

DRAFT

LEYTON & WHIPPS CROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Norlington Boys School,
Norlington Road, London E10
on Monday 5th December 2005 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Chair:

Councillor B Sullivan

Councillors:

L Ali

T Bhogal

K Dhillon

M F Qureshi

B Smith

J Sullivan

Community Chair:

Steve Williams

Officers in Attendance:

Penny Allier

Nuzhat Anjum

Emma Chaplin

Leah Gaston

Vedia Hannan

David Knight

Melissa Lonergan

Bill Nisbet

Claire Witney

Community Councils Officer

Council Councils Lead Officer

Community Councils Officer

Community Councils Committee Manager

Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator

Principal Scrutiny Committee Manager

Community Safety Officer, Drugs & Crime Strategy Team

Community Safety Team

Community Councils Manager

Also Present:

Alison Gunnell

Neil Walker

Jenny Clarke

London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games

London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games

Waltham Forest Guardian

Residents Present:

There were approximately 42 residents present at the meeting.

PART 1 - COMMUNITY FORUM

Item

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The Community Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Loretta Hodges.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

Action

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

As a result of discussions on the minutes of the last meeting:

R Johnson noted that **Page 6, 1st Paragraph** is wrong, and it should have been minuted as a correction **Page 6, Item 6**.

R Johnson noted that **Item 7 Paragraph 2** of the minutes of 11 July 2005 should read as follows:

R Johnson asked, "in view of concern amongst residents, what was going to be done to mitigate the adverse effects on residents of the 2012 Olympics; if no-one could answer this on the spot:

1. When would we have an answer; and
2. What measures would be taken to ensure the mitigation efforts taken really did address residents' actual problems."

She stated that these questions should have appeared in the "Blue Sheets" but had been missed out; they need to be added in future. Accordingly, she requested that this that is carried forward to the questions on the blue sheets.

S Williams noted that the minutes subject to the above amendments were an accurate record of the meeting.

R Johnson stated that if we are going to have minutes they should be accurate.

S Williams responded by saying that her comments had been noted and would be included in the minutes.

T Goodchild pointed out that on **Page 9** he was called Goodtime but his name should be Goodchild.

A Gunnell

5. LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS

The Chair introduced Neil Walker and Annabel Gunnell from the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG). They gave a presentation that covered the future local impact and planned works for the Olympics. They informed the meeting that LOCOG was in the process of consultations London-wide but mainly with the five Olympic boroughs. Two video clips were shown one of which was of London being awarded the bid. A summary of their presentations are set out below:

There are two main Olympic organizations; LOCOG that is already in existence and the other is the Olympic Delivering Authority (ODA), which will be enabled, in the first quarter of next year. This is the organization that will be dealing with the infrastructure such as transport and other complex projects and handling the impact on local roads, etc. However, at some future meeting the ODA could be invited to make a presentation on the development of the infrastructure to this community council.

LOCOG has been in existence since early October and is responsible for running and delivering the games. Contracts in this connection have gone to companies across Europe. Contracts for installing underground power lines have been awarded and that for the aquatic centre has been finalized. Work on design and marketing is in process, as well as legal issues such as land acquisition, and the post of chief executives for both these organisations is in the process of being filled.

There are tender opportunities in the construction phase with individual

projects that have to be put together. They are interacting with Beijing, comparing notes to help the process, and ensuring that training venues are up and running as well as services are put in place to make sure the City continues to operate during the games. There will be five indoor facilities, being built as permanent facilities with 25-year life span, those that are not will be taken down and placed elsewhere, even another country. There will be new homes from the Olympic village and 12,000 new sustainable jobs.

A question and answer session followed and the main points of discussion on this issue are summarised below:

A resident: There is apparently a strategy to recruit a large number of volunteers to support the games will they receive any training?

Annabel Gunnell: Volunteers will be trained.

A resident: Will they receive any payments?

Annabel Gunnell: There will not be payment but there will be a reward package, to ensure they are not out of pocket.

A resident: What will be the lasting legacy of the games to London?

Neil Walker: There will be the largest community park in Europe with five sporting venues that will remain after the games have ended. There will also be a lasting legacy in terms of jobs and transport as a result of hosting the games.

Steve Williams: What funding is there for Local Employment and Training Framework, which was a requirement of getting planning permission.

Neil Walker: There is £9,000,000 available.

A resident: What will the money from the increase in Council Tax be spent on?

