

## QUEEN'S PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the People Committee Meeting held at the St Luke's Church, Fernhead Road  
on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024** commencing at 18:00.

Shuwanna Aaron, Proper Officer

5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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**Present:** Councillors: Sandra Bynoe (Chair), Roger Diamond (Vice-chair), Shifaa Ali, Asfana Aktar,

Also present: Shuwanna Aaron (Proper Officer) Laurence Connelly (Community Development Officer) and one member of the public.

**PP 10 24/25 - Apologies for absence** – No apologies were issued.

**PP 11 24/25 - Declarations of interest** – No declarations were made.

**PP 12 24/25 - Minutes of the previous meetings** – The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated with the meeting papers and accepted a read. The minutes were seconded as an accurate account of the meeting and a vote was undertaken.

**RESOLVED THAT**, the minutes be APPROVED and signed by the Meeting's Chair.

**PP 13 24/25 - Public session** – No questions were posed to the committee.

**PP 14 24/25 - Financial Report** – The Proper Officer provided a brief summary of the Financial position. Nothing that there had been some overspend on the children and young people's budget line due to increased costs of services and some underspend on the summer festival budget line. The Officer noted that a virement will be proposed at the October meeting of the Council moving money between the two lines, and that the overspend will be considered in the setting of the next budget. All other budgets are as expected for the time of year. The report was seconded and a vote was undertaken.

**RESOLVED THAT**, the report be NOTED

**PP 15 24/25 - Working Group Report** – The Proper Officer noted that the Summer Festival was notable less well attended compared to previous years despite good weather – likely a result of heightened tensions following the fatal killing of a local young person, Renae Graham just days before. The officer noted that more residents were registered as stallholders, as requested by the Committee, however there was significant drop out in the last minute. Meaning that there were still a number of empty stalls – a non-refundable deposit will be trialed in the coming year to see whether this has a positive impact on drop-outs. The Officer noted the plans for Black History Month including a series of 5 screenings and an evening Reception. A review was provided about the Health well-being and social care working group project, noting specifically that the Carers Time for Self project was experiencing a delayed start as the facilitator was facing personal challenges. It was noted that of the 15 activities planned for

Summer in Queen's Par 2 were cancelled due to last minute drop-out. A total of 140 local families applied to take part in the programme – most of whom were in receipt of means tested benefits and feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The final point noted that the Housing survey was very far off its targets of 1000 respondents however the data received would be analysed and information shared when available. The report was seconded and a vote was undertaken.

**RESOLVED THAT**, the report be NOTED

**PP 16 24/25 – Chair's Report** – The Proper Officer, read the report produced in collaboration with Committee Chair noting a sense of apprehension and insecurity being experienced by residents as a result of fatal killing of Renae Graham, in addition to racist and Islamophobic rioting which take place across the country during the summer – marked by significantly less children and young people attending local activities including summer festival, the summer in queen's park programme and engaging in activities in local parks. The Officer noted wider concerns for young people's safety following report from young people of being harassed and threatened in the community – this came to light during the parliamentary meeting with MP Georgia Gould as part of the summer in queen's park programme. The officer noted setting meetings with key organisations such as young Westminster foundation and the City Council's North Paddington Programme to discuss collaboratively working to address these issues. The report proposed that the council:

1. facilitates a community meeting inviting families to share their fears, concerns and needs.
2. proactively work with specialists, the City Council and other bodies to address the fear and concerns that come to light during the meeting through a strategic and long-term approach. Including approaches which:
  - Support parents concerned that their children may be at risk, including equipping them with effective tools to talk about the dangers of knife crime, gang involvement and other forms of prevalent violence.
  - Build confidence among young people to speak out when in need, seek support and diffuse potentially dangerous situations they may experience.
  - Support children to build confidence through self-defence skills.
  - Enable people with experiences of serious youth violence and/or gang involvement to speak with those currently at risk
  - Addressing the mental health concerns of young people and families affected by serious youth violence and/or gang related violence.
  - Building or support networks of young people to share their experiences and strengthen local connections and sense of community.
3. Considers and produce policy on how the Community Council will respond to incidents of serious violence, support those closely affected and the community more broadly.

Councillors discussed the issues raised contributing that part of the issue is a sense of lacking belonging and recommending that this is considered in the development of any programme to address the issues. It was recommended that the council considers ways of promoting or facilitating mentorship so young people have positive role models. Suggestions were also made that connections should be made with the enrichment team at Westminster City Council, the Queen's Park Ranger Community Team, football without Borders and Street Father all of whom can offer practical support and enrichment to the programmes being developed. Councillors discussed the needed support for parents and the benefits of involving and working with religious and spiritual organisations so as to support the moral development of young people. The report was seconded and a vote was undertaken.

**RESOLVED THAT**, the proposals be APPROVED.

**PP 17 24/25 - Officers' Report** – The Proper Officer delivered a verbal noting planned meetings to develop the ESOL project, tasks undertaken to oversee the Big Garden Clean-up project, Summer in Queen's Park, Black History Month Programme and the Health and Wellbeing Programmes. The Officer noted continued engagement with the North Paddington Programme and working with the vents coordinator to plan Fireworks Display and Winter Festival. The Proper Officer noted the Community Development Officers contribution to facilitating the Big Garden Clean-up and Summer in Queen's Park projects, ongoing work overseeing the Council's Social media channels, publishing the monthly e-bulletin, producing and submitting funding applications and development of the volunteer's strategy. The report was seconded and a vote was undertaken.

**RESOLVED THAT**, the report be NOTED.

Meeting ends: 19:54

**Minute Ref: PP 10 - 17 – 24/25**

**Signed by..... Date.....**  
**Cllr: Sandra Bynoe (Chair) / Roger Diamond (Vice-Chair)**



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To all Members of the People Committee (Cllrs: Sandra Bynoe (Chair), Roger Diamond (Vice-chair), Asfana Aktar, Eartha Pond, Orrel Lawrence, Shifaa Ali and Stella Wilson) with copies to all other Councillors for information).

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting** of the **People Committee** to be held in **St Luke's Church, Fernhead Road** at 6pm on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024**.

Shuwanna Aaron, Director

1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

### AGENDA

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<b>PP 18-24/25</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b> – to receive and approve any apologies for absence from councillors.
<b>PP 19-24/25</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b> – to note any Declarations of Interest or Dispensations granted in respect of any item on the Agenda.
<b>PP 20-24/25</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meetings</b> - to consider for approval the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024.
<b>PP 21-24/25</b>	<b>Public session</b> – to receive any questions, representations or petitions from members of the Public. <i>(Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chair).</i>
<b>PP 22-24/25</b>	<b>Financial Report</b> – to receive a verbal report of current financial position.
<b>PP 23-24/25</b>	<b>Working Groups Report</b> – to receive verbal reports from Children & Young People, Community Engagement, Events, and Social Inclusion / Care in Queen's Park Working Groups.
<b>PP 24-24/25</b>	<b>Community Response</b> – to discuss and make recommendations on facilitating a programme of activities in response to, and to support local people affected by recent fatal incidents.
<b>PP 25-24/25</b>	<b>Chair's Report</b> – to receive a verbal update from the Chair of the Committee.
<b>PP 26-24/25</b>	<b>Officers' Report</b> – to receive a verbal update from Officers on activities not covered elsewhere.