

QUEEN'S PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT and OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**
held on **Wednesday 22nd April 2015 at 6.30pm** in the **Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue, London W10 4JL**

PRESENT: Cllrs. Katie Cowan (Chairman), Emma Sweeney, Susanna Rustin, Ryan Dalton and Emma Morgan

Also in attendance: Mike Simpson- Director
4 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Eartha Pond
Cllr Joe Fernandes

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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.

Cllr Katie Cowan declared a Personal Interest as Chair of Friends of Queen's Park Gardens

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive any questions, or brief representations, from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order No. 3 e, f, g and h.

Fiona Doherty thanked the Council for their help with new Edible Garden Project outside the Beethoven Centre on Third Avenue.

Chrissie Chambers advised the Council that she accompanied the Westminster dog warden (Nuno Reis) on his patrol three times. Chrissie reported that she believes her attendance was, overall, helpful and that she is waiting to hear back from Nuno on whether she can go out with him again.

Simon Walton suggested using big posters for the next Clean Up Day.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Environment and Open Spaces meeting – 18th February 2015

- E&OS. 193** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Environment and Open Spaces Meeting held on 18th February 2015 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and would be signed by the Chairman in the presence of the Director at a future meeting.

CLEAN UP QUEEN'S PARK DAY

Report from Chairman about the Queen's Park Clean Up Day which took place on Saturday 18th April

The Chairman reported back that, overall, the day was a success. In future, QPCC now knows what they can and cannot do for the day and will not need to rely on Westminster City Council's guidance for future events. Two key issues that need to be addressed next year are to get schools involved in the event and to order more stencilling. The Council will also be more prepared next time for the rubbish collection service and thanks was given to Cllr Dalton for resolving the situation the next day. It was suggested that due to the amount of work required to organise the day, more resources may be required for future events.

QUEEN'S PARK IN BLOOM

To discuss the launch of this year's Queen's Park in Bloom and discuss the formation of a working group to organise the event

The Council will fund the In Bloom project and will work with the Friends of Queens Park Gardens to deliver it. This year the competition will extend to flats as well to make it more inclusive. The Council can nominate houses for the competition so it was suggested that leaflets are delivered to houses informing them that they have been nominated. It was also suggested that the Council should tie in the In Bloom competition with the Chelsea Fringe Festival and have a one day event in the Wildlife area. The date and content of event will be decided at a later date. The judging for the In Bloom competition will be some time in June. It was suggested that Veolia maybe a potential sponsor for the event.

- E&OS. 194** **RESOLVED** that a Working Party is formed to help organise the event consisting of Cllrs Katie Cowan, Emma Sweeney, Susanna Rustin and Ray Lancashire.

DOG ISSUES IN QUEEN'S PARK

Report on progress regarding QPCC's strategy to tackle dog issues in the area and discuss next steps

The Director informed the Council that he had met local police officer Dave Hammond to enquire whether the police could spend some time on patrolling the area for dog related offences. Dave said that he could offer some police support but it would only amount to a couple of weeks in total. He said that the Council should think about what they want and let him know.

It was agreed that the Council needs to use the time create a more sustained police presence. Therefore, having shorter patrols over a number of weeks would be better than using all the hours at once for two weeks. It was also suggested that plain clothes police would be more effective as people would not recognise the police presence and that they need to patrol at the right times. It was also agreed that the police need to issue on the spot fines for dog offences.

The Director said that he would report back to the police with the Council's recommendations.

To discuss using 'No Dog Fouling' signs created by Westminster Academy pupils

Cllr Fernandes informed the Committee that he had spoken to Nuno Reis, not Westminster Academy, who had spoken to a number of schools about creating a sign. Cllr Cowan informed the Committee that she had emailed Parks about creating a sign for Queen's Park Gardens and is waiting for a response. Cllr Sweeney suggested that the Council should work with Primary Schools in the area to create a sign. Cllr Rustin suggested that the signs could also be extended to deal with Pigeon mess in the area. It was agreed that the Council needs to get approval to put up the signs before approaching schools.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm.