

## WALTHAMSTOW WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Walthamstow Academy, Billet Road, E17 5DP

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.30 pm

**PRESENT:**

**Councillor Chair:**  
Patrick Smith

**Councillor Vice Chair**  
Adam Gladstone

**Councillors:**

Bob Carey  
Sean Meiszner  
John Macklin  
Liaquat Ali

James O'Rourke  
Peter Woollcott  
Bob Wheatley  
Johar Khan

**Community Chair:**  
Philip Herlihy

**Community Vice-Chair:**  
Faisal Raja

**Officers in Attendance:**

Claire Witney  
Nick Burton  
Tony Banach  
Simon Bartlett  
Dawn Polis  
Penny Allier  
Alessandra Awolowo

Head, Community Engagement  
Head, Greenspace (Environment)  
Local Area Manager  
Officer, Community Safety  
Community Council Manager  
Community Council Manager  
Committee Manager

**Also Present:**

Representative, Ascham Homes  
Safer Neighbourhood Teams

**Residents Present:**

There were approximately 113 residents present at the meeting.

Item		Action
1	<b>WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS</b> The Community Chair Philip Herlihy ( <b>PH</b> ) welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Councillor Chair, Patrick Smith, presented ward Councillors, presenters and officers.	
2	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / MEETING CONDUCT – GUIDELINES</b> Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B Belam and Cllr A Akram (Cabinet Champion). The meeting wanted to record the absence of Mrs E Poulsen as a long standing member of the Walthamstow West Community Council, wishing her kind regards and a speedy recovery.	
3	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b> The following members declared their interests: Cllr Peter Woollcott as Vice President of the 7th Walthamstow Scouts Group. Cllr Bob Wheatley as Chair of the 7th Walthamstow Scouts Group.	

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Item

Action

**4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

This standing item is intended only to confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting and any matter arising will be discussed during the *Open Forum/Community Discussion*.

The following corrections were noted:

Page 8 - a resident (High Street ward) pointed out that in the summary given by Cllr O'Rourke, 'refurbishing the Scouts' Hut', was not a suggestions raised by residents during the discussion. Cllr O'Rourke agreed that he included this as his own suggestion.

**K Lord** proposed corrections. The Community Chair replied that he would review them, and amendments have subsequently been made to the Minutes for the June meeting, affecting:

- Item 5, paragraph 5 "William Morris ward –...",
- Item 8, paragraph 5 "K Lord raised the following points...",
- Item 8, paragraph 7 "K Lord stated ..."

The Community Chair has said: "*While our committee manager does a very good job in capturing for the minutes the key points of these lively meetings, it is clearly a very difficult task, and suggestions for corrections are actively welcomed.*"

**5 NEWS REPORT**

The Community Chair gave information on local news including issues and developments relating to the Council and other partners organisations.

**6 ANNUAL FUND 2009/10**

**D Polis** explained the voting process for the Walthamstow West Community Council's funding allocation 2009/2010.

**7 ANNUAL FUND 2009/10**

The Community Chair asked representatives from each group/voluntary organisation to give a short presentation of their project. The Community Chair then asked residents to indicate their choice for the Walthamstow West Community Council area; following this vote residents of each ward were asked to vote projects listed for their wards.

The results of the residents' vote were as follows:

<b>Walthamstow West Community Council Area</b>	<b>Sum</b>	<b>Votes</b>
Waltham Forest Dyslexia Association – tuition and summer school for young people with dyslexia	£2,400	59
The London Cricket School	£5,000	28
Waltham Forest Youth for Christ - young people mentoring project	£4,500	0
<b>High Street ward</b>	<b>Sum</b>	<b>Votes</b>
Raised flowers beds for residents in Nicholson Court, Forest Road E17	£1,200	18
Community notice board - Coppermill	£2,500	1

