



Council

13 March 2019

18-19: 134-147

Queen's Park Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Council

held at the Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue. London W10 4JL

on **Wednesday 13 March 2019** commencing at 18:00.

Present: Councillors Gill Fitzhugh (Chair), Ray Lancashire, Orrel Lawrence, John McArdle, Eartha Pond, Susanna Rustin, and Stella Wilson.

Also present: Kevin Harris, Chief Officer; and one member of the public.

The Chair expressed thanks to the Community Development Officer for her work during the Chief Officer's absence in February.

The meeting began at 18:04.

134-18/19 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Leslie Barson and Emma Sweeney.

135-18/19 Declarations of interest – Cllr Lancashire declared an interest in item 140 as a member of the Friends of Queen's Park Gardens and St John's Church.

136-18/19 Minutes of the previous meeting – the minutes of the Council meeting held 30 January 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

137-18/19 Public session – there were no questions or representations from members of the Public.

138-18/19 Financial report – council approved the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 07/03/2019, the list of payments for February, and the Council Detail Report 04/03/2019. It was **agreed** that the payment of £2,650 for solicitors' fees in relation to the office relocation could be drawn from reserves; and that end of year surplus from Community Grants and Volunteer Development be carried forward into the 2019-2020 budget. Final accounts for the summer festival, fireworks and winter fair are awaiting receipt of the ward budget contributions. Cllr Lancashire will sign bank statements and bank reconciliation reports in accordance with para 2.2 of the Financial Regulations.

139-18/19 Office re-location – Cllr Fitzhugh had arranged three group visits to the proposed location. Solicitors are preparing agreements and a tendering process for refurbishment work is being prepared.

140-18/19 Community Grants – the recommendations of the Grants Panel to fund Munro Health (£3,500); Musicus CIC (£2,751); Queen's Park Bangladeshi Association (£3,485); and Zodiac Arts (£2,615) were **approved**. Council voted on two further applications. Funding for Friends of Queen's Park Gardens (FQPG, £354.62) was **agreed**.

Cllr Stella Wilson entered the room at 18:29.

It was also **agreed** that in future, support for FQPG could become a standing item in the budget, subject to their agreement and acceptance of reporting requirements. Although they felt it was a good proposal, council could not approve funding for St John's Church on the level of detail provided.

Cllr Lancashire was **approved** as a member of the Grants Panel.

141-18/19 Website – design of the new website is now in the final phase as content is prepared. Councillors will be invited to comment on a pre-launch version.

142-18/19 Planning applications – the working group recommendations were **approved**. One application for a flat (19/00441) was described by a member of the public as ‘too small for anyone to have a reasonable quality of life’ (council’s objection has been submitted).

143-18/19 Volunteering – the CDO has begun work on developing a volunteer network.

144-18/19 Working groups

Air Quality – results of the second pollution study were tabled. By comparison with the summer 2017 study the air quality appears better, however the data were collected in November when the weather was generally wet. It was **agreed** to continue at least two studies each year to build evidence and increase awareness. Action on anti-idling will be discussed in a meeting with Westminster officers in April.

Children & Young People – an initial meeting has taken place. A youth council was being considered and youth violence will need to be a focus of attention.

Environment & Open Spaces – a meeting took place at the park hut with Westminster officers and Continental staff and as a consequence a briefing will go to Cllr Tim Mitchell who holds the relevant WCC portfolio. The Axis Foundation is being approached to see if they are willing to be involved. The Dog Strategy and community gardening contracts are due for renewal and a proposal will be brought to council in April.

Events – Cllrs Earth Pond and Stella Wilson will help to organise the annual community meeting.

Forward Planning – the group had met in February in order to plan officers’ work priorities. The Chief Officer will convene future meetings.

Public & Community Arts – a walkabout with the Express Yourself group will take place on 30 March, to identify possible locations for public art and to generate ideas.

Resident Engagement – terms of reference have been reviewed and will be circulated with an invitation for membership and to be presented to council in due course.

Social Inclusion – mapping research carried out by June Quammie, intended to help the group’s initial thinking, is being drawn to a close. The Community Development Officer is in discussion with the Octavia Trust regarding possible partnership in a befriending scheme. Terms of reference for the group have been reviewed and will be circulated with an invitation for membership and to be presented to council in due course.

The Voice – planning for the next issue will begin in late April / early May.

145-18/19 Online shared calendar – a meeting will be arranged for an IT consultant to meet the officers.

146-18/19 Chair’s report – WCC have agreed for QPCC to carry out a survey of trees that need trimming. This survey may be carried out by corporate volunteers in early April.

147-18/19 Officers’ report - priorities for the next 2-3 months include: progressing and launching the website; end-of-year accounts; office relocation; recruiting an Events Organiser; ILCA studies / qualification; preparing a volunteer development campaign and programme; preparing the annual report; and organising the annual community meeting and annual meeting of council.

The meeting closed at 19:35.