

Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC)

Minutes of meeting on Thursday 5 March 2026, 1900 – 2100

The Depot, Clapham Common

Attendees:

Adrian Darley (*Chair*)

Cllr Linda Bray

Cllr Ben Curtis

Cllr Alison Inglis-Jones

Member organisations:

Michael Barry (Clapham Society) (MB)

Gareth James (Wild Clapham) (GJ)

Community Representatives:

Ian Blandford

Phil Carey (PC)

Lynsey Hedges (LH)

Petr Kaiser (PK)

Clare Frances McMenemy (CFM)

Krishna Siva (KS)

Andrew Summers (AS)

Lambeth Council: Lara Mifsud-Bonici (LMB)

Apologies received from: Ed Alnutt, Ed Glanville, Paul Smith; also on CCMAC: Joanna Reynolds

The Chair welcomed the newly appointed Community Representative Ian Blandford to CCMAC, and looks forward to Ed Glanville attending his first meeting next month.

1: Matters arising from previous meetings

The minutes of the Annual Open Meeting (AOM) on 5 February were approved (with the minutes of the 8 January meeting previously approved in correspondence). Options for attracting more local residents to the AOM were discussed: moving it to later in the Spring might help, but would require a change to the constitution; attendance might be higher if simply held earlier in the week than a Thursday. It might also be worth arranging one or more informal open meetings later in the year, to increase our engagement with the public.

Action 1: PC to coordinate a Governance WG recommendation on options

2: Events update

The organisers of Footballfest, Fan Parks London (FPL), had been increasingly anxious about recent lack of communication from Lambeth, but things were moving again on the planning front and they now hope to be able to recover the 2-3 weeks lost time in preparing the event. CCMAC noted that its share of the potential income from the event could be transformative by 2027, but some significant concerns about impacts discussed at the January meeting remained to be addressed (including reliance on single use plastics), and there was some strong localised opposition focused on the long duration of the event. AD will liaise with Kevin Crook and John Bosley ahead of the 19 March Safety Advisory Group

meeting, and CCMAC should consider a possible representation in respect of the Licensing Committee application.

Action 2A: CFM to coordinate an Events WG recommendation on how the CCMAC position should be framed.

LMB advised that Lambeth is no longer producing an Events calendar for external stakeholders; CCMAC regretted this decision, as a readily available list enables us to identify what activity on the Common is already authorised; but we could compile our own list of Clapham Common events from the individual notifications which will still come from the Events team. These include:

- Clapham Fair, in conjunction with Clapham Pride, on Saturday 27 June; and
- Ethiopian Orthodox Church Family event, Sunday 12 July – **Action 2B: LMB to establish if there is any plan to use Long Pond itself as part of the event**

3: Commercial operations update

The only significant progress with the new leases since the AOM was interviewing of the shortlisted applicants for the Woodland Café; but the expectation remained that new tenants will be in place for the Bowling Green Kiosk and Pavilion, as well as the Café, this spring. Lambeth will begin a fresh marketing exercise, through its commercial property agents Avison Young, for expressions of interest for a sports/leisure offering on the second green, closer to the tennis courts.

LMB reported that the Commercial Team require that several A-board notices will shortly be placed on the Common advertising new concession opportunities; CCMAC was concerned that this could constitute sign clutter. AD highlighted the need for new ice cream van agreements to insist on electric-only power: diesel or petrol-powered vans are incompatible with the Common's Green Flag status.

Actions 3: LMB to keep A-board signing to the minimum; and seek quote for costs of the necessary power point upgrade

4: Enforcement update

Litter management: FCC is finalising its proposal for its volunteers carrying out winter weekend collections on the core Playground-to-Battersea Rise corridor (although 7-day summer collections will resume in April); Lambeth has added one extra staff member for winter weekends, but this resource is thinly stretched across all parks.

Action 4A: (rolled over from January) PS to arrange meeting / walk-round with AD and GJ to agree new deployment of bins (including using the crow-proof bins currently in storage, in particular to address need around Mount Pond)

Cycling safety: Path surface signing had not yet been refreshed, because of the need for dry conditions, and then jet-washing, before stencilling could proceed. A clear action plan for installing the three sign formats agreed in the January meeting needs to be in place as soon as possible.

Action 4B: PC to coordinate Access, Paths, Signing WG agreement on what signs to buy and where they should be installed

Enforcement and signing of bylaws more generally remains a key focus for 2026. CFM noted, from the Parks Forum meeting she attended, that Lambeth has finalised its new Fixed Penalty powers for breach of bylaws, and is now working to secure the additional community safety officers needed for effective implementation. There would also soon be informal consultation on the new London model bylaws.

Private schools' sports use of Common: One of the three schools has been holding back on an agreement for appropriate payment.

Action 4C: LMB will establish what is needed to ensure all agreements are in place in time for the schools stepping up their use of the Common this summer.

Rough sleepers: LMB advised that Wandsworth's agent SPEAR remains less able to deal quickly with reported cases on its part of the Common.