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Item	Lane/Edward Road junction			Action
	Anti-theft publicity, in the Walthamstow Shopping Mall	£2,185	0	
	Multi-sport sessions for young people aged 5 - 18, Stoneydown Park	£2,109.44	1	
	Half term/holiday Multi-Sport Camp for young people aged 5 - 18, Stoneydown Park	£5,288.80	5	
	Waltham Forest Disability Resource Centre – tai chi classes	£2,500	1	
	7 <sup>th</sup> Walthamstow Scouts Group – replacement of floor covering and provision of an accessible toilet to the Scout Hall	£10,000	9	
	<b>William Morris ward</b>	<b>Sum</b>	<b>Votes</b>	
	Play equipment (facilities for young people) etc behind Community Centre, Priory Court	£tbc (a contribution towards £22,640 total cost)	8	
	Lontano	£2,550	0	
	Worth Unlimited - mobile youth venue	£5,520	10	
	Orion Harriers - Athletic Club for young people (ages 10 - 19) at the Pool and Track and/or The Peter May Centre.	£2,000	9	
	<b>Higham Hill ward</b>	<b>Sum</b>	<b>Votes</b>	
	Multi-sports sessions for young people aged 5 - 18, Higham Hill Recreational Ground	£2,109.44	0	
	Half term/holiday Multi-Sport Camp for young people, aged 5 – 18 Higham Hill Recreational Ground	£5,288	1	
	Friends Group, at the underused community building known as "The Hut", Higham Hill Recreational Ground	£500	0	
	Community Youth Hut, Highams Park Recreational Ground	£1,000	0	
	Folly Lane Environmental Improvement	£500	0	
	The Mornington Trust - School Music project/education	£4,250	10	
	Orion Harriers - Athletic Club for young people (ages 10 - 19) at the Pool and Track and/or The Peter May Centre	£2,000	5	
	<b>Chapel End ward</b>	<b>Sum</b>	<b>Votes</b>	
	Multi-Sport Sessions for young people aged 5 – 18, Aveling Park	£2,109.44	2	
	Half Term/Holiday Multi-Sport Camp aged 5 – 18, Aveling Park	£5,288.80	2	
	Orion Harriers Athletic Club for young people (ages 10 - 19) at the Pool and Track and/or The Peter May Centre	£2,000	7	
	Chestnuts Farm Allotments Association -	£1,221.55	5	

community shelter.

All results were ratified in Item 8.

**8 ANNUAL FUND 2009/10 - FORMAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Following the discussion by the formal committee the Councillors present at the meeting ratified the following decisions (a summary of the debate has been included where applicable):

Item	<b>Community Council Area funding:</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount received</u>
	Waltham Forest Dyslexia Association – tuition and summer school for young people with dyslexia	£2,400
	The London Cricket School	£2,600
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£5,000</b>

Councillors' vote: unanimous.

**High Street ward:**

Raised flower bed project

**Cllr Meiszner** asked why the managing agents (i.e. London Quadrant) are not funding this work themselves.

**Cllr Reardon** said this project should come out of a core fund.

**Cllr Khan** said we should look at what Cllr Reardon said and this project should be funded from a core fund.

**Cllr Ali** also raised concerns, but stated that we should look at the votes of the residents in deciding what we should as councillors' support.

Multi-sport projects

**Cllr O'Rourke** raised concerns regarding the multi-sports sessions and half term/holiday multi sports camp. He believed that these projects were put in by officers and should be funded by the core fund of LBWF.

**Cllr Reardon** confirmed that the 2 sports projects were proposed by residents and had gone through a tender process and were now to be delivered by the sports and leisure department of LBWF.

**D Polis** reconfirmed that the 2 projects were originally residents' suggestions.

7<sup>th</sup> Walthamstow Scouts Group project

Questions were raised as to whether the scouts should receive money again this year as they had received approximately £10,000 last year.

**Cllr Wheatley** did not realise this group had received funds last year and expressed his concerns with them requesting a further £10,000 this year.

**Cllr Macklin** stated that the ward councillors should lead on this and the other

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councillors should support them in the decision.

**Cllr Woolcott** agreed.

**Cllr Khan** reiterated that they had received £10,000 last year and wanted to know how the fund had been used; how they were going to spend this new funding and if the group would be happy to receive a reduced amount.

**Cllr O'Rourke** reported that he believed the funding used last year benefited the scouts and a dance group.

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**Cllr O'Rourke** reported that the 7<sup>th</sup> Walthamstow Scouts Group has had the lease for 40 years.

It was agreed to call a representative of the 7<sup>th</sup> Walthamstow Scouts Group to the table to answer the above questions from the councillors. The scout's master confirmed that last years funding was used to repair the roof which had enabled another community group access to the building and that they could work with a reduced amount this year e.g. £5,000.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount received</u>
Raised flowers beds for residents in Nicholson Court, Forest Road E17	£1,200
Community notice board - Coppermill Lane/Edward Road junction	£2,500
Waltham Forest Disability Resource Centre – tai chi classes	£1,300
7 <sup>th</sup> Walthamstow Scouts Group – replacement of floor covering and provision of a accessible toilet to the Scout Hall	£5,000*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

\*7<sup>th</sup> Walthamstow Scouts Group has to demonstrate how the fund allocated in 2008/09 has been spent.

Councillors vote: 6 agreed, 2 declared their interest in 2 of the projects, 2 dissents and 1 abstention.

**William Morris ward:**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount received</u>
Play equipment (facilities for young people) etc behind Community Centre, Priory Court	£5,820
Worth Unlimited - mobile youth venue	£5,520
Orion Harriers - Athletic Club for young people (ages 10 - 19) at the Pool and Track and/or The Peter May Centre.	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£13,340</b>

Councillors' vote: unanimous.

