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**Norwood Forum Committee**

**Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 5:00pm**

**Zoom meeting**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Ibtisam Adem (IA), Anne Crane (ACr),Kim Hart (KH) (Vice-Chair), Su McLaughlin (SMcL), Gloria Orosungunleka (GO), Noshir Patel (NP) (Treasurer), Sunil de Sayrah (SdS) (Chair) and Philip Virgo (PV)

**Apologies for absence:** Gerry Evans (GE) (Lambeth Council)

**Absent:** James Davis (JD)

**Also present:** Councillor Jackie Meldrum (JM)(Lambeth Council); Tim Stephens (TS) (Administrator)

Sunil de Sayrah in the Chair

1. **Notes of recent meetings**

Committee (Wednesday, 15 July 2020): approved

AGM (Friday, 14 August 2020): noted

1. **Chair’s report**

Norwood Road (Tulse Hill railway bridge) West Norwood Cemetery Mural: JM reported the Council believed all invoices to Network Rail had been paid and this could not be the impetus for any necessary relocation. SdS confirmed Norwood Forum would wish there to be community involvement if resiting was contemplated. SdS and Rob Andrew (Norwood Action Group (NAG)) had carried out some essential cleaning, and SdS would feedback accordingly. JM to chase on developments.

Lambeth History Forum: Norwood Forum had asked to become a member; JM would update and chase Councillor Sonia Winifred accordingly. It was likely the body was independent of the council though using the auspices of Lambeth Archives.

1. **Ward boundary consultation: submission of comments**

NP reported:

* The NAG proposal was to have four wards with two councillors covering the area of the current three wards.
* Lambeth Council was proposing some adjustments to the existing area boundaries with either Gipsy Hill or Knights Hill (as adjusted) reducing to two councillors. The expanded Thurlow Park would be renamed Rosendale. A reduction from nine to eight councillors was felt to be almost certain because of the heavy increase in electoral numbers in the north of the borough, and the constraint of the borough boundaries around Norwood.

In discussion:

* ACr explained the reason for the NAG proposals
* KH: a no change option could be recommended; this was thought unlikely to be realistic given change elsewhere
* KH: as the tools to project accurate ward boundaries were not available to the public etc, general comments only could be made
* PV: the two Council proposals provided better boundaries around the West Norwood town centre.
* SdS: two councillor wards might create difficulties for cover if this was the norm for the area, and a preference for Knights Hill to remain with three councillors.
* NP: the difficulties for some Gipsy Hill residents to regard West Norwood over Crystal Palace as their town centre. Each proposal had advantages and disadvantages.
* JM: the published draft Electoral Commission proposals (January - March) would allow a further period of public consultation

Agreed: Committee officers to develop the exact wording of the Forum response, accepting new local boundaries and if a two councillor ward was likely that this be for Gipsy Hill ward.

1. **Vice-Chair’s report**

On the basis of the written report by KH, prepared following consultation with individual committee members on their suggestions and any offers to undertake work on the Forum’s behalf, the following decisions were taken on the suggested projects for 2020-21:

* COVID19 website information: to be kept up to date.
* Coronavirus Response Consortium: Officers to discuss approach.
* Digital Inclusion Committee: agreed. KH represents the Forum.
* Blue Plaques: see next minute.
* Community Safety Partnership: approved proposed cycle of meetings, with the first meeting in late October and the second in November.
* Window Wanderland: Friday 27 November – Sunday 6 December: agreed.
* Tree pits: SdS to ascertain if any appetite for further work.
* Small parcels of land (verges, islands etc not in council ownership): research and undertake resident participation work to seek protection as Assets of Community Value. A parcel of such land at St. Peters Close had been sold recently. Written report required to next meeting covering list of land and work involved so a volunteer to lead on this work could be agreed.
* Local Listing: SdS to establish any role for Norwood Forum with this Norwood Planning Assembly initiative.
* Station to Station: suggested quarterly strategic meetings agreed.
* Community Conversations: agreed to continue with roughly monthly sessions; all to submit ideas for topics (and participants). A session with the local Safety Neighbourhood Panels and History/heritage might be early subjects.
* Knowledge and goods local sharing project: SdS to approach Paxton Time Bank to establish their work throughout our area, and offer publicity etc.
* Pensioners Xmas Party: SdS to contact NPG to discuss alternatives in the light of the pandemic. Ideas welcome on widening focus.
* Community Chest grants: develop admin. process and seek applications via newsletter

1. **Blue Plaques**

In the previous week 17 of the 21 manufactured plaques had been installed by TS and KH.

Agreed:

1. Phase one: work to proceed on the new web page and a self-guided walk map, consideration given to approaching Norwood Society again for promotion, and consideration given to developing a guide led walk post-pandemic (and promotion via the Lambeth History Forum). The self-guided trail would be launched via social media. Any launch might include Lambeth Archives input.
2. Phase two: work to proceed as set out in the report over the next few months, at a cost of £300.
3. That researched and developed idea for potential plaques, especially between York Hill and Tulse Hill station and along Norwood High Street, would be welcome from all committee members; and that ideas also be sought from the community via newsletter and social media.
4. That TS continues to manage the project.
5. **Treasurer’s report**

Tech Aid: one invoice had been paid. KH to seek info. for newsletter on work undertaken and needs.

