

Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC)

Minutes of meeting on Thursday 1 June 2023, 1900 - 2050 The Depot SW4

Attendees:

Simon Millson (Chair)	<i>Community Representatives</i>
Cllr Linda Bray (LB)	Phil Carey (PC) (and Secretary)
Cllr Ben Curtis	Adrian Darley (AD) (and Treasurer)
Cllr Alison Inglis-Jones (AIJ)	Michael Mooney (MM)
Gareth James (GJ) (Friends of Clapham Common FCC)	Joanna Reynolds (JR)
Andrew Summers (AS) (Clapham Society)	Krishna Siva

Lambeth Council

Lara Mifsud-Bonici (LMB); Santiago Genochio (SG) (*Item 1 only*)

Nick Jackson, Enchanted Group (*Item 1 only*)

Apologies: Nikki Marsh, Ian Ross

1: Oktoberfest event

Nick Jackson explained the event plans now largely agreed with Lambeth: it will run from 5-8 October, 1730 to 2230 (Sat start at 1130), expecting to sell c1500 of max 2500 tickets per session, at £28 (£45 VIP package). The Enchanted Group, whose experience is focused so far on student events around Exeter, is taking steps to deal with three priority concerns:

- Sustainability: including use of 2-pint reusable glasses. CCMAC was most worried that installing heavy fairground ride equipment could damage the soil structure on the events site. SG explained that Enchanted now had full approval to use this location, but CCMAC urged them to reconsider use of the more robust Fairground or Redgra sites.
- Sound: amplified music output to be limited to 75dBa (dBc limit to be confirmed), and bars will close at 2200 to ensure all stops at 2230. CCMAC insisted that Enchanted set up a direct line to deal live with any noise complaints.
- Security: the 10,000m² site will be bounded by hessian-covered Heras fencing; stewards will also cover egress routes, directing departing customers to Clapham Common tube and the High Street. CCMAC advised that toilets should also be provided outside the site on these homeward routes.

Actions: Enchanted to urgently explore with Lambeth Events the case for moving to Fairground or Redgra sites; and confirm dBc limit, setting up of noise action line, and installation of toilets beyond site boundary.

2: Matters arising from last meeting

The minutes of 4 May meeting were approved, and on matters arising:

- The reconfiguration of Windmill Drive is now scheduled to start in August / September.

- The temporary toilets were now in place, and even though the main facility has just been reopened, CCMAC urges Lambeth to keep them in place to improve provision for the full summer season.
- Recruitment of the 4-person Enforcement Team is nearly complete; it will cover all Lambeth parks, focusing on evenings and weekends. In respect of anti-social behaviour, PC reported an offer from the Security lead for Wandsworth Common Management Advisory Committee to liaise on best practice across the two Commons.

Action: PC to share material from WCMAC and follow-up as necessary.

- AD had now circulated proposals for hedging, and confirmed the plan is a joint initiative of FCC and the TLE Working Group. MM observed that the stretches of long grass around the Windmill and the Horseshoe are also being welcomed as a noise buffer.

3: Ongoing Clapham Common works update:

LMB reported that:

The Parks Infrastructure Levy forecast for the Common is now confirmed, and Lambeth are assessing what this means for installation of bollards. Admin procedures continue to hold up the completion of the benches programme. The kiosk by the central playground should reopen by late June. She is assured the Megans generator will be switched off from 12 June. There was further delay to renewal of the changing rooms, with the budget looking insufficient, and a need to keep pressing Wandsworth for planning approval.

CCMAC members raised concerns about:

- Enforcement against unlicensed, diesel-powered ice cream vans on public highways alongside the Common, expressing strong concern on clean air grounds. Current bylaws appear ineffective, as rogue operators are not deterred by the permitted fines. CCMAC would like to see tougher action, including seizure of the vans, but agreed to first see what the new Enforcement Team is able to do, working with Lambeth Highways who have the lead responsibility.
- Litter collection: AS asked LMB to ensure that bagging up of litter is always promptly followed up by collection, to avoid bags being broken open by crows.
- The unsightly 'no parking' barriers at the north end of West Side; LMB was unaware that some had simply been replaced.

Action: LMB to press Wandsworth re planning approval, and check position with West Side parking barriers

4: Planning Inspectorate inquiry into events on the Common

The Inquiry opens with a scheduling meeting on 13 June. GJ alerted CCMAC to a problem Lambeth tried to deal with in January regarding the precise legal extent of the Common. It is seeking rectification of some historic anomalies which are now likely to have to be determined by the Inquiry inspector, as he will need to take a view on the proportion of the Common area that can be taken up by events. CCMAC is disappointed that Lambeth did not brief it on this problem.

Action: GJ to share relevant documents

5: Governance Working Group: proposals for discussion

PC, AIJ and MM explained progress made with a draft statement on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and draft policies on Harassment / Bullying, and on Conflict of Interest; all three will benefit from an informal review of legal considerations.

Action: All to comment on drafts (circulated 2 June) by 8 June, and then PC to liaise with LB about sharing with lawyer contact

6: Other Working Group updates

- The *Bandstand Concerts* programme has now been widely circulated by SM in partnership with Best of Clapham and other media and community groups, and a volunteer steward roster lined up. AD has produced laminated programme sheets for display around the Common.
- *Waterplay*: work is proceeding on schedule. Re-seeding of the adjoining land will have to wait until September (planting or turfing would be too costly), and it will have to be fenced off for some months.
- *Bowling Greens & Pavilion*: the inspection visit to the Rocks Lane padel tennis court will take place on 9 June
- For *Wild Clapham*, GJ sought to continue the 'no mow' policy beyond May, and would seek to avoid any mowing between Mount Pond and the wildflower meadow.

GJ was thanked for a very helpful report on the work of the Wild Clapham group. The planned review of progress across all Groups was postponed to the July meeting, when all new members are expected to be present.

Action: other WG leads to prepare short report for July meeting

7: New Working Group on Local Nature Reserve

SM explained the need to work up the most effective action plan for delivering the aims of the Local Nature Reserve designation. SM, AD and GJ should form a new Group, which would need to liaise closely with LMB and Dr Iain Boulton.

Action: SM, AD and GJ to initiate

8: Role of Events Working Group re Events framework

SM has agreed with Kevin Crook that work to develop the framework outlined by Cllr Anyanwu at the May meeting should wait until after the Public Inquiry; but in the meantime CCMAC could usefully draw up a statement of principles to guide the exercise.

Action: LB, AD, AIG, NM and MM to work this up

9: Member Group updates

Friends of Clapham Common: some slack-lining activity was causing concern, where less responsible practitioners risked causing damage to younger trees. GJ reported the unveiling of the memorial bench to Malcolm Mide-Madariola.

10: AOB

- AS expressed concern about lack of sustained engagement from LGBT groups who had provided some initial support in clearing 'sex litter' from Battersea Woods. SM took the view this required a careful long-term solution.

Action: issue to be considered by new Local Nature Reserve working group

- JR remained keen to focus on the Mud Play operation and its use of the Common.

Action: propose as agenda item for September meeting

11: Date of next meeting: Thursday 6 July, 1930, The Depot.

Minutes drafted by Phil Carey, Secretary