**Higham Hill ward:**

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<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount received</u>
Half term/holiday Multi-Sport Camp for young people, aged 5 – 18 Higham Hill Recreational Ground	£5,288
The Mornington Trust - School Music project/education	£4,250
Orion Harriers - Athletic Club for young people (ages 10 - 19) at the Pool and Track and/or The Peter May Centre	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£11,538</b>

The amount of £1,910 would be carried forward to next year.

Councillors' vote: unanimous.

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**Chapel end ward:**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount received</u>
Multi-Sport Sessions for young people aged 5 – 18, Aveling Park	£2,109.44
Half Term/Holiday Multi-Sport Camp aged 5 – 18, Aveling Park	£5,288
Orion Harriers Athletic Club for young people (ages 10 - 19) at the Pool and Track and/or The Peter May Centre	£2,000
Chestnuts Farm Allotments Association - community shelter.	£1,221.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,618.99</b>

The amount of £1,191.01 would be carried forward to next year.

Councillors' vote: unanimous.

**Action**

**9 COMMUNITY FORUM**

Help Forms were received during the meeting from:

**P Tan** (Morland Road) (Four questions on costs surrounding developments and the process for allocating the Community Council budget.)

**J Wright** (Chewton Road) (Two questions on the cost of securing the old St James St library, and planning permission issues.)

**F Anagnostou** (Roberts Road) (On the felling of apparently healthy trees)

**I Capes** (Northcote Road) (On the removal of illegal Estate Agents signs.)

**P Samuels** (Chestnut Avenue North) (On enforcement of "courtesy" disabled parking bays)

**J Campbell-Palmer** (Mayfield Road) (On cleaning up Higham Hill Childrens Play area.)

Full questions and responses can be found in the **Responses document** which accompanies these minutes.

Community Forum:

**K Lord** stated that at the beginning of the meeting he requested the Open Forum to be brought forward, so that there would be the allocated time for this item would not have been reduced and the Councillors would have been present to

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respond to residents' concerns. He said that residents attended the meeting to speak to the Councillors which at the moment were not presents.

He also requested that the Open Forum would be permanently moved to the earlier part of the agenda – following the feedback from the response sheet. He asked for this suggestion to be put on residents' voting.

**PH** replied that the idea of having the Open Forum earlier on the agenda has caused problems in the past. However, he assured residents that he had already raised concerns regarding the impact the funding allocation has on the Community Council's agenda and choice of venue.

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He explained that Councillors were not present at the moment because they were deliberating on the funding allocation in an adjacent room. He also said that the Open Forum would be extended by 15 minutes. He assured residents that the comments made would be raised at the appropriate level.

**Action**

A **resident** (High Street ward) said that he supported K Lord. He regarded the funding process as a farce as some of the projects which residents had suggested in the summer have been dismissed with little or no explanation.

**PH** replied that only two projects have been withdrawn from the voting. He agreed that the decision lacked suitable explanation. He suggested residents to contact the Community Councils team for further explanation and/or filling a Help Form.

The Community Chair asked residents to vote whether they would like more information given on why the project on page 2 of the spend table (Development of Community Space) was not feasible.

**D Allen** (Lawrence Avenue) asked why K Lord's call for residents vote on moving the Open Forum was dismissed and yet residents were asked to vote now.

**PH** replied that the Community Chair made final decision over the running of the meeting.

**C Witney** (Head of Community Engagement) replied that projects which were going against the Council's budgetary and statutory rules would not be pursued. She assured that the Team would make sure that projects which did not go forward to the residents voting would be further explained in the future.

**F Anagnostou** (Roberts Road) questioned why apparently healthy trees were felled without consulting local residents.

**Cllr Reardon** replied that each contractor was under the instruction of warning residents in advance.

**Cllr Smith** added that he had raised concerns about the lack of trees in the area to the Mayor of London's office.

**D Allen** raised the issue of discarded Let signs in Palmerston Road.

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**K Lord** raised concerns on various issues including: over £1,000,000 missing from the budget of Children and Young People department; reason why over £500,000 have been spent on compensation from the Arcade budget; overspent of the Asylum Seekers budget; closure of St James Library.

**Cllr Macklin** provided a reply to K Lord's questions, stating that the Community Council meeting might not have been the correct forum for raising borough-wide issues. He invited K Lord and other residents to attend Councils meetings and Scrutiny meetings to raise their concerns on these matters.

Item **PH** said that he believed that Community Councils should have the right to raise issues at Scrutiny meetings. **Action**

**Cllr Meiszner** and **Cllr Smith** replied that residents were welcome to raise issues at Scrutiny meetings.

**Cllr Smith** added that he had raised concerns about the lack of trees in the area to the Mayor of London's office.

**D Allen** (Lawrence Avenue) complained about the poor quality of the recycling service provided by Verdant.

**Cllr Meiszner** replied that he would look into the issue.

**9 DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The meeting is asked to note that the next Community council meeting will take place on:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010, Chapel End Junior School, Roberts Road, E17 4LS

The meeting ended at 9.55 pm

**Chairs Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_