

Notes of Moorings Neighbourhood Forum (MNF) meeting 18th January 2021

Attendees:

- Beatrice Anaman (BA)
- Chiamaka Muoneke (CM)
- Dan Wells (DW)
- Deborah Frimpong (DF)
- Derek Sewell (DS)
- Gez Kellaghan (GK)
- Giles Piercy (GP) **Taking these notes**
- Julius Ariko (JA)
- Keith Hawe-Jones (KHJ)
- Patricia Reilly (PR)
- Patrick Eggleston (PE)
- Suraiya Begum (ReSET Community Engagement Officer (Reduction in Serious Youth Violence and Exploitation Team)) (SB)

Crime and Anti-Social behaviour

GK talked through plans for addressing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in the Moorings. Very keen to get MNF members to join the group. Looking to develop plans and to have feedback on the plans - the action plan has been attached as an appendix to these minutes. The key issues that Peabody have heard about locally are:

- Drugs
- Street drinking
- Some violence
- Gathering of Young People
- Low level ASB
- Poor lighting
- Poor CCTV
- Run down appearance of the Arnott Close area (particularly the areas behind the shops)

Other key points:

- Crime statistics don't tally with local people's perception of crime - is crime being reported accurately?
- Want MNF to be part of the task group and developing the action plan.
- A communication plan is needed.
- More reporting is needed.
- Improve CCTV.
- Lighting.

Action plan is broken down into short, medium and long term plans

PE asked if Peabody was planning to do anything about the steps that lead down to Arnott's close from the road - they are in a poor state of repair.

DF said that this issue is that the space is leased by The Christian Life Centre (CLC) and they would need to be supportive.

KHJ also mentioned that the other set of steps are very narrow and a challenge in terms of social distancing.

GK said would discuss with Kate Bachelor and would bring drawings to the next meeting so that we can all be clear about what steps are being discussed.

GK said that there are lots of areas where the MNF can support.

DF asked in what ways?

GK said to help develop the plans and maybe to look at specific issues such as how to increase reporting?

KHJ said that reporting of crime is difficult as there is a perception (among some local people) that the police are not interested. But recognised that if people do not report then how will the police know? Also said that he sees on Facebook people talking about issues such as "trying car door handles" or "stealing people's deliveries". There needs to be an online system for crime reporting - could we have something that is much more localised? The current police system is very un-user friendly.

DS mentioned his experience in Kingston of reporting a crime on behalf of his father – the local police there has a Facebook page which worked brilliantly. (N.b. it appears that the Facebook page has now changed and reflects that of Greenwich Police.)

Keith asked if Thamesmead police have a Facebook page.

GK said that the group needs to agree what is the best way for local people to report crime and ASB. People are fearful of reporting crime, but the group hasn't nailed down how crime should be reported.

SB - said she has a survey that could be used to find out more about why people are not reporting?

GK said that the next task groups meeting is in February and that meeting should be used to agree the reporting process for crime and ASB.

DF asked if anyone could attend the meeting (Tuesday 16th February at 09.00)?

JA said that he could attend. He also said how important it is that there is a focal point for reporting of crime in Thamesmead.

DS offered to speak to local police to inquire further about reporting via-Facebook.

DF asked if we could get another representative, from the MNF, to join the Task Group.

KHJ offered to also attend.

GK said she would send invites to KHJ and JA and the meeting on 16th February will be used to focus on reporting of crime.

Summary actions:

1. GK to send invite to Crime and ASB task group to JA and KHJ.
2. DS to contact police about use of Facebook.

What should the forum focus on?

DF asked what thoughts people had. There are three tentative areas that the forum is proposing to focus on:

1. Crime and ASB
2. Redevelopment of the Birchmere Changing rooms
3. Improving lighting

DF also said that the MNF is currently only supported by three officers (Deborah Frimpong, Sue Pollock and Derek Sewell) and that there is a need to recruit people to the vacant posts.

PE said that there is a challenge in terms of getting people to be involved and pointed out that low attendance at the meetings of local people.

DW said that Peabody is starting to think about the Birchmere changing room and that initially, they want to undertake a "feasibility study". Peabody is very keen to understand what local people want.

