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**Norwood Forum Committee**

**Wednesday 28 April 2021 at 4:30pm**

**Zoom meeting**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Anne Crane (ACr), James Davis (JD), Jane East (JE), Kim Hart (KH) (Acting Chair), Noshir Patel (NP) (Treasurer) and Philip Virgo (PV)

**Also present:** Councillor Jackie Meldrum (JM) (part); Gerry Evans (GE)(Lambeth Council);

Tim Stephens (TS) (Administrator)

**Apologies for absence:** Su McLaughlin (SMcL) and Gloria Orosungunleka (GO)

Kim Hart in the Chair

**Declarations of interest**

None.

1. **Notes of last meeting: 24 March 2021**

Approved.

1. **Acting Chair’s report** (written report)

The written report was circulated in advance which covered the following areas:

* Sharing of knowledge on Coronavirus, Census and London Mayoral election
* Consultation responses
* Update on projects receiving last year’s Community Grant funding
* Website redesign
* Committee recruitment
* Committee engagement and activities in 2021

KH highlighted the ongoing work with Sunil de Sayrah (former Chair) and NP to record the “eco system” of the Forum (its work and key contacts); all other committee members would also be invited to contribute.

Secondly, Veolia had rebranded the Street Champions scheme as Neighbourhood Champions in order to attract involvement from residents of estates. The new scheme was being advertised borough-wide by hanging signs on emptied bins. NP volunteered to link with Jason Prentis on the new project and establish the role for Norwood Forum in the revamp. GE would flag the new scheme at the LFN {update: GE has contacted Veolia and a presentation at LFN will be held after the election}.

1. **Streetworks update** (written report)

KH introduced the report, and the following issues were discussed:

* Norwood Road: regular catch up meetings with Lambeth officers were planned to ensure the outstanding works were completed in a timely manner and without widening of the scope.
* Tulse Hill gyratory: the Council would provide a public statement on the current funding gap and the future removal of the gyratory. Small pots of Council funds might be available to improve the environment in the interim. Further public engagement would need to be planned once the potential timeline was known.
* Naming the Station Rise to Norwood Road alley way: competition to be suggested to Elmgreen School (pupils had developed a design for the revamped alley, as part of Streetworks). ACr to provide a note on street naming principles to provide a foundation to take this idea forward.
* TfL had confirmed that the safety works (re-siting pedestrian crossing and street lamp) resulting from the fatal accident had been completed. ACr advised NAG had been pursuing the lighting issue and did not consider this resolved. It was agreed KH would this follow this up to avoid duplication of effort. A wider ranging lighting review is planned by TfL for this summer.

1. **AGM** (written report)

In the light of the report from KH, the Committee discussed the advantages of, and generally supported, delaying the AGM from Saturday 19 June 2021 to enable its integration as part of a planned local community summer weekender on 4-5 July. The Constitution required the AGM to “be held in or about June of each year”. The government planned to end all Covid restrictions from 21 June.

On the other hand, holding an online meeting broadcast live to Facebook (as for 2020) or You Tube would again enable more people to be involved, and would provide a record which could be viewed later at any time (many hundreds viewed the video after the 2020 AGM). Broadcasting a hall-based meeting would be technically challenging, but Rathbone might have the necessary skills and equipment. Also, community grant recipients might be filmed in the field to give their feedback.

It was agreed that this discussion would continue via email with the aim to have a framework agreed by the next week.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

Online banking: was now set up; Sunil was to produce a note on the authenticating role.

Signatories: KH needed to be added

LFN Grant

2020-21 Monitoring: NP and KH will need to meet with GE to sign off the 2020-21 accounts. Location possibly in NP garden.

2021-22 Bid: This would be a main agenda topic for the next LFN meeting (tomorrow 29 April). Once the content was signed off, GE will circulate the new forms. NP and JE to work up the Bid with input in advance from the whole committee. Location also possibly in NP garden.

1. **Community safety**

PV would establish the outcomes of the initial meeting of the Loneliness Test and Learn Project for the over 65s in Tulse Hill, Herne Hill and Thurlow Park Wards.

The Committee discussed the violent incident on Norwood Road on Sunday 25 April. GE advised this had been debated at a recent routine quarterly meeting of Safer Neighbourhood Panels Chairs where police were present but unable to provide any further information than that already in the public domain. Cllr Meldrum confirmed she had also been unable to obtain any further information. The Council statement (and the letter delivered to some households provided by PV after this meeting) have been published on the Forum’s website.

PV and GE would discuss community policing on estates.

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

AC to draft objections on:

* 24 Robson Road:
* Dalton Street:
* 75 Knollys Road
* Hainthorpe Road.

2-12 Ernest Avenue: a successful objection had been made; planning permission was refused.

Park Tavern: conversion to residential accommodation: a revised application with the required viability assessment had been published the previous day. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of the permanent loss of this pub, provision of housing, noise nuisance, car parking aspects and the possible impact on other pubs. ACr advised that the viability statement should be accepted and the Committee concluded the application should not be opposed.

Norwood Planning Assembly: a meeting was to be held the following week to review progress and plan future work on production of the neighbourhood plan. Further volunteers were sought to write chapters.

1. **Local economy**

Not discussed.

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

Not discussed.

1. **Forum communications**

Newsletter: articles for website and this Friday’s newsletter were most welcome.

KH raised how important re-engaging with the local community was as we eased out of lockdown, and all committee members were encouraged to forward information on events, activities and other news – however small – to info@, in a format ready to be added to the news or events pages if relevant. Knowledge of local issues are our lifeblood and bringing these to the attention of the committee absolutely essential.

1. **Other business**

PV reported on efforts to join up the various government programmes on online security and cyber crime and hoped the locally based Lambeth Made co-ordinator would be able to influence their planned, but dropped, pilot skills and employment programme in West Norwood.

PV also reported on the importance of summer activities for young people. The opening up of schools and community halls would be a vital component – and access to the database that KH compiled a couple of years ago might prove useful.

Next meeting: Wednesday 2 June 2021 (time TBD).

The meeting ended at 6:30pm.

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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. Norwood Community Safety Partnership: cycle of zoom meetings {24.01.21}:  * Schools, skills, jobs: TBA * Public zoom meeting * Lambeth Made: West Norwood hub? | PV |  |
| 1. Blue Plaques: phase two {24.02.21}:  * worked up ideas | TS  All |  |
| 1. Next Community Conversation {16.09.20} (ideas: all) | SdS/KH/NP |  |
| 1. Small parcels of land: Assets of Community Value {24.02.21}  * Need to proceed * Suggestions on areas of land | JM  All |  |
| 1. Community Chest grants: next programme {14.12.20} | KH/JE |  |
| 1. Streetworks: finishing the Norwood Road phase and a statement on the future of the Tulse Hill gyratory removal project. {28.04.21} | KH/NP/  JM/TS |  |
| 1. Naming the Station Rise to Norwood Road alley way: competition with Elmgreen School. ACr: note on street naming principles NP: consider competition {28.04.21} | ACr  NP |  |
| 1. LFN 2021-22 bid {24.03.21} To include planned projects by cttee members and any website improvements | NP/JE  All |  |
| 1. LFN 2020-21 monitoring {24.03.21}: sign off 2020-21 accounts. | NP/KH/  with GE |  |
| 1. AGM: ideas in light of discussion {28.04.21} | All  KH |  |