic for a Forum meeting, perhaps in Jan/Feb, with a Council speaker.

**4.7** It was reported that a **Safer Homes Fund** to make homes more burglar proof was available till 31 July 2009, tel 020 7837 7883.

**4.8** It was also announced that the **Arts Lav project** at Kennington Cross had achieved both Ward Purse and North Lambeth Parish funding and work would be starting soon.

**4.9 Vauxhall Society:** Mary Acland Hood reported that the Vauxhall Society was holding an open meeting on 17 June in St Stephen's Church Annexe, Wilkinson St near Albert Square (SW8 1DH) and invited everyone. Covering a wide area, roughly the same as the parliamentary constituency, it has been the local civic society for 40 years and has charitable status so could channel funds to other groups. Amongst its achievements had been its very detailed comments on the London Plan, and being one of the few organisations invited to give evidence in person. Everyone wished the Society well and hoped it would have more a greater profile.

**4.10 Into University:** Laura Morley, Centre Manager, introduced Into University as an educational charity since 2001 set up to offer help for children and young people who would not normally go to University. Their approach was to take years 5 and 6 from local primary and secondary schools, for one week at a time and offer science activities and visits out of London, Year 6s had a graduate ceremony at a university at the end and participants often felt inspired to consider higher education.

Free homework clubs were run at the centre after school during term time, and local volunteers helped. Into University also ran a mentoring programme, pairing current students with young people, for a year of contact, with a big party at the end of the year. 2212 young people in Lambeth had been seen in the last year. This year the celebration evening would be held on 15 July with food , drink and a presentation to the young people. Every programme was evaluated by both students and teachers.

5 Ian Adams proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair for her work throughout the year, and this was agreed unanimously.