GP said that he felt that one of the key challenges of the MNF is to get local people more involved which has always been a challenge - he suggested that the MNF should focus fully on progressing the three areas rather than worrying too much about committee positions and other bureaucratic issues. The priority was to reach out to local people with very clear messages about what you (the forum) want. For example - the MNF wants to do something about Lighting - are you concerned about lighting? Do you want to be involved in improving the lighting in the Moorings? Or... Do you want to get involved in bringing the Birchmere Changing rooms back to life? Essentially, focussed, single-issue, campaigns that demonstrate the value of the forum. And for now, park any plans to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

PR said that she sees how hard it is to get people to participate. Her view is that people need to see some wins or else they will lose interest in the MNF.

DF said that the MNF has done too much asking. We cannot do more surveys. Peabody needs to help the forum with quick wins.

JA said was in total agreement with PR and DF

DS said that he hears what people are saying but that we need to start from where we are not where we want to be. Agreed that need to achieve some quick wins and be able to report back on progress to local people "we are doing something but going slowly because you're not helping".

KHJ reinforce that people need to see something positive come out of the Forum - maybe just focus on one thing and do it well. Maybe just run with Crime and ASB for now.

BA yes but also would like to see something done about the lighting.

DS said that he has already done something about lighting. He has written to the council and within three days the lights were fixed.

PR said that that is a great example of what the MNF has achieved and that the MNF should be very actively promoting that - "you told us that lighting was a problem - look what we've done!"

DF agreed that it is important to educate people that things can be fixed, and the Forum is there to help get things done.

KHJ - said that street lighting and ASB go together and maybe that should be considered - "bring us your lighting problems and we'll get it sorted".

GK agreed that lighting and ASB are connected and would be part of the agenda for the Crime and ASB task group meeting on 16th Feb. She also said that Averil Lekau is looking for people to join the local ward panel.

Summary actions

1. DS to make clear on update what has been achieved in terms of lighting.
2. GK to report back at next meeting re the Birchmere Changing rooms.
3. At next the meeting, MNF needs to decide if they want to get involved in any developments relating to the changing rooms.

NEXT MEETING

22nd February 2021 at 18.00 on Zoom

AOB

PR mentioned the Thamesmead Growers

Appendix

Need to add in action plan from Gez Kellaghan

The Moorings – Creating Safer Spaces Action Plan

DRAFT

The tackling of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour has been seen as a priority for the local community around The Moorings.

Evidence (Moorings Forum Survey, Young Foundation Research, plus anecdotal evidence from residents, Peabody staff and contractors) suggests that people feel unsafe generally, but particularly at night in and around the Arnott Close area.

The refurbishment of the former social club has amplified these concerns with Peabody wanting to respond to these issues, working with local partners, to create a space which feels welcoming and everyone can use this space without fear or anxiety of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Overall Aim of Action Plan

- Make people safer in Arnott Close and surrounding areas

Highlighted Activities Around Arnott Close

- Street Drinking
- Drug taking/dealing
- Violent incidents
- Gatherings of Youths
- General low level ASB

Highlighted Environmental Issues leading to people feeling unsafe

- Inadequate or Broken Lighting
- Inadequate CCTV
- Run down shop fronts
- Run down areas behind the row of shops.

Partners

- The Police
- Royal Borough of Greenwich
- Super Zone Group Members
- Moorings Neighbourhood Forum
- Children's Community Strategic Group
- Ward Councillors
- CACT
- Other Community Groups

The Action Plan

The action plan is split into three categories; Immediate (Blue) - things we (Peabody) are already working on or hope to achieve in the short term, Medium (Yellow)– Tasks we hope to achieve in the not too distant future with the help and support from our partners, Long (Orange) – Aspirations that we hope can be achieved in the long term with our partners.

Green – Is where we hope the Moorings Neighbourhood Forum will get involved in this process.

Action Plan For Peabody and Partners

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS – What’s is already being done?							
Action	Type of activity	Detail	Lead individual / organisation	Key partners to engage	Timescale	Tasks/Progress/Outcomes	
1	Map ongoing initiatives which support / impact this work	Research	Related to the initiatives below need to understand from key partner agencies what, if any, plans they have in place or have in development	Peabody	Police, RBG,	1-3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with Super Zone group Collate information on other initiatives from Partners (If any)
2	Collect comprehensive data set & interrogate	Research	Ensure have full picture of ASB including Peabody data from Warden Service and more data about crime - specifically about concentration of crimes in Arnott Square. Also, data from police about extent of local reporting if this is available. Build up a profile of ASB, exploitation, street drinkers	Peabody Police, RBG CACT		1-3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collated information from surveys, police and warden reports, Peabody colleague experiences. Stats put together Shows low levels of reporting.
3	Establish operational task group & governance	Governance	We discussed that this should be a sub-group of the Moorings Children’s Community Strategic Group with key local partners involved.	Peabody	Police, RBG’s Safer Neighbourhoods team, Moorings Community Groups, Local businesses	1-3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peabody to establish group with partners (SuperZone) MNF to be invited to sit on this task group

