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**Norwood Forum Committee**

**Monday 21 January 2019 at 7:00pm**

**The Hope pub, 49 Norwood High Street, SE27 9JS**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Anne Crane (ACr),Kim Hart (KH), Su McLaughlin (SMcL), Noshir Patel (NP) (Chair), Sunil de Sayrah (SdS) (Treasurer), and Philip Virgo (PV)

**Apologies:** Ana Capone (ACa),Colin Fenn (CF), Gloria Orosungunleka (Vice-Chair) (GO),Jan Ware (JW) (Secretary); Councillor Jackie Meldrum (JM) (initially for lateness)

**Also present:** Wendy Jackson (part), Sarah Coyte (Lambeth Council) and Tim Stephens (TS) (Administrator)

Su McLaughlin in the Chair

1. **Membership of the Committee**

NP advised that JW had resigned as Secretary and Committee member. The Committee regretted her resignation, and placed on record its heartfelt thanks for all the work Jan had undertaken over many years as Secretary and leading Committee member on behalf of Norwood Forum and the local community.

SdS would now administer Facebook with SMcL.

1. **Promoting Local Businesses**

Wendy Jackson outlined the local businesses project now nearing completion at Herne Hill. Station to Station had suggested Norwood Forum could facilitate a similar project for Norwood, and had held initial discussions with NP, SdS and SMcL. The project would be financed through grant funding, application documentation would be drafted by SdS and SMcL, the grant received would be held by the Forum, and WJ would invoice for payments due.

She explained the national context of failing High Streets and gave examples of the sort of bespoke actions that could be taken in a local context. A plan of action would be developed through discussion with shopkeepers and local people. Case studies and references were available. The grant application process would take a few months, and the project itself would run for about six months.

The Committee was keen to ensure that the work covered local business throughout the three wards and not just West Norwood town centre or the BID geographical area, and was very much in context of establishing what local people wanted rather than duplicating work being undertaken by Station to Station.

Establishing where and why local people did their shopping would be helpful. PV outlined local crime issues and a Herne Hill shopkeeper alert group.

1. **Notes of the previous meeting (26.11.18)**

Approved.

The LFN grant application for £5k had been approved and received.

1. **Norwood Planning Assembly**

SdS would attend the meeting to be held the next day.

NPA was now focusing on a neighbourhood plan covering West Norwood town centre and the KIBA with key area policies, and for a referendum in May 2020 (to coincide with the election for London Mayor and Assembly). The received planning study set out three options. A Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO) which gave outline planning permission for particular types of development in an area was being pursued.

The freehold for the B&Q site was on the market; B&Q hold the lease until 2034 (break at 2030).

1. **Building a Safer West Norwood** (see written report)

In addition to the written report, PV reported:

* An initiative to address Knife Crime through linkage with the new North Wood Group Practice and other agencies
* Celebrate (eat and dance) might be held on a number of faith group feast days and/or a one day celebration
* The possibility of holding the next meeting at the West Norwood Library (Community Room)
* He felt younger people assisting older people with IT needs should be undertaken by existing charities and other initiatives.

It was agreed to set aside £600 for Safer West Norwood initiatives.

1. **Streetworks**

Tulse Hill gyratory: due to financial pressures, TfL had not been able to include the scheme in the December 2018 approved Budget and Business Plan. Continued work on modelling and outline design only was funded. If other fully funded schemes slip, Tulse Hill gyratory might be reconsidered.

Norwood Road: the Thames Water mains works (March or later) would have a major impact on traffic and delay resurfacing and diagonal crossing works and completion of this phase of Streetworks. Only two out of 20 expected street trees were to be provided, due to now stated problems with location of underground utilities.

1. **Planning applications**

Rear of 300-302 Norwood Road to York Hill: ACr would draft comments.

Brooks Laundry site: application expected to be considered by Planning Applications Committee in February 2019 and be recommended for approval.

81-89 Norwood High Street: ACr would draft comments on this pre-application proposal.

West Norwood Lawn Tennis Club: an application for reserved matters was now out for consultation. Agreed no action.

Yeatmans: objections submitted. Response awaited from ward councillors to request to call-in; it was considered that CF would be best placed to attend the meeting to make oral objections (if he was available).

White Hart pub: the application for change of use of upper floors did not also cover the pub. The number of illegal conversions from business to residential which have been allowed in Station Rise, and the fact the pub has been shut for some months, might make it difficult to object effectively to any subsequent application for change of use of the pub. Agreed no action.

KH raised idea of keeping a brief win/lose list to record all this hard work.

1. **Year of Culture** (see written report)

KH introduced the previously circulated report, and the following actions were agreed:

* Website: noted updating so far; cttee members to send to TS info. on events in their assigned wards.
* Key Community Stakeholders: KH to chase non-responders.
* Launch: gradual growth of project preferred to formal launch now. Celebration later in the project mooted. Review progress on 01.04.19. Celebration idea: dead local celebrities.
* Monthly theme: KH to circulate ideas for cttee member contributions.
* Champions: KH to circulate initial ideas for cttee member contributions. Poetry Slabs: KH to seek their involvement, and of other poets. Possible commissioning of a poem for Norwood.
* Grand finale: Festival of Light idea supported. Work with Feast and others.

1. **Station to Station**

SMcL and NP would attend the next traders meeting on 24.01.19.

1. **Development of Forum co-ordination role**

Committee member attendances at other groups: no further report backs.

Communication and confidentiality: it was correct practice for emails (and therefore email addresses) to be sent between committee members only. Agreed not to forward on emails to other groupings so as to avoid personal email addresses being shared with others, and original addressees inadvertently being included in subsequent email trails. Appropriate Norwood Forum information should be shared with others by way of a fresh email (copy and stick). KH would examine whether a google distribution group might hide email addresses.

1. **Forum communications**

Website: contributions to Events listings to be sent by all to TS. PV would advise TS on views on the Police information, now posted on the website, and provide notes on other community safety information that could be uploaded pending an alternative on-line notice board. TS to also post Lambeth Council information such as links to ward maps, ward councillors, AMs, MPs etc.

1. **Chair’s report**

No further report.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

No further report.

1. **Other business**

Friends of West Norwood station: murals in both Hannan Road and Cotswold Street were now mooted. Possible crowdfunding and public consultation were flagged. Grant of £150 approved for volunteer expenses, paint and materials, noting that Norwood Action Group and Station to Station had approved similar grants. As active members of the Friends, NP and SdS took no part in the decision-making.

Next meeting: Monday 25 February 2019 (7pm at The Hope).

The meeting ended at 9:15pm.

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| **Action Points {last date discussed)** | **Who** | **When** |
| 1. Promoting local businesses project {21.01.19}:  * Grant application * Project feedback | SdS & SMcL |  |
| 1. Thurlow Park Road zebra crossing {11.01.18} | NP> Cllr Birley |  |
| 1. Planning issues {21.01.19}:  * Rear of 300-302 Norwood Road to York Hill * 22-28 Norwood High Street * Yeatmans Norwood Road: make reps. At Cttee | ACr  ACr  CF |  |
| 1. GDPR and data protection: review position {17.05.18} | JW/TJS | By 01.06.19 |
| 1. Networking event {25.07.18} | ACa |  |
| 1. Friends of West Norwood station: murals {21.01.19} | NP & SdS |  |