SMcL was now a joint signatory for cheques.

NP to investigate online banking.

1. **Planning applications and pre-applications**

339 Norwood Road/3 Thurlow Park Road: the seven story building was likely to be submitted to Planning Applications Committee in October and recommended for approval.

Windsor Grove: still no date yet for consideration by Planning Applications Committee.

Mencap Offices 45 Knights Hill: application previously approved for conversion of offices to residential, and new application this week for an extra floor of residential accommodation.

Knollys Road new development: no developments

New 5G masts: none had been received for consultation, although applications were already under consideration for elsewhere in the borough, including one for an 18m mast next to Brockwell Park (application ref.: 20/02898). Consideration of such applications would need to include any affect on pavement space as well as height and aesthetic appearance.

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods: none had been mooted yet for our area, the closest (currently under consultation) was at Tulse Hill. There had been publicity and consultation issues, and campaigns for the removal of schemes in Lambeth and neighbouring boroughs where implemented using emergency powers. NP would reply to a recent correspondent to the effect that any impact on particular disabled people should be minimal as motorised traffic was diverted not banned, but difficulties should be raised. Perhaps ANPR could be introduced in time. Food bank volunteers had navigated alternative routes successfully. One Lambeth had protested at Lambeth Town Hall against LTNs, referencing the LB Wandsworth reported decision to remove those implemented.

School Streets: Monday to Friday (7:45-9:15am & 2:15-3:45pm): roads outside schools designated for pedestrians/ cyclists/exempt vehicles only. Two schemes had been implemented locally so far, and JM reported no complaints. The benefits accrued to the wider area, not just school users. The scheme required schools to volunteer to operate and staff the scheme and were additional to the school traffic plan; consultation was via the statutory Traffic Management Order.

Speeding traffic in Gipsy Hill: GO advised on engagement with Community Speedwatch.

Electric scooters: use was illegal except in designated pilot areas outside the borough, but their use on roads and pavements was creating local nuisance. JM would investigate the position on local enforcement.

1. **Local economy**

Not discussed.

1. **Forum community co-ordination role**

Not discussed.

1. **Forum communications**

Worked up stories for the website (news or events) were always welcome from committee members.

1. **Other business**

Consultation with hard to reach groups: JM reported on the ongoing Council consultation on the new Customer Services Centre.

Next meeting: not discussed.

The meeting ended at 7:30pm.

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| **Action Points {last date discussed)** | **Who** | **When** |
| 1. GDPR and data protection: annual review {15.07.20} | KH/ TS | June 2021 |
| 1. Defibrillator: research costs, national scheme, possible locations {19.11.19} | JD |  |
| 1. Clean air: a public update to be prepared {14.01.20} | SdS and ACr |  |
| 1. Streetworks Steering Group: future activity {19.09.20} | SdS |  |
| 1. Norwood Community Safety Partnership: cycle of zoom meetings {19.09.20}:  * Youth engagement and support programmes * Social prescribing and support for the elderly and vulnerable * Local access to skill, training, employment and work experience programmes * Community policing and Crime prevention * Health care in West Norwood | PV/KH | Late Oct  Nov. |
| 1. Window Wanderland 28 November – 12 December 2020 {19.09.20} | KH |  |
| 1. Blue Plaques {16.09.20}:  * phase one: website/promotion/launch/phase two * worked up ideas | TS  All |  |
| 1. Next Community Conversation {16.09.20} (ideas: all) | SdS/KH/NP |  |
| 1. LFN bid 2020-21 {15.07.20} | NP |  |
| 1. Online banking: potential {16.09.20} | NP |  |
| 1. Norwood Road (Tulse Hill railway bridge) West Norwood Cemetery Mural: location/cleaning/plaque {16.09.20} | JM  SdS |  |
| 1. Lambeth History Forum: membership {16.09.20} | JM  SdS | Completed |
| 1. Tree pits: any further work {16.09.20} | SdS |  |
| 1. Small parcels of land: designate as Assets of Community Value {16.09.20} | JM  KH |  |
| 1. Local listing (NPA) {16.09.20} | SdS |  |
| 1. Station to Station: quarterly meetings {16.09.20} | KH |  |
| 1. Paxton Time Bank: liaison and publicity {16.09.20} | SdS |  |

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| **Action Points {last date discussed)** | **Who** | **When** |
| 1. Pensioners Xmas support: NPG and wider {16.09.20} | SdS | 28.10.20 |
| 1. Community Chest grants: develop admin. process and seek applications {16.09.20} | KH |  |
| 1. Low Traffic Neighbourhoods: respond to correspondent {16.09.20} | NP |  |
| 1. Electric scooters: local enforcement {16.09.20} | JM |  |