Neil Walker: That money is to go to the provision of new housing and the associated infrastructure. It is not going to stage the games, that is being funded from the private sector.

R Johnson noted that she asked three questions two meetings ago and should have been on the blue sheets. What is going to be done to mitigate the adverse effects on residents of the 2012 Olympics? When will we have a concrete answer?

Neil Walker: A full response would be sought and reported back through the blue sheets.

A resident: What about the effects of actually developing the Olympic Park?

Neil Walker: This is a major project that will transform the nature of London. Whilst it is appreciated this cannot be done without some disruption it is hoped that this will be minimised as much as possible. Traffic impact should be reduced by the proximity of the A12. As the vast majority of construction traffic will access the Olympic Park via the A12. The London Development Agency (LDA) will be working to minimise the impact. Workers can access the site via the public transport network.

S Williams: I am concerned about consultation over the methods of delivery of the work for the Games.

N Walker: The LDA is working on a Local Employment and Training Framework, which is currently with the local councils for consultation. In addition, there would be consultation with all the stakeholders and LOCOG representatives would be more than happy to come again to a future Community Council meeting with our colleagues from the LDA.

R Johnson: noted that she has been hearing a lot of things about

consultation but had not heard whether problems could be raised with LOCOG.

A Gunnell: There will be a public liaison unit that will probably have a website to access and phone numbers that people could ring but not confirmed yet.

A resident: The LOCOG apparently will be getting 3,000 people an hour across London to the games. How is this was going to be achieved?

N Walker: Extra carriages would be added to Docklands Light Railway (DLR) trains and the Jubilee Line so that train running capacity can be increased.

A Hudson: Queried what would be done to ensure that Olympic wear would not be copied and churned out by sweatshops.

N Walker: A full response would be sought and reported back through the blue sheets.

A Liddle: There is apparently going to be a surcharge of £20 on Londoners. Considering the Prime Minister's reference to the Olympic Bid as the nation's bid, the nation should be paying for it not just London.

A resident asked what was being planned as far as transport; additional accommodation and how the extra pressures being placed on the Borough would be handled.

N Walker: The International Olympic Committee (IOC) had been in the UK some days ago and said that what we are doing is streets ahead of other cities.

Cllr B Smith: The Olympic Park is being built on the flood plains of the River Lea and had concerns about future flooding.

N Walker: That is very technical and this is not our specialty. It involves all the planners, will take questions away and try to get answers on the flood plains.

S Williams: The Olympics will have an impact on Leyton for a long time, and as the Chair I would like to invite LOCOG representatives and their associates to come to a future meeting to answer questions.

It was noted that **R Johnson** had several additional questions and the Chair agreed that she would be given a written response to these.

A resident asked if written questions could be given to the LOCOG representatives at this meeting.

S Williams: Yes this could be done.

N Walker: It would be best for the questions to be given to the Community Council officer who could then to pass them onto the LOCOG.

A Gunnell

A Gunnell

**A Gunnell /
Community
Council**

6. OPEN FORUM / COMMUNITY DISCUSSION / RESPONSE SHEETS / BUDGET SPEND

Nazhut Anjum, Community Council Lead Officer gave a brief summary of items on the response sheet.

7. COMMUNITY CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTIONS

S Williams was the only candidate and was re-elected as Community Chair. There were three candidates for Community Vice Chair and **Miranda Grell** won the election with 32 votes.

S Williams announced her as her as the new Vice Chair and thanked the other two candidates for standing. He then handed over to the Councillor Bob Sullivan.

PART TWO - FORMAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Bob Sullivan (Chair).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Jenny Gray and Liaquat Ali.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. COMMUNITY SAFETY

Cllr Sullivan: introduced Vedia Hannan, the Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator for the area who explained her role. She advised that there are now three permanent members of staff to cover the area and to give assistance and advice to residents who report anti-social behaviour.

A resident raised questions about the reporting of anti-social behaviour and what powers the officers had to deal with them.

V Hannan: Residents would be initially asked to keep a diary, call the Noise Nuisance Team when an incident occurs and if it is repeated, measures can then be looked at to see what action can be taken, dependent on the time of occurrence. This work is done in partnership with the Safer Neighbourhoods Team.

A resident raised concerns about the large amount of fly tipping in her area. She recognised that the Council does remove the dumped items but the area is soon filled up again.