Action 4D: LH agreed to explore if there are any resourcing difficulties

5: Works update

(A) GJ highlighted his concern about the deteriorating condition of the 'Green Waste Site', in his view the biggest eyesore on the Common: the Site is being used more for storage than for green waste processing, and poor fencing allows unacceptable spillage on to the Common and exposes the mess within. Wild Clapham has made good progress in recent weeks agreeing with Lambeth's team a plan for urgent remedial action, centred on site clearance work (which for safety reasons cannot be carried out by volunteers), and new gates and fencing, including on the 40-metre southern edge, that is far better aesthetically in this sensitive location. The aim should be to make the Site effectively 'disappear'.

He estimated a total cost of £15,500 for the first phase of work, which needs to be commenced this month; there is a good chance of securing part-funding from FCC, but it would help to know if CCMAC could cover any shortfall. AD explained that CCMAC holds £18,930 from PIL ring-fenced for biodiversity projects, and might also use part of its film unit receipts to share with FCC the c£1,000 cost of the initial site clearance.

Action 5A: GJ to report more fully after his 17 March meeting with FCC, specifying the planned work and reasons for urgency, and seeking a CCMAC commitment in principle as a qualifying biodiversity project.

(B) The final procurement approval is not yet in place for the overdue path repairs, but LMB expects the first phase of work will still go ahead next month. She reported that the Parks Team are also now carrying out a broader survey of all paths, drawing up a four-tier classification in terms of importance for users.

Action 5B: PC to coordinate Access, Paths, Signing WG agreement on requirements for a second phase of resurfacing in the autumn; LMB to supply it with the confirmed list of sites being addressed in Phase 1.

(C) LMB reported three recent flytipping incidents, two on Windmill Drive and one on the Redgra; all three consisted of similar materials. A sack of material was also dumped outside the Depot.

Actions 5C: LMB to find out what evidence the Parking team's enforcement cameras on Windmill Drive can provide for a possible prosecution; and to get a quote from Chris Jude for extra CCTV at the Depot.

6: Working Groups – progress reports and membership for 2026

- 1) *Access, Paths & Signage*: WG to take forward Actions 4B and 5B
- 2) *Bandstand Concerts*: MB had alerted CCMAC to the halving of Lambeth's support for the 2026 programme, and proposed the £2,500 shortfall be met from either PIL money, film unit parking receipts, or possibly commercial sponsorship. But it should be possible to collect much of the sum from donations from those attending the concerts: volunteer stewards should feel sufficiently confident to announce the opportunity to donate by speaking at the start and finish of each concert (without needing to actively then go round asking attendees), and a survey PK carried out through Best of Clapham has shown very strong willingness to contribute to the cost of the concerts. There may however be legal aspects to address if actively seeking donations to CCMAC, especially if separate from the concerts themselves.
Action 6A: AD to work with MB on the funding need and legal considerations
- 3) *Bowling Greens & Pavilion*: WG to act as needed depending on progress with the leases.
- 4) *Ecology & Biodiversity*: GJ and AD confirmed that the third draft of the Logika report now submitted is much stronger on context, but still weak on recommendations. Noting anger from some CCMAC members at the feebleness of the product despite the effort expended trying to improve it, AD will discuss with Kevin Crook whether redress should be sought from Logika. **Action 6B: AD**
- 5) *Events*: WG to take forward Action 2A, and will press Lambeth to resume progress on its Events Strategy
- 6) *Governance*: WG to take forward Action 1, and plan to address PIL management issues later in 2026
- 7) *Masterplan*: **Action 6C: AD to press Kevin Crook to provide update on the new Parks & Open Spaces Strategic Plan (2026-2030)**
- 8) *Sports*: **Action 6D: KS to report back on 18 March meeting with Simon Harris (Lambeth, Sports) on sports licensing changes**

Adjustments to Working Group composition, in line with changes in CCMAC membership, were agreed. **Action 6E: PC to circulate updated details**

7: Member Group updates

Clapham Society: MB reported the Society will be putting to a public vote next month the Design Competition options for refreshing the rail overbridge at Clapham North; and as part

of its Clean Up Clapham campaign it is running a poster competition with primary schools for designs which, working with FCC, could be added to bins on the Common and elsewhere. He had shared the latest format for the History Boards project with CCMAC, and is considering the opportunity for part-funding through sponsorship (which would mean adding the firm's logo to the design).

Action 7A: CCMAC members to provide any comment on the History Board format to MB asap

Wild Clapham: GJ updated on three projects:

- Lambeth Highways has now signed off on the Windmill Drive SUDS beds; Wild Clapham has made it clear it will not accept liability if the drains block as it was not given the consent it had sought to raise the height of several of the drains. AD will also be working on preparing the beds this month for the summer season.
- Cleve West has now produced a much better design for the Biodiversity Garden (on the bowling green site). **Action 7B: GJ to send briefing note to CCMAC before April meeting**
- Installation of the two additional Fast Fill stations has now been completed.

Friends of Clapham Common (FCC): in EA's absence, GJ commended the excellent new FCC website, and reported agreement had now reached with Poppy George allowing good progress to be made on tree planting.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 9 April, 1900, at The Depot.

Minutes drafted by Phil Carey (Secretary)