

Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee

Zoom Meeting - Thursday 2 December at 7pm

Present - Simon Millson (SM - Chair), Adrian Darley (AD - Treasurer), Alison MacNair (AMN - CS), Gareth James (GJ - FoCC), Cllr Linda Bray (LB), Cllr Joanna Reynolds (JR), Krishna Siva (KS), Helen O'Malley (HOM), Paul Stephenson (PS) and Sarah Yandell (SY - BB).

Apologies - Jeremy Keates (BID), Cllr Nigel Haselden, Cllr Tim Briggs and Shelagh Muchmore.

Events Team - Lee Fiorentino (LF), Head of Events; Lipika Paul, Operations Manager; and Gabi Grose, Events Officer.

Festival Republic - the team is now reconciling all the information post the event and are drafting "post event feedback" including from stakeholders . This report due by Christmas.

Secretary of State has given a verbal guarantee that if the PINS application is received in January they will reach a decision in time for the event (unlike 2021). Lambeth is employing Turleys (consultants) to help with the January application. LF confirmed the January PINS application would just cover 2022 but in future it could be a multi-year application.

SM will collate views from the Clapham Society, FCC and other stakeholders and pass onto LF. SM outlined issues so far raised included excessive noise, profanities used by performers, footprint creep, footpath obstructions and perimeter fencing too close to paths.

AD reminded the group of the 2018 origins of the new one month August events contract which resulted from previous CCMAC concerns that Events site fencing had in 2017 been up for c3 weeks in July and another c3 weeks in August to accommodate Lets Rock and then SW4 (3 event days).

In deciding whether to go ahead in 2022 Cllr Sonia Winifred has confirmed they will follow the Secretary of State ruling.

Kevin Crook update

- a) Paddocks Parking: following previous consultation the parking team have proposed extending the current zone to the Paddocks but without marked bays. Parking controls would also apply in front of Lambeth college where two new disabled bays would be installed.
- b) Gravel parking behind Windmill pub hotel - Negotiations with the residents had failed and Lambeth were now seeking a possession order with the intention of removing the gravel and recovering the land for the Common – court ruling in February 2022. As a long-term resident on Windmill Drive PS said the case was not straightforward as parking had been going on for many years and the barrier

had been installed in 2006 to stop sex workers driving onto the Common. He felt that if the land became part of the Common a barrier must remain and that the area should be re-wilded, with shrubs etc, to prevent unlicensed music events taking place near to the flats. KC said a barrier of posts would be installed and that the area would be wilded if CCMAC so proposed.

- c) Safer Spaces: LB had attended a public sex environment (PSE) meeting and was copied in to an email Wandsworth police had sent. Officer Lisa Patel had declared that lighting puts PSE users at much greater risk. KC said the lighting proposal came from an EVA anticrime report and that in terms of cutting back vegetation it mainly referred to epicormic growth (around the lower trunk) which parks staff already manage. IR has sent the EVA report to the relevant police officers for comment.
- d) GJ added that contractors recently replacing lighting on the Common had confirmed these would be much brighter than previous lighting columns which had not previously been communicated to CCMAC – KC to investigate. AMN did not understand why the police were supportive of PSE activity and noted the consequences in terms of sex litter. She endorsed cutting back vegetation to manage this but GJ said FCC would not support such moves due to the impact on biodiversity, instead arguing for better education regarding the importance of removing or safely disposing of related litter.

Chair gave thanks to KC and the Events team.

Annual meeting - Omnibus was not free on the proposed AOM date. SM has approached Voltaire Studios and was aiming to announce an alternative venue by year end. HoM volunteered to help with the AOM organisation.

Working Group updates

Wet Play Working Group - LB said since the last CCMAC the working group had had 1 more meeting. Project Manager Hanna Radlowska now had more information on likely build and management costs and would now check any formal consent issues and any constraints on eg the addition of soft landscaping/hedging. LB confirmed the group had scheduled presentations by 2 potential contractors the following week.

Access Working Group - JR noted that the access group had concerns that money would be directed away towards the wet play project despite a lot of work needing to be done on paths and lighting.

Trees, Landscape and Ecology Working Group - AD gave an update to explain that the focus of TLE would shift to prioritise education, volunteer activity and consultation. Also noted that the parks team had yet to mow the grass in the wildflower area which was delaying the sowing of yellow rattle seed.

Wild Clapham Working Group - GJ introduced the new Wild Clapham working group which would focus on delivery of Lambeth's biodiversity plan. Initial projects were the planting of 60 trees and c 20 scrub islands which had received very positive feedback from dog walkers and other members of the Community. To focus on Wild Clapham GJ would now step away from TLE. Subsequent projects are planned for spring including renewal of the Eaglet wetland area and the realisation of the Butterfly Conservation wildflower proposal (details being discussed with IB and IR).

Member group updates

Bandstand Beds - SY confirmed that the BB Monday and Saturday sessions would continue through winter although the garden closes in January. Fruit trees for the new orchard were due to arrive in the 2nd week of December and would be planted 11th December. BB would also be planting 100 blackthorn and hawthorn as hedging + bulbs in the coming weeks.

Friend of Clapham Common - GJ said today was the closing date for PitP comments. To date there had been 630 objections.

Clapham Society - AMN said the only issue they were looking at was the legal authority around events. No update on the member survey results.

Date of next meeting - SM proposal to move from 6th January to Thursday 13th January which was agreed.