

Notes of Moorings Neighbourhood Forum (MNF) meeting 22nd February 2021.

Attendees:

- Beatrice Anaman (BA)
- Chiamaka Muoneke (CM)
- Claire Hallinan (CH)
- Deborah Frimpong (DF)
- Derek Sewell (DS)
- Gez Kellaghan (GK)
- Giles Piercy (GP)
- Kate Batchelor (KB)
- Kate Wimiarska (KW)
- Keith Hawe-Jones (KHJ)
- Mark Pickering (MP) (West Thamesmead)
- Olga Lecuona-Jimenez (OL) (West Thamesmead)
- Patricia Reilly (PR)
- Tracey Megson (TM)

Feedback Anti- Social Behaviour (ASB) Task group

KHJ attended the task group meeting. Along with MP from West Thamesmead. Discussion about lights being out or not sequenced properly. KHW said that it was quite random what is happening in terms of lights being fixed. Also referred to the overlapping boundaries between Bexley, Greenwich, and Peabody. Suggestion to have an evening walk to identify the issues and identify repairs that are needed.

MP said that DS and KHJ's work in terms of identifying issues was very helpful. KHJ said that there are many more areas to cover beyond what he and DS had already covered.

KHJ also mentioned that in a recent walk he had noticed lights on during the day, lights in the park. Might be that they are out of sequence i.e., on during the day rather than at night - to be investigated.

KB also said how helpful the map from DS and KHJ had been - she is talking to the central lighting team in Peabody - they are doing emergency repairs and putting in place a programme of work to fix lights. KB will bring back the proposed lighting repair work programme and bring an update to the next ASB meeting.

KHJ also mentioned the littering and fly-tipping that this contributes to the sense that the area is not safe. Recognised landscaping work that has been done over the last year (hedges and reduced wilderness). Suggested that would be good to have an organised litter pick.

CH said that lights have been installed around the Hawksmoor Youth club - there have been some issues with the lights but being fixed. Done by RBG as part of the refurbishment of the whole building. Have had issues with fly-tipping if they do not shut the gates at night.

KHJ asked if people prepared to put stuff in a car and then fly-tip why can't they take to the tip - suggestion that RBG do more to promote the availability of the local recycling centre.

GK said that at this meeting they had also been due to have a discussion with Met Police and RBG about people hanging around Arnott Close, but that they were unable to attend.

GK mentioned the questionnaire that RBG has created and wanted to ask if MNF could help with getting the survey filled out by local people. DF asked what the group thought about promoting the survey. TM suggested sending out a link to online form. GK said that it is a Google Forms survey

CH said would be happy to promote the survey to their contacts. CH also said that aware that some of the young people that use Hawksmoor have been "hanging around" outside the shops. GK asked if the survey could be promoted through the MNF Friday newsletter. DS said happy to do.

Tidy Central Thamesmead

DS always been frustrated about litter e.g. recently saw someone throw a mirror into the canal - Why? DS shared ideas relating to Tidy Central Thamesmead - aim is to teach people how to report litter and to take pride in the area.

MP talked about "Guerrilla Gardening" idea where local people take responsibility for tidying things up cutting back bushes etc.

DS said that rather than focus on just the Moorings the aim is to cover a larger area than just the Moorings Area - between West Thamesmead, South Thamesmead, and North Thamesmead. Start with a small focus on litter and make it easy for people to report litter. Also create Facebook page and link to the MNF web page. Those who want to receive the equipment need to ask RBG to be an "Environmental Champion". Due to high demand, the packs are limited to one per household.

MP shared the Tidy West Thamesmead Facebook page - now have 225 members - been a real force for encouraging people to get involved. Need to use your own green bins!

OL said that one of the key lessons is just being out there and being seen. People will approach you to ask what doing and word gets out and people then join the group.

CH aid that younger members at the youth club would be very interested in getting involved in a litter pick and could have Youth Workers supporting them.

OL said that is key to promote on Facebook (before and after pictures)

DS agreed to put some information on the Facebook page including new logo.

Birchmere Changing rooms update.

KB said that Moorings ward Cllrs have allocated £10,000 to work out what to do with the old Birchmere Changing rooms. KB said that Peabody is proposing to ask a shortlist of architects to come up with ideas about what to do with the building in terms of feasibility.

The architects will come up with options about what could be done to the building and what the costs would be. KB is pulling together a brief for the architects. KB said that this is right at the start

of this project and asked who wanted to be involved in developing the brief? KB shared photos from the inside of the changing rooms - the building has c. six changing rooms, very well-lit but lots needed to bring back into some form of community use. As well as changing rooms there is yard space and storage space.

Money from the Moorings Cllrs (£10,000) needs to be allocated by the end of the financial year. KB asked how would you like me to proceed?

CH said that looked very similar to other building (in Charlton Park) where there is a café and public toilets and would be brilliant for something similar in Birchmere Park.

KB also mentioned that one of the fishing clubs has access to storage space.

KB said that part of the feasibility study will be to ask local people what they want.

DF said that important to have a place to sit down in Birchmere Park because there is nothing now.

DS asked KB to send something that he could forward to the MNF distribution list on Friday.

KHJ asked - does it need to be reopened with six changing rooms? KB said no not necessarily. KHJ asked if Peabody had been in contact with any local football teams - should they be paying for use of changing rooms? KB said that would be important to think about how the building would be managed into the future.

GP asked are there any preconditions on the site or any existing ideas that Peabody are supportive of? KB said no, only to use to encourage greater use of the park. KB also said that there are several competing interests that would need to be considered.

KHJ asked who would have the responsibility for looking after the building / tidying changing rooms etc. KB said this would need to be considered as part of the management plan. KB suggested that she will share a timeline of how the development of the changing rooms could evolve.

CH said that there is a need for space for local people to hire for parties e.g., children parties.

Update Moorings social club (MSC)

KB said that they are on track to be on site for April to do the work on the MSC and hopefully, all work will be done by Xmas, 2021 and will be opened by then.

There is a "naming competition" for the site. A shortlist of five names will be sent out to local people to vote on.

Verity Jane has been sending out activity packs for local children to get involved.

CH asked is there any plans to update the shop fronts on Arnott Close. KB said no there are no current plans but hopefully new MSC will act as a catalyst.

Any other Business

Hawksmoor Youth Club been given £20,000 from Jack Petchey Foundation to fund education, sports and cooking programme for six-week programme for 11+ year olds - CH to send to DS to share.

CH also said that lateral flow test for COVID-19 will be offered from Hawksmoor - again will be sending update for DS to share.

KHJ mentioned WhatsApp groups that he is part of and asked if that is happening elsewhere? TM mentioned local Nextdoor group that she is part of - do these exist in Thamesmead? KHJ said that there is a Nextdoor Group in Thamesmead but covers a wide area. DF said that if people are interested to start up a group, it should develop this at their own decision. MNF cannot be responsible in case of any misuse.

GK have some funding from the Health Foundation to do something around tackling loneliness and isolation. Will be doing some research though the community researchers. GK will send out further information in the coming weeks about how to get involved.

GK also mentioned census day. Sporting club Thamesmead will be available to support people complete the census.

GK also mentioned participatory budgeting and making grants of £5k available to support local groups. GK will share details with DS for the newsletter.

GK also mentioned Thamesmead community fund - 200 grants of £200 to £2,000 for individuals or groups. GK to share information with DS to share on the newsletter.

Next Meeting

Monday March 22nd, 2021 @ 18.00