Cllr Sullivan advised that there is a problem with homes being converted into multi-occupation and dumping occurs as a result. He encouraged residents to report any incidents.

The resident expressed concerns that there might be a backlash if they reported someone who is dumping.

V Hannan: Any information received is treated in confidence.

Cllr Sullivan advised that he would wish to see an article on this issue published in the Waltham Forest Magazine.

4. CRIME PREVENTION WEEK

Cllr Sullivan introduced Melissa Lonergan, Community Safety Officer who explained her role. She referred the meeting to the yellow leaflet that had been distributed advertising crime prevention week, which was an opportunity for residents to find out about crime prevention and community engagement in the help in the fight against crime. Residents were invited to come to the road shows at locations including Tescos in Leyton and B & Q at Leyton Mills.

5. SCRUTINY UNIT PRESENTATION

Cllr Sullivan introduced David Knight, Principal Scrutiny Committee Manager, who made a presentation to the meeting explaining the Scrutiny process. The main points of his presentation are summarized below:

What is Scrutiny?

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission and its sub-committees carry out overview and scrutiny in Waltham Forest.

**Melissa
Hoskins,
Comm's /
Keith Wier,
ES**

The purpose of Scrutiny is two-fold:

- I. To make sure that decisions affecting policy implementation or service delivery by the Council are the best decisions that could be made; and
- II. 'Policy development' - to ensure that the Borough's policies and performance are continually being challenged and improved.

Scrutiny is undertaken by elected members of the Council (Councillors) who are supported by an independent Overview and Scrutiny Unit, which reports directly to Waltham Forest's Chief Executive. Scrutiny is one of the most important ways in which non-executive Councillors can influence Council policy and champion his or her constituents. In addition, it is not limited to monitoring the Council and can be applied to any agency whose activities affect local people, including the police, parts of the NHS or the fire authority.

A resident asked for an example of how scrutiny had worked.

D Knight If I were to single out one it would have to be the report which the Commission produced following the recommendation to outsource Street Services. When first presented to the Commission, Members were unable to support the findings of the report and therefore, with Cabinet agreement, a panel was established to investigate the tendering exercise and the recommendations. The result was to change the original decision and keep all refuse and street cleansing in-house, building on the improvements that had been made over the previous two years.

A resident asked if he could elaborate on how Children's Services are scrutinized?

D Knight: Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee which comprises nine Councillors was established to monitor and review the policies and practices of, and services provided by, the Council, its partners and contractors in respect of children and young people. In particular to monitor and evaluate performance and receive reports on matters relevant to the achievement of the five key outcomes of the Children Act 2004 (stay safe, be healthy, enjoy and achieve, achieve economic well-being, make a positive contribution) by the Council and its partner organisations. The Committee will also make reference where appropriate to the Health and Social Care Act 2001.

In conclusion David Knight stated that residents can get involved in scrutiny by:

1. • Suggesting a topic for investigation;
2. • Sending in their views;
3. • Becoming a Co-optee;
4. • Providing evidence; and
5. • Getting your community involved.

He encouraged resident to contact him for more information either by calling 020 8496 4736 or by sending an email to davidj.knight@walthamforest.gov.uk.

Finally, he informed the meeting that as most of the scrutiny meetings are held in public the attendance of residents is welcome.

9. AGENDA

Councillor Sullivan invited the meeting to suggest potential topics for consideration at future meetings. The responses are summarised below:

(A). WRITTEN QUESTIONS

A resident raised concerns about time being wasted during the Community Council meetings and suggested that if people want to ask questions they should be written down to save time.

Cllr Sullivan advised that there is a form that residents are asked to fill in.

(B). 999 CALLS

A resident raised concerns about rising street crime and that the police appear to only respond to 999 calls.

Cllr Sullivan replied that he would try to get the Borough Commander down to a meeting to answer questions about 999 calls.

A resident commented that if the calls are not 999 there is a long wait and people eventually give up.

**MPS /
Community
Councils**

(C) TESCOS

A resident had a query about the decision on modification of the road outside Tesco's and how the lorries would be accommodated.

Cllr Sullivan said that he had heard about this, but that the Council had not been consulted before hand.

Planning

10. FORMAL COUNCIL BUSINESS AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no formal business for discussion.

11. VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date and venue of the next meeting was confirmed as *27th February 2006 to be held at Leyton Sixth Form College, Essex Road, Leyton E10.*

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.00 p m.

Chairs Signature_____

Date_____