

**Minutes of a meeting of the QUEEN'S PARK
COMMUNITY COUNCIL held on 11th March 2015 at
6.00pm in the Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue,
London W10 4JL**

PRESENT: Cllrs Musa Ahmed, Katie Cowan, Ryan Dalton, Joe Fernandes, Gill Fitzhugh, Emma Morgan, Susanna Rustin, Angela Singhate (Chairman), Emma Sweeney (Vice-Chairman), Philip Andokou

**Also in attendance David Carden
Andy Durrance- Westminster City
Council
Mike Simpson- Director**

2 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Julius Hogben – Jubilee Hall meeting
Cllr Eartha Pond - unwell

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Simon Walton advised that grey electricity boxes were being removed in the area and that residents did not know why. Apparently, UK Power Networks said they will be replaced in a few months.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To deal with any disclosure by Members of any dis-closable pecuniary interests and interest other than pecuniary interests, as defined under Queen's Park Community Council's Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

There were none

MINUTES

C.175 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting of Queen's Park Community Council held on 14th January 2015 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

GUEST SPEAKER: DAVID CARDEN

The Chairman welcomed backed David Carden to provide his visioning report for Queen's Park. This followed on from the visioning session David conducted with the Council in December. David discussed the short, medium and long term goals and suggested that the Council needs to identify and agree priorities that are realistic. They also need to identify gaps in current provision for the elderly, young people and

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the unemployed with which QPPC could assist. The Director advised that he was working on a 'work programme' for the Council which relates to David's report. David offered his help moving forward. It was suggested that a working group was formed to help the Director develop the business plan.

C.176 **RESOLVED** that a working group consisting of Committee Chairs is formed to help the Director produce a business plan for QPCC.

GUEST SPEAKER: ANDY DURRANCE

Andy Durrance from Westminster City Council introduced Westminster Sports Unit's Neighbourhood Sports Clubs. There are six Neighbourhood Sports Clubs, one of which is in Queen's Park. 16.5 hours of sport a week is delivered in Queen's Park at a cost of £16,500. The clubs are funded through a variety of funders including: WCC, leisure contractor, StreetGames, Optimise, GLA & Neighbourhood Ward budgets (WCC local councillors). Concerns were raised by Cllrs about the cost of the programme and that there was not enough provision of sports for women, especially given that their overall participation level in the area was much lower than for men. Concern was also raised at the lack of services for younger children under 14. Cllr Fernandes said that he had originally been in talks with WCC about delivering a programme for disadvantaged boys from 8-16.

It was agreed that a sports based scheme in the area would be a good idea but as there is no process in place for project delivery it was not possible to decide on anything. However, it was noted that sport will be a priority in QPCC's business plan.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

To note the acts and proceedings of the following committee meetings:

Communication and Events – 21st January 2015

Planning – 4th February 2015
Environment and Open Spaces – 18th February 2015
Policy and Resources – 25th February 2015
Planning – 4th March 2015

- C.177** **RESOLVED** to note the acts and proceedings of the committees as listed above.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND EVENTS

To discuss the date of Queen’s Park Summer Festival

- C.178** **RESOLVED** that the Summer Festival will take place on 1st August and that a working group will be formed to discuss next steps.

Brief update on QPCC logo consultation and e-newsletter

The first QPCC e-newsletter was sent to residents at the beginning of the month and future monthly editions will follow. The logo consultation has so far received 15 written responses and one email response.

To confirm the purchase of a laptop for QPCC

- C.179** **RESOLVED** that QPCC will buy a laptop for the office and appropriate software for Queen’s Park Voice.

To consider paying Joe Gordon an additional £100 for delivery for the Queen’s Park Voice

Due to the large amount of extra work that Joe did to create and deliver the latest edition of Queen’s Park Voice, it was proposed that he receives some extra money. It was suggested by Cllr Sweeney, and agreed by Council, that he is paid the £150 coordination fee that is usually paid to Angie Durrance to help deliver the Voice. Angie was unable to help with the latest edition due to illness.

- C.180** **RESOLVED** to pay Joe Gordon an additional £150 for his work on Queen’s Park Voice.

PLANNING

To discuss a motion (Cllr Rustin) requesting that Westminster City Council issues an article 4 direction preventing the Prince of Wales pub on Harrow Road from becoming a betting shop

Concerns were raised about the addition of another betting shop opening on the Harrow Road. An article 4 direction restricts the scope of permitted development rights, which would be all that is needed to change the pub into a betting shop, and could mean a planning application is required for development.

C.181 **RESOLVED** that the Council will write to Westminster City Council officially requesting an article 4 direction is issued.

