

ROEHAMPTON PARTNERSHIP

Notes of a meeting of the Roehampton Partnership held at
Whitelands College, University of Roehampton, Ruskin Room,
Roehampton SW15 on Monday, 10th February 2014

PRESENT

Councillor Cousins (Chairman)	Cabinet Member (Economic Development & Business Partnerships) - WBC
Rev. J. McKinney (Deputy)	Holy Trinity Church
Mr. V. Ganeshacomar	Co-operative Food
Mr. A. Woldu	Café Joy
Mr. M. Newey	Roehampton Club
Mr. J. Ambache (on behalf of Mr. J. Horrocks)	Roehampton Forum
Miss. S. Price	Roehampton Resident
Mr. D. Lunt	Roehampton Resident
Miss P. Harris (on behalf of Dr. S. Manning)	Roehampton Trust
Fr. D. Gummett	St. Joseph's Church
Dr. G. Alwani-Starr	University of Roehampton
Councillor P. Carpenter	Wandsworth Borough Council
Councillor A. Knowles	Wandsworth Borough Council
Councillor J. Nickels	Wandsworth Borough Council

OBSERVERS

Ms T. Jones	Putney Vale Resident Association
Miss M. Hogan	Roehampton Resident
Mrs. McKinney	Roehampton Resident

IN ATTENDANCE

Inspector A. Bott	Metropolitan Police
Chief Inspector S. McSorley	Metropolitan Police
Mr. D. Edwards	Housing Department - WBC
Mr. L. Gibson	Public Health - WBC
Mr. J. Moore	Economic Development Office - WBC
Mr. N. Smales	Economic Development Officer - WBC
Ms O. Okere	Committee Secretary – WBC

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

On item 1, apologies for absence were received from and Mr. J. Horrocks (Roehampton Forum); and Councillor Mrs. S. Sutters (Wandsworth Borough Council).

2. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

On item 2, the Chairman having asked, there were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

3. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (PAPER "A")

On item 3, it was

Agreed – That the notes of the previous meeting held on 2nd December 2013 be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

(i) All reference to Mrs. Price in the minutes should read as Miss Price;

(ii) Under item 5, Matters Arising, 'Traffic Management – Roehampton High Street', line 3, reference to the word 'will' in the sentence "It was a very positive meeting and will now result in modest changes ..." should read as may;

(iii) under item 7 'Primary/Secondary School Places in Putney Vale', paragraph 4, line 2, the sentence beginning with 'About 45 new families recently moved into the estate...' should read as "About 45 new families are registered at the Newlands Hall 'Stay and Play' ..."

(iv) under item 9 'Alton Masterplan', the penultimate paragraph which makes reference to '...hearts and mind' should read as hearts and minds.

4. MATTERS ARISING

On item 4, the following matters were raised:-

Playrangers in Putney Vale: Councillor Carpenter sought clarification as to whether the Playrangers activity will be brought to Putney Vale. Mr. Gibson (Public Health – WBC) said, in response, that all the activities under the Health Challenge scheme were being reviewed, and those which have proved successful will be run again.

Census Data Analysis: Councillor Carpenter welcomed the census data analysis which contained illuminating information about Roehampton. He asked that the information on Roehampton residents being the least users of public transport and owners of cars in Wandsworth be used in dialogue with Transport for London for improvement to the transport infrastructure under the Masterplan.

Councillor Knowles agreed that the analysis contained useful information with which to advance the cause of the ward with various agencies although he thought that it raised more questions than answers. The Chairman added that collectively the results were not surprising.

Mr. Newey asked for the rationale behind the health figures, and Mr. Gibson said that it was based on the profile for Roehampton/Putney which he would circulate outside of the meeting. However, 205 people in Roehampton in the Census said they were in very bad health with 936 saying they had bad/very bad health.

5. ROEHAMPTON HEALTH CHALLENGE

On item 5, Mr. Gibson gave an update on the various schemes which have been run under the Health Challenge. He reminded the Partnership of the Roehampton Festival held in August and the Roehampton Week held in November both of which were used to actively engage the public resulting in a high level of success. The Festival was well received with between 500 and 600 people attending.

Mr. Gibson then spoke on the progress of individual schemes including, for example, the Fruit and Vegetable Co-op which is about establishing a local work force to buy and sell fruit to the local population. However, only 12 people have shown an interest in the scheme as it is proved difficult to get volunteers. The Outdoor Gyms scheme has been put on hold because of the regeneration programme. The Peer Support Service which works in conjunction with Social Services deals with people with mental illness who are given additional support. The take up for this service has been disappointing with only 21 people signed up out of the 40 places available. The Play Rangers scheme has been one of the very popular schemes.

Mr. Gibson concluded by stating that schemes were chosen to meet obvious demands but some of the schemes would need to be reviewed. A large number of people have been commissioned to evaluate which of the schemes have proved successful and a report will be brought to the Partnership on the result of this evaluation.

Mr. Ambache asked how involved people with cancer/circulatory diseases were with doctors from the Clinical Commissioning Group. Mr. Gibson said that women were more receptive to being involved. He pointed out that the figures for cancer and circulatory diseases relate to the under 75s mortality rate which is high in Roehampton and 43% higher than in Wandsworth as a whole. It is recognised that this is an issue in Roehampton which is why a number of the programmes put in place aim to change and improve this. These include the Change Champions; Fruit and Vegetables Co-op although there is concern that this might not be sustainable; NHS health check; and Active Lifestyle which was particularly directed at men aged between the ages of 35 – 40.

