

Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC)

Minutes of meeting on Thursday 9th April 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 (IB)

Lynsey Hedges (LH)

Petr Kaiser (PK)

Clare Frances McMenemy (CFM)

Ed Glanville (EG)

Lambeth Council: Lara Mifsud-Bonici (LMB)

Apologies received from: Joanna Reynolds (JR), Phil Carey (PC), Andrew Summers (AS), Krishna Siva (KS), Ed Alnutt/Harriet, Paul Smith

1: Matters arising from previous meetings

The minutes of the monthly meeting on 5 March were approved.

It was noted that this would be Cllr Ben Curtis's last meeting as he was standing down at the elections. The Committee thanked him for his time, commitment and contribution over the past 4 years and wished him well in his future plans.

2: Events update

LMB advised that Footballfest, Fan Parks London (FPL) would no longer be happening and that they had withdrawn their application. Lambeth at this time had not received any formal communication as to why, however, reasons had been widely circulated on social media.

Discussion ensued as FPL had made it known of their dissatisfaction as to how Lambeth had handled the planning application, slippages in timelines, breaks in communication and general engagement throughout the process.

It was suggested that the Events working group conduct a post mortem, so that we have some key learnings and lessons to take on board so as to create a gold standard for Events activation going forward, in particular larger events, how Lambeth as a borough market them, creating clear time scales and for example key milestones depending on sizes of events.

AJJ stated that she had been against FPL from the outset and had had a significant number of letters from local residents opposing the event in addition to the fact that a lot of crucial questions had not been answered by the event organisers.

Concern was raised at the financial hole on PIL contribution for 2026/2027 as a result of FPL not happening, given the lack of time to find alternative suitable events during 2026. LMB advised that latest PIL forecast allocated for 2026 was £26,240.51 less £5248 (the deduction of 20% that goes into the general parks PIL bucket for smaller parks)but this excluded Oktoberfest, Winestock and Race for Life.

It was stated that Neighbourgood market would not go ahead in 2026 but is planned for 2027. No other events were noted.

Discussion arose around the events calendar circulation again. It was felt that it was important that CCMAC has sight of the active events calendar so as to better plan and raise questions in a timely manner and in light of the above re FPL and PIL, this was felt to be especially important in terms of transparency and active planning for all parties.

Action 2A: Events WG to meet to discuss learnings and way forward for events. CFMC to follow up on Events framework with KC.

3: Commercial operations update

No significant update regarding Woodland Café, Green Kiosk and Pavilion or playground café at this time apart from the note from KC via AD between meetings. The inference from the communication from KC was that everything was progressing as planned unless notified otherwise, but the process could take 8 – 10 weeks. Given slippage in the past, especially in relation to the Woodland Café, it was felt that we should be regularly updated as we receive a lot of questions from the public regarding updates. Electrical works at the Pavilion were ongoing. There continues to be issues with the electrical supply at the waterplay area (servicing the electrical ice cream van) – we may need to find an alternative supplier to undertake works, especially as may be costly, however it should not be delayed and we need to make sure ice cream vans are not spewing out fumes on going. AD stated that, as previously discussed, this is perhaps something the committee could consider funding from film unit monies but we would need a figure to work from before committing.

LMB advised the new ice cream van agreement (2 pitches) were now in place and contract would commence April – exact date tbc. This leaves no space for illegal vans to set up on the Common and would enable enforcement to pursue action against them if they did.

The sauna has indicated they would like to extend their tenure on Clapham Common for the summer months but requested they move to the one of the bowling green sites (closest to the Tennis courts) before returning to the Waterplay area over the winter months 2026/2027. LH advised that this would be an issue for residents on West Side. The funfair site was proposed as an alternative site, but there is a water issue there so may not be suitable. Committee agreed it needed more time to weigh up pros and cons, whether it fits with the designation of that area and would come back to it at the next meeting.