PROJECT FUNDING & PROCESS

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To consider a request from the Policy and Resources Committee for a budget of £30,000 for community projects

The Chairman provided the following supplementary document before this item was discussed:

‘Due to a misunderstanding, the recommendation tonight to release funds to the Policy and Resources Committee for distribution for projects was not undertaken correctly. The terms of reference of the Policy and Resources Committee currently does no include this responsibility.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that the terms of reference for the Committee be amended to include the following:’

‘That the Committee be authorised to hold £30,000 for distribution of grants. No grant shall exceed £5,000 without express consent by the Council.’

There was general consensus that this was a good idea which would allow the Council to more effectively consider and administer funding applications. Cllr Joe Fernandes objected to the idea stating that it was up to full council to decide which projects should be funded. However, Cllr Morgan responded saying that if there is a thorough overall funding process in place it would be fair. Cllr Fernandes was also advised that the Council could overturn any funding application made by the Policy and Resources Committee if they were not happy. Cllr Rustin questioned the £5,000 limit and suggested that it be raised to £20,000, which was agreed by the Council.

C.182 **RESOLVED** that the terms of reference for the Policy and Resources Committee be amended to include the following:

'That the Committee be authorised to hold £30,000 for distribution of grants. No grant shall exceed £20,000 without express consent by the Council.'

SUB COMMITTEE FOR QUEEN'S PARK GARDENS

To consider the formation of an Environment and Open Spaces sub committee to manage Queen's Park Gardens

There was confusion about the inclusion of this item and it was agreed that the formation of sub committee for the Environment and Open Spaces is for that Committee to decide, not the Council.

COMMUNICATIONS

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Chairman's Report

1. On Monday 16th February Cllrs AS, JH, GF & RD met with Guy Battle to find out more about the Social Value Act. A briefing paper has been prepared & circulated and I would like to propose that the next step is: a small group of interested cllrs to meet with Guy to explore the finer detail of drawing up a charter. A recommendation can then be made at the next Full Council meeting to determine if this will be a functional/useful asset to QPCC.
2. Further to events at the last Ward Panel meeting, the council has received an email from the Acting Chair of the panel who has suggested that it will be stated at every ward panel meeting that any Cllrs from QPCC in attendance are in fact there as residents and not as representatives of the council. I have asked Mike to respond and to find out if a way forward would be to have a named representative from the council attend ward meetings.
3. I would like to request that councillors identify any organisations that they believe would be good to form links with by the end of this March. Once this is done, Mike will contact the organisations to find out if QPCC representation at events/key meetings etc is something they think would be of mutual benefit. Once we have a list of organisations who are interested in forming links, we will have to adopt a process for formally appointing named cllrs. (Knowing our priorities & key themes would help).
4. Following an initial meeting with the local Ward Cllrs towards the end of last year, it was agreed that we would meet quarterly. I have confirmed the following dates for the meetings this year:

- Thursday 14th May
- Friday 18th Sept
- Thursday 19th November

6.30 - 7.30pm @ Council offices/Beethoven

C.183 **RESOLVED** that the Social Value Act is delegated to the Neighbourhood and Planning Committee and that Guy is invited to give a speech.

The Director advised that he had spoken to the acting Chair of the Ward Panel about the best way to proceed in future. They had agreed that if the Panel would like an update from the Council on a certain

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topic then they should officially request one and that a Council representative or the Chairman of the Panel would read it. However, Cllr Singhate suggested that it was not as simple as reading out statements at the panel meeting and more work needs to be done to find out if the Council should have official representation.

C.184 **RESOLVED** that at the next Ward Panel meeting, a Council representative will announce that the Council is in the process of thinking about on which bodies they would like to have formal representation and that the Panel is being considered.

Cllr Morgan advised that Cllrs had already sent Linda a list of bodies on which they would like to have representation. However, it was noted that the list included current representation that Cllrs have and interests. Therefore, the Chairman asked Cllrs to resend the Director a list of bodies on which they would like to have representation going forward.

The Chairman requested that Cllrs indicated whether they would like to be at the next meeting with Local Ward Cllrs on one of the listed dates. Cllrs Emma Morgan, Joe Fernandes and Ryan Dalton would attend the next meeting with the Chairman.

The Chairman also raised the issue of Cllr training before the meeting closed. There was consensus that training is a good idea. However, due to SSALC's training taking place in Sussex and Surrey, and during the week, most Cllrs would not be able to attend. The Director said he would contact SSALC about setting up a bespoke package for QPCC.

Meeting ended at 8pm