Councillor Nickels asked why then the health checks currently taking place outside the library were not screening those under the age of 40. Mr. Gibson said that the checks were the responsibility of the NHS and he would seek clarification based on this concern raised.

Members asked that a copy of the update report on the health challenge be sent to them.

[Post- meeting: a copy of the update report was sent to all members of the partnership.]

Mr. Gibson also provided the link below about the Roehampton and Putney Heath ward profile with a variety of data presented in a graphical way:

http://www.localhealth.org.uk/GC_preport.php?lang=en&codege=E05000621&nivgo=ward_2011&id_rep=r03

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY

On item 6, the Chairman informed the Partnership that the Police were present to deal specifically with the issue around the Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO) that have been implemented to stop the influx of street drinkers.

Inspector McSorley informed members that the DPPO has been in place since May 2013. The DPPO is a tool used to tackle anti social drinking by asking drinkers to surrender their alcohol and making it an offence if they refuse to do so. So far, there have been eight arrests with six charged and taken to court. The level of street drinking in the area has now dropped although it would appear that it is the same people/names that appear all the time. Inspector McSorley spoke about the police also working with the Council in using other intervention methods including serving notice of repossession on council tenants with anti-social behaviour.

Mr. Edwards, Housing – WBC, agreed that there was a good working relationship between the Council's housing department and the police. He added that the problem of street drinking was more acute in Putney Vale than in other areas of Roehampton and whilst the level of activity had tailed off since Christmas it is important that the Police continue to keep the matter under constant review. In response, Inspector McSorley said that he was aware of the Putney Vale problem but that there were different cohorts of drinkers.

Miss Price spoke about seeing large numbers of street drinkers, usually aggressive, hanging outside the shops in the area. This, she said, was not good for residents. She asked if the new community pay back scheme could be used have to see them. At worst, there will be about 30 people hanging round the shops. She spoke about the new community pay back scheme – sought clarification on the position of the land behind Stag Lane - asked that something be done about the wasteland behind the shops as residents concerned about the activities going on there.

Mr. Lunt agreed that Portswood Place was much improved and queried the number of CCTV camera in operation in the area. Inspector Bolt confirmed that there are four CCTV cameras in Portswood Place but the problem is that they do not help with enforcement. The information from them is utilised as a form of deterrence. Mr. Lunt asked for CCTV cameras round the bin areas in Portswood Place and Inspector Bolt confirmed that there was already one in place.

Mr. Lunt then spoke about residents being charged for calling the 101 police non-emergency number resulting in people refusing to call the police and asked that this be looked into. In response Inspector McSorley said he would consider what to do about this locally.

The Chairman having sought agreement, it was agreed that items 7, 8 and 9 be brought forward and item 10 dealt with thereafter.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

On item 8, the following matters were raised for future agenda items:-

- Roehampton Festival

- Standing item – Roehampton regeneration

8. COUNCILLOR KNOWLES

Councillor Knowles informed members of the Partnership that this was to be his last meeting of the Partnership. He thanked both the current and ex-Chairmen for their work during his eight years on the Partnership. The Chairman in turn, on behalf of the Partnership, thanked Councillor Knowles for his commitment to the Partnership.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday, 8th July 2014

Mr. Smales informed members that there was a possibility that this date might change but members will be informed accordingly.

10. ALTON AREA MASTERPLAN

On item 8, Mr. Hall informed the Partnership of the preferred options reached following the conclusion of the consultation process of the preferred Masterplan. There were four key areas for consideration under the Masterplan namely revitalising Danebury Avenue and the Town Centre; revitalising Portswood Place to create a new Park Centre; the provision of higher quality site specific homes linked to Roehampton Lane; and the reprogramming of Central Park with a connection to Richmond Park.

The preferred options takes account of community and stakeholder engagement, housing and retail needs as well as community infrastructure. It has been developed to have positive impacts for the entirety of the Alton Estate and the wider Roehampton community. Mr. Hall outlined some of the options including the relocation of the bus stand on Danebury Avenue, Mount Clare to become a publicly accessible area through the inclusion of a new wellness centre that will invite people inside the area; new sports and community facilities; and new quality homes amongst other things. This would probably entail the demolition and rebuild of some properties. Mr. Hall spoke of the rationale behind the preferred options which included consideration of heritage issues, the needs of the elderly population for more suitable homes etc.

At the end of Mr. Hall's presentation, members of the Partnership then raised a number of issues about the preferred options. They sought reassurance that improvement to the transport infrastructure in Roehampton will be considered under the preferred options. Mr. Hall said this will be considered and Mr. Moore added that the intention is work around what is already there as it is not possible to change how the roads have been set out by Transport for London.

In response to a statement that the area needs more light, Mr. Hall confirmed that new housing will be interspersed to allow more sunlight into the area and prevent the current set up which block off light. Mr. Hall also confirmed that there have been discussions with Regenerate, located in Portswood place, to discuss their needs under the regeneration programme.

As the Alton is the largest Conservation Area in the borough with more listed buildings than any other, questions were raised on whether English Heritage was involved in the consultation process. Mr. Hall confirmed that English Heritage had been briefed during the consultation and that their concern centred on the setting of the single storey bungalows that are all grade II listed buildings.

In response to a question, Mr. Moore said that a booklet, containing the fuller details of the consultation exercise, is to be delivered to all residents.

In response to a question on the time scale of the regeneration programme, Mr. Hall said it should take approximately 5-7 years to complete.

In conclusion, the Chairman thanked Mr. Hall for his presentation and asked that the results of the on going consultation be fed back to the meeting of the Partnership.

The meeting ended at 9.00p.m.