							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners to sign up to action plan
4	Develop communications plans around work to improve the environment around Arnott Close	Governance	Need plan for this workstream, to publicise the work, promote residents' role in this, and provide regular updates on successes.	Peabody /RBG	Moorings Neighbourhood Forum, Other local groups	1-3 months for plan 3-12 for execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peabody to draw up comms plan with partners Direct input from MNF
5	Promote ways to report crime and ASB & safeguarding concerns to the correct channels.	Behaviour	Establish guidance for: Peabody staff, other staff working in the area and local people for how to report a crime. Done in cooperation with the Police SNT	Peabody / Police / RBG	Community groups	3 - 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linked into comms plan Peabody to work on improving channels Role for MNF to promote in the community.
6	Improve CCTV	Maintenance	Review CCTV - Undertake audit of current CCTV and develop proposal for improving and access to recordings and budget	Peabody	RBG's Safer Neighbourhoods team, Police,	1-3 months for assessment 3-12 months for improving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NS, Fixed CCTV Can we update to be remote access? Will this be picked up by Social Club Improvements
7	Review and fix existing lighting in Arnott Close	Maintenance	Lighting survey required by Asset Management Team to establish what lights need fixing on Peabody land. RBG to raise repairs for lights on their land.	Peabody/RBG	RBG/MNF	1-3 months for assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update from AM. Explore night walk with MNF & other partners including RBG & SNT

MEDIUM TERM ASPIRATIONS – What are we planning to do with partners in near future?

	Action	Type of activity	Detail	Lead individual / organisation	Key partners to engage	Timescale	Tasks/Progress/Outcomes
1	Assess need for more lighting	Improvements	Is lighting adequate – assess whether there is need for more lighting.	Peabody/RBG	RBG/MNF	3-12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake once current lights are fixed • Social Club lights may improve this
2	Improve signage about CCTV	Public realm improvements	Need to design sign(s) and have printed and fixed	Peabody	Address as part of improving the CCTV	3-12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once CCTV is in full working order
3	Introduce preventative measures to stop children getting on former social club roof	Public realm improvements	Will be picked up as part of the improvements to the social club	Peabody	Police	1-3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the plans specifically linked to security. (LINK HERE)
4	Engage with owner of building behind shops where Fabulous Tots Nursery is based	Public real improvements	Build better understanding of what services are delivered from there, any support they may need from Peabody. Understand what future plans are.	Peabody	Church and nursery	3-12 months	Engage with owner of building behind shops where Fabulous Tots Nursery is based

LONG TERM ASPIRATIONS – What do we hope to achieve in the long term with partners?

		Type of activity	Detail	Lead individual / organisation	Key partners to engage	Timescale	Tasks/Progress/Outcomes
1	Tackle street drinking / drug taking	Behaviour	Explore how to tackle this, e.g. with Police what powers are available? And with Drug and Alcohol teams	Police	Peabody, Local Shops, RBG	3-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with Police Explore a PSPO – Can we gather evidence? Linked with crime reporting Possible support from RBG Community Safety Team
2	Improving area outside Christian Life Centre (CLC)	Public realm improvements	CLC lease this space from Peabody - engagement with them would be a first action. Is there potential to do something together at quite a basic level – e.g. funding for planters.	Peabody/RBG	CLC	1-3 months for assessment 3-12 months for improving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peabody to initiate conversation with CLC Super Zone group to assist Is there a role for MNF?
3	Improving the area behind the shops	Public realm improvements	This is RBG land. Peabody discussed putting in a joint bid to the GGF with RBG to improve this area but there was no appetite from RBG. Possible role for MNF to engage directly with RBG	RBG	Peabody	1-3 months for assessment 3-12 months for improving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of SuperZone? Can immediate issues, such as rubbish etc be picked up? MNF to liaise with and put pressure on RBG
4	Shop front improvements	Working with local traders	Is there anything that could be done short / long term to improve this area?	Peabody	Shop owners, RBG	1-3 months for assessment	

						3-12 months for improving	
5	Longer term regeneration of the whole strip of shops	Working with local traders	Discussion to happen about the long-term aspiration for Arnott Sq. Involve the MNF as this could form key part of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan	Peabody	All partners	3-12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MNF to work on inclusion of Arnott Close in Neighbourhood Plan