

MOORINGS NEIGHBOURHOOD MINUTES

Tuesday 26 April 2022 FORUM | Held at the new Moorings Sociable Club

Present: Deborah Frimpong (Chair), Derek Sewell (Vice Chair), Sue Pollock (Treasurer), Pat Robinson, Ray Woodage, Chris Trimmings, Paul West, Paul Elliott, Dave Rugg, Ozge Ali, Con Lobo, Linda Higgins, Jackie Hudspith, Beatrice Anaman, Judith Alchidenox, Chiamala Muoneke, Tracey Megson, John Hogan, Rachel Sewell

Apologies – All Peabody staff, Police

1. **Report from the Police Safer Neighbourhood team**

Police are not in attendance today due to a successful drugs warrant on Thamesmead Moorings at 4am - a round of applause for the work they have done.

2. **Welcome**

Derek welcomed everyone and asked each person to introduce themselves

3. **Swan patrol**

A report was given by Paul West. Over Easter, we have lost 7 birds: 4 swans and 3 geese. All have been shot or brutally killed. The Police are involved and have had 2 birds x-rayed, unfortunately, no pellets were found although all the signs were there. The Police continue to be involved in ongoing enquiries.

Paul also reported an incident with a carp that had been hung from a tree. Also, the fences in the back field have been broken again, Paul stressed that this was not done by the horses. We were encouraged to ring 999 if we see anything going on with the wildlife in Southmere and Thamesmead. When reporting an incident, mention that we have the swan patrol in the area and that there is an ongoing case with police involvement.

Paul also explained that due to the recent revamping of the area, some of the safe habitats have gone. This is especially so regarding the island at Southmere. Once it was only accessible by birds but now foxes and humans can now jump the short distance from the reed beds onto the island, meaning that nests are being destroyed. We want to encourage the birds to nest on the island and not stop them. This is the third season where nothing has been bred on the island. Southmere square used to be a wilderness for the animals, now it is not safe at all. There needs to be greater collaboration with Peabody, who do not seem to see the importance of ensuring that they have safe habitats.

Everyone applauded what the swan Patrol had done. We all need to step up to help. If you want to know any more or can help please email Paul West (decor8or198@gmail.com)

4. **Update on our trip**

The trip is a visit and tour of the houses of Parliament and a trip on the clipper. We are still waiting for confirmation of funds. We have 14 places available and it will be first come first served. There will be a waiting list if there are many and we will consider organising a second trip as long as funding allows.

5. **Library of Things**

We're still seeking feedback on the idea – which is open until the end of April. We were asked to encourage people to complete and encourage their friends/neighbours to do so. Once the consultation closes LoT will analyse the results and provide Peabody with a short summary report, which we'll be happy to share.

More publicity is needed as people don't know what it is. We will send out the information again and specifically encourage people to engage in the consultation.

6. **Local events to be involved in?**

- a. The Bexley Eco Festival, on Saturday 25th June 11am-4pm at the nest, Cygnet square. John Hogan updated us on plans for the day. Lots of activities will be happening. There will be posters emailed soon with the full details. There are stalls available to run, people can have their own stalls as long as environmentally friendly, contact John for more information.
- b. Thamesmead Festival on the 20th August 2022 12-7pm
This will be by Southmere Lake, we have had a stall before, it would be good to have one again this year.

7. Update from our committee meeting 29/3

DS gave a summary of the meeting - see below:

OUR PURPOSE and what are our AIMS:

The Moorings Neighbourhood Forum works to bring our local community together to improve lives.

We aim to do this by:

- 1) Spreading local information
- 2) Working towards a safer and cleaner neighbourhood
- 3) Helping report issues to the relevant authorities to bring about change
- 4) Engaging with new building developments
- 5) Helping support and promote local enterprises/projects

Clarifying WHO are our committee members

Currently, we have Deborah Frimpong (Chair), Derek Sewell (Vice-chair), Sue Pollock, Julius Ariko, Chiamaka Muoneke, Councillor Averil Lekau, Beatrice Anaman, Claire Hallinan and Tracey Megson.

We also suggested that we have 'Community Partners' who work alongside us. They would mainly be representatives from Peabody, who do not have voting rights.

HOW are committee members appointed

Note the following, slightly updated wording for our constitution:

'The day-to-day business of the Forum shall be conducted by the Management Committee ("the Committee"). Subject to decisions of any General Meeting, the Committee shall comprise up to 10 elected by a General Meeting. The Forum shall strive for the Committee to reflect the diversity of our community.

Selection: Members are selected by the present committee on who might be suitable to help take the Forum in the right direction. At the same time, the committee shall invite active members to step up to help.

Election: Each candidate will be presented to the AGM and needs to be voted in by a simple two-thirds.

Term: Each committee member shall stand for one year and can stand for reelection. We require that each committee member

Expectation: Members are expected to attend at least 6 forum meetings and 2 committee meetings a year.

Other matters

1) Remind the forum that our accounts are not secret and can be viewed by members of the public.

2) A few constitutional updates - for the AGM

Outcome: Remove the 5 year max term, but ensure:

- 1) We renew each year
- 2) We actively seek to build up/mentor others to stand in the future.

3) To Zoom or not Zoom? Possible microphone.) It was suggested that we need conference microphones to run hybrid meetings and that these might be something that Peabody could use for their centre/s.

4) Frequency of meeting:

Pattern last Tuesday of each month with a cycle of public forum, public forum, committee

There was agreement on these changes but people can still comment from reading the minutes. DF invite people to consider if they wanted to join the committee. If you do, please let us know by to join the Friday 13 May, please let either Derek or Deborah know.

We will send an application form sent out for you to be able to send back.

8. **AOB**

Someone asked if a local councillor could come to these meetings. It was explained that we are very open for the councillors to join us and have even changed the day of the meeting to make it easier for them.

DF- We are in desperate need of a secretary. Please let DF know if you can help us in this matter.

9. **Next meeting:**

7 June 2022 AGM (different from the agreed pattern due to the Bank-holiday)