

## **Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC)**

**Thursday 3 November 2022 – 7pm — Zoom**

### **Minutes of Meeting**

**Present:** Simon Millson (Chair – SM), Adrian Darley (AD - Treasurer), Cllr Linda Bray (LB), Cllr Alison Inglis-Jones (AIJ), Gareth James (GJ - Friends of Clapham Common), Helen O'Malley (HOM), Jeremy Keates (JK - This is Clapham - Clapham BID), Joanna Reynolds (JR), Andrew Summer (AS - Clapham Society) and Andrew Besso (AB - Bandstand Beds).

External presenters: Fatima Jalloh (FJ), Project Manager, Lambeth Council, and Laura Parker (LP), Studio Voltaire.

**Apologies** – Cllr Ben Curtis (BC), Krishna Siva (KS) and Shelagh Muchmore (SMu)

#### **1. External Presenters**

##### **Battersea Woods cafe and the children's playground kiosk**

FJ provided an update on refurbishment of the storage building into a kiosk at the Windmill Drive playground and outlined plans to restore the disused toilet building beside Battersea Woods into a cafe.

The kiosk refurbishment is expected to be completed by the end of November. CCMAC supported the plan to restore the disused toilet block into a cafe. Written comments were subsequently submitted to FJ on the plan. In particular concern was raised over the landscaping around the building.

SM to invite Lambeth Council representative to the next CCMAC meeting to explain how the kiosk and cafe will be operated.

##### **Grassy knoll**

LP outlined an approach to reinvigorate the patch of land behind the Tube station commonly known as the 'grassy knoll' which once housed air raid shelters during WWII. CCMAC supported the approach and JR, LB and Ad agreed to join a working group with LP to advance the approach.

##### **Area behind Clapham Common Tube Station**

JK not keen just yet to progress. JK to set up meeting to review options again with CCMAC members for the first area behind the Tube station.

**2. Approval of minutes:** the minutes of the meeting on October 6 2022 were approved.

**3. Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.

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**4. Annual meeting:** SM informed the meeting the annual meeting will take place at Omnibus Theatre on Thursday 2 February. At the December CCMAC meeting all relevant papers will to be presented including any amendments required for the constitution. These papers include agenda, notice, nomination form and accounts.

### **5. Rough sleepers**

SM reminded CCMAC of the process to be followed for reporting rough sleepers. There is an agreed process both at Lambeth and Wandsworth led by expert agencies.

### **6. Working Group Updates**

#### **Masterplan Delivery Group**

SM gave an overview of key highlights following a meeting of the Masterplan Delivery Group on Monday 31 October (with JR, AIJ, LB, BC and representatives need to of Lambeth Council on the committee) -

- Submissions to the planning inspectorate for Secretary of State approval of the relevant waterplay plans closed at the end of October - there were no material objections although Lambeth will reply to some points for clarification.
- Waterplay contractor will likely be appointed in December after internal approvals with works beginning in the new year.
- Still a tight deadline to open by end of May but just about possible.
- Consideration is being given to the installation of 12 racks for 24 bicycles within the waterplay area.
- Works to restore paths will begin within the next few months after internal hurdles are cleared.
- Total value is some £133,000. Maps were circulated detailing areas to be improved in the first wave.
- Clearing the clutter of disused noticeboards at these points also to be priced into the work.
- JR reminded members to forward photos with locations of any major potholes.
- Locations being finalised for the installation of six CCTV cameras including one at the depot.
- Purchasing plans for new benches under way.

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#### **Wildflowers**

SM reported that six areas of Clapham Common had been seeded with wildflowers, doubling the area seeded in previous years. (A map was previously circulated.)

Quotes have also been sent detailing the cost of installing a second meadow beside Clapham Common Northside. If approved works could begin before Christmas at the earliest.

Perennials planted earlier this year were doing very well in the wet and warm autumn.

#### **Wild Clapham**

Dr Iain Boulton and Lara Mifsud-Bonici of Lambeth Council have approved moving to the design stage of the wetlands project adjacent to Eagle Pond. WC will be working with Vectorworks Landscape consultants to provide scale-drawn, 3D plans. These will include all hard and soft landscaping, construction details and full plant lists. WC will be working in partnership with Butterfly Conservation and Froglife. Once completed, the plans will be presented to CCMAC and Lambeth BC for consideration. If approved, quotes from contractors for the project will be sought. An application to the Secretary of State will probably be required for permission for the permanent structures - viewing deck and boardwalk. The project is currently scheduled for autumn 2023 and the Friends of Clapham Common will be covering all design costs.

WC is planning to complete the scrublands project this autumn in the 'dog walker's' area by planting a further 11 small scrub islands. Dr Iain Boulton has approved the additional planting. Planting to start within a fortnight.

## **7. Member Group Updates**

#### **Friends of Clapham Common**

The Pumpkin Patch event was a great success and has raised £7500.00 for the Wetlands and trees. Attendees were given recipes for how to eat their pumpkin and composting information. The hay bales were bought from Vauxhall City Farm and then returned as a donation. The pumpkin crates were re-purposed as composting bins.

The Friends will be planting c. 30 new trees this autumn. This includes Memorial trees and an English oak (*Quercus robur*) for Marcus Hope in the Scrublands. John Mackie and Lara Mifsud-Bonici have approved all trees and sites. We will be planting in groves

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this year, to improve shade, rather than individual specimens. Groves include Indian horse chestnut (*Aesculus indica*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), common hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and silver birch (*Betula pendula*). Tree planting starts on Monday 14th November.

#### **Clapham Society**

Nothing to report.

#### **Bandstand Beds**

- On Mondays the over 55s are working with a new coordinator from Froglife
- Saturdays volunteers have been busy topping up with growing medium created in our new compost bays
- BB volunteers have also been sowing crops to grow over winter
- BB continuing to collect non-perishable food and grocery items for Norwood & Brixton Foodbank
- There are free hedgerow whips coming from The Conservation Volunteers and Mayor of London to plant along the edge of the green waste site during National Tree Week (27 November to 5 December)

**8. Any other business - None**

**9. Date of next meeting - Thursday 1 December - venue TBC**