Litter update – the Summer Rota is being phased in with full Summer Rota in place by the time that the Waterplay area is open. (end of May). In the interim, it will be reactive with increase in schedule collections based on weather forecast. Some commented on the effectiveness of litter collections over the past while, with high refuse areas being cleared swiftly in the mornings. CFMC asked for status of additional bins for the Common with a

view to them being doubled up in high footfall, hotspot areas. LMB was going to get a quote for additional bins. GJ requested that existing bins on the Common be redistributed in the meantime, so the bins that are not being used are moved to hotspots. EG talked about deep surface bins in hotspot areas, the position of which is analysed by AI to make sure they are in hotspot areas and get emptied once a month. Cost would be a key constraint in progressing this sort of idea. Having additional Euro paladin bins on the Common as opposed to the smaller bins was raised but the view was that given reduced PIL and effect of bin collection vans on the paths, that this may not be a suitable solution. Some people think the big bins are for Park staff and commercial waste and maybe more education and awareness is needed. It was agreed that the large Hera fencing banners and smaller banners highlighting disposal of litter and No BBQs should be put up asap.

PK advised of discussions with M&S re disposable BBQ and they had advised that they would not, and had not, sold disposable BBQs since 2022. They will be doing a localised awareness explaining they will not be doing BBQs due to damage they can cause to the Common. The Committee hope that other supermarkets and shops will follow suit. EG to speak with the CSO of Sainsbury's re not selling disposable BBQ.

MB spoke about the 'Who Pays for Parks' symposium from earlier this month, key outtakes and disconnects; where more money needs to be raised by partner groups as Council funds diminish, commercial opportunities within Parks and Commons, more partnership opportunities. GJ highlighted that we are already doing this and raised again the opportunities and benefits of the Green Investment as per Hammersmith & Fulham.

Actions 3: LMB to update on progress of Woodland Café contract. ALL discuss sauna at the bowling green area at next meeting. LMB to provide prices for additional bins. AD/CFMC to liaise re putting up banners. GJ/AD/CFMC/AIJ to agree date for walkaround re bins positions with Lambeth. EG to speak with Sainsbury's CSO re BBQ. LMB to obtain a quote for the electrical remedial work.

4: Enforcement update

No update re Enforcement and fixed penalty powers – KC to update with LMB. LMB noted John Bosley, the new Director will now have oversight of Enforcement. LMB to update before next meeting.

With regard to issuing FPN, AIJ confirmed breaches of bylaws would hold a penalty of £500 on the Common. AIJ to circulate latest memo with details of penalties as this will be referenced on the ByLaws signage.

Action 4A: LMB to update re Enforcement team. AIJ to circulate penalty levels for the Common.

Signage: CFM to circulate the costs for phase 1 of the small lamp post signage to the Access Paths group with a view to signs for shared path, pedestrian priority/pedestrian only signs be in production before the next meeting. CFM to finalise signage design for this first phase in time for going into production. She will also share proposals for the lecterns for the ByLaws again to get them into production asap.

Action 4B: Access, Paths, Signing WG agreement on final signs, quantities and fittings to buy and where they should be installed

Private schools' sports use of Common: PS to update re agreements with private school sport use in May meeting.

Action 4C: PS to feedback re agreements in place in time for the schools stepping up their use of the Common this summer.

Rough sleepers: LMB advised that Keith Badrick had unfortunately left the team and it was unsure when or if there would be a replacement. Lambeth's Streetlink and Wandsworth's agent SPEAR remain key point of contact for reporting rough sleepers on the Common

Flytipping: Unfortunately CCTV has not shown adequate information to be able to pursue – numberplates had been adapted/distorted.

5: Works update

Green Waste Site:- All materials are now on site, FCC have already donated £9K of their £12K commitment, final paint colour has been selected so that it naturalises and blends into the landscape, fences have been sprayed and work will continue into next week. PS has advised Bandstand Beds of the works. With the restructuring of the Green Waste site, all materials delivered there going forward should be placed into the site and area outside GWS should be permanently clear. GJ advised that a site placement design should be agreed and implemented for GWS. GJ requested total contribution from PIL of £11K from the biodiversity fund already held in the CCMAC fund which will create a 40mtr by 1.5mtr wildlife corridor connecting Battersea Woods to the Wetland. There was full consensus to the £11K commitment from CCMAC.

Action 5A: Rudy (Noel) McDonald to work with GJ to plan the future internal layout of the GWS.

(B) Final procurement approval is not yet in place for the overdue path repairs – it is currently sitting at director level and will then need approval from spend panel, but LMB expects the first phase of work will still go ahead, AD to follow up with LMB W/C20th April for update. 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: AD to follow up with LMB W/C20th April for update

(C) Battersea Rise Playground – local petition/survey in circulation, in conjunction with FCC, engaging with users and an interim summary report is being created. One thing that is very apparent is the requirement for the Battersea Rise playground to be specifically for younger children and quieter, simpler than Windmill Drive playground.

Actions 5C: AD to update with interim report by next meeting.

6: Working Groups – progress reports and membership for 2026

- 1) *Access, Paths & Signage*: see above.
- 2) *Bandstand Concerts*: MB to share the full schedule of concerts and get commitment from members as to marshalling dates across June, July and August – there are 28

marshalling slots in total. CFM to share 2025 bandstand concert poster with MB who will amend as required for 2026. MB to check re electricity at the bandstand. MB writing a brief script for requesting donation. PK will also promote across social media. **Action 60A: CFM to share poster. MB to circulate script. PK to share social strategy for engaging local community and publicising concerts and potential donations.**

- 3) *Bowling Greens & Pavilion*: Nothing of note.
- 4) *Ecology & Biodiversity*: GJ noted the Biodiversity garden by the Bowling green concept stage had taken a short pause due to the GWS work but plant lists and tree and shrub lists were being developed in the meantime.
- 5) *Events*: CFM to engage with Lambeth to resume progress on its Events Framework. **Action 6B: CFM**
- 6) *Governance*: Nothing of note.
- 7) *Masterplan*: Nothing of note.
- 8) *Sports*: **Action 6C: KS to report back on 18 March meeting with Simon Harris (Lambeth, Sports) on sports licensing changes**

7: Member Group updates

Clapham Society: MB reported the Society's History Lectern Campaign was underway and being promoted on their website. CS will match fund any donations for the History Boards lecterns and are aiming to get £14K in total. CS may seek sponsorship should there be a shortfall in funding. There has been a slight delay to the public voting on the Bridge Design competition, but that should be underway in April. MB mentioned they were doing a litter project with schools. MB to liaise with FCC who are also doing a schools' litter project. MB mentioned an art competition with artists to paint the Euro paladin bins, but it was agreed that until the full litter strategy was finalised and a cohesive and concerted path forward agreed, that it should be put on pause.

Action 7A: MB to liaise with FCC re schools' litter project.

Wild Clapham: GJ updated:

Windmill Drive SUDS beds; there has been a 70/75% success rate with the perennials from last year. Wild Clapham are going to now change them into normal beds by adding in organic matter and birch chips which will help to preserve and conserve water within the beds. GJ confirmed site lines will be maintained.

Friends of Clapham Common (FCC): in EA's absence, GJ commended a total of 48 new trees had been planted so far this year as a result of the Lambeth/FCC partnership. 2 new fast fill stations have been fitted on the Common – one by Battersea Woods café, the other by the Depot. A third one will take approx. 6 months to put in the access feed, but planning is in place – placed at Battersea Rise. There has been snagging at the one at the Dept (not running as fast as it should) but work to improve underway. Finally, FCC are showing the "National Emergency Briefing" film at Audley House. 40 large sacks were collected at the last monthly FCC Community Litter Pick, and CCMAC reinforced their gratitude for the effort. AD advised that FCC are cutting back the surplus liner and planting up aquatic shrubs around the new frog pond.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 14th May, 1900, at The Depot.

Minutes drafted by Clare Frances McMenemy