

Blackheath Joint Working Party (BJWP) Meeting Minutes

9th September 2018

Venue: Age Exchange, Blackheath

Attendees

Cllr Kevin Bonavia (chair)	London Borough of Lewisham
Cllr Geoff Brighty	Royal Borough of Greenwich
Sue Corlett	Hare & Billet Action Group
Philip Craig	Greenwich Society
Shirley Broughton	Nature Conservation Group
Mike Norton	Westcombe Society
Dame Helen Reeves	Blackheath Society
John Thompson	London Borough of Lewisham
Chris Devine	Royal Borough of Greenwich
Vince Buchannan	Royal Borough of Greenwich
Racheal Hook	Royal Borough of Greenwich
Martin Smith	

James Bravin (mins) London Borough of Lewisham

1. Apologies and introduction

Apologies were received from Cllr Amanda de Ryk, Cllr Mehboob Khan, Cllr Aidan Smith, Jane Dyer, Kellie Blake, Nick Pond, Margaret Dinkeldein, Tony Butler.

2. Minutes of the 16th January 2018 meeting

- (i) Accuracy:** No issues relating to accuracy were raised
- (ii) Matters arising**
 - a)** Cllr Bonavia noted that there should minutes for the BJWP meeting should be published on both the Royal Borough of Greenwich and the London Borough of Lewisham websites
 - b)** Vince Buchannan said that he had identified a location for the bollards

Action:

Officers at both boroughs to ensure minutes are online

3. Quietway cycle route

Cllr Bonavia introduced David Hibbs from Sustrans, a sustainable transport charity, who are managing the adoption of several Quietway routes around London. David Hibbs explained that he was attending this meeting to seek feedback from the BJWP regarding a proposed cycle route through Blackheath, as well as to inform the BJWP about the process of consulting and creating the route. The proposed Quietway is extension of Quietway Route 1 which runs from Waterloo through Bermondsey and then to Deptford, and finishing in Greenwich.

The design had been approved by Royal Borough of Greenwich, and now needs to go to public consultation. In addition it is adopted it needs to be approved by Royal Parks, and certain elements of the route (widening of a path) would need to be agreed by the landowner, the Earl of Dartmouth. David Hibbs said that the decision to approve the route will be taken by Royal Parks on the 20th October 2018. The following points were discussed:

- David Hibbs outlined the various changes to the current paths, and traffic management systems that are included in the Quietway route.
- Cllr Bonavia questioned whether, planning permission and commons consent would need to be sought in addition to the Earl of Dartmouth's agreement. David Hibbs said that advice is being sought on both those fronts, but he didn't think that either would apply because of the nature of the improvements.
- Cllr Bonavia asked who is funding the project. David Hibbs said that once all the necessary approvals are granted, that the project would be funded by TFL.
- There was a discussion about whether it was possible to widen paths as per the Quietway plans without impinging on some of the Heath's green space. David noted that the widening of the paths would still keep the path within its officially allocated space.

4. Events Planning Update

(i) Hospice Twilight Walk

Cllr Bonavia reminded members of the BJWP that the Hospice Twilight Walk was taking place on the 29th September. He asked for BJWP members to promote the walk if possible.

Action:

- **BJWP members and amenity societies to promote Twilight Walk.**

(ii) OnBlackheath – report on this year's event

Vince Buchannan reported that as of 9th September there had been no complaints made regarding the OnBlackheath event. Rachael Hook also confirmed that Greenwich had not received any official complaints yet either.

Cllr Geoff Brighty said that he could hear from his house at 9:00pm on Sunday 9th September, and that he had received verbal complaints from residents in St John's Park. Cllr Brighty was surprised that no one had complained through the official channels, and it was not right that residents were disturbed late on a Sunday evening. Vince Buchannan said that all complaints would be reviewed at ESAG should any additional ones come through. Cllr Brighty suggested that OnBlackheath answer specific questions about the noise levels and monitoring when they next come to the BJWP.

Action:

- **Vince Buchannan to raise the noise levels and monitoring at ESAG to ensure that the levels agreed were adhered to**

(iii) Pre-Application for Christmas Market – Tinsel Town

Cllr Bonavia noted that Tinsel Town would be coming to the October BJWP to discuss their pre-application.

(iv) Bonfire night fireworks

Cllr Bonavia read out a note from Kellie Blake regarding the Bonfire night fireworks. Dame Helen Reeves noted that she felt the road closures for the bonfire night get earlier and earlier making it very difficult for residents to get access to their houses on that day. Cllr Bonavia said that he would enquire to see if the road closure times could be minimised.

Action:

- **Cllr Bonavia to ask if road closures for this year's event can be minimised.**

5. Nature Conservation Group Report

Shirley Broughton thanks London Borough of Lewisham and Royal Borough of Greenwich for help with the Nature Conversation work and report. She presented some of the key points of the report including:

- **The suggestion to include more meadow space.**
- **More invertebrate refuge.**

Action:

- **Vince Buchanan to consider nature conservation suggestions with Royal Borough of Greenwich officers.**

Sue Corlett noted that she was all in favour of meadows but they did increase the number of ticks which can be a problem for dog walkers.

6. Disused Toilet Block by Folly Pond

Cllr Geoff Brighty has made enquiries into see if any funding could be accessed through the Crown Estates, or Royal Borough of Greenwich. He confirmed that neither would be able to provide funds to start the process of restoring the toilet block. Philip Craig said that the Greenwich Society would be able to provide £750 towards the project.

Dame Helen Reeves also said that the Blackheath Society would also be happy to provide some funds.

Philip Craig said that the Chair and Treasurer of the Greenwich Society would need to know exactly the funds were going towards if they were to provide them. Cllr Brighty said that there may be a couple of other funds such as the Greenwich Community fund which should be accessed to provide some of the money.

Action:

- **Greenwich Society to liaise with Greenwich ward councillors regarding funding of project.**

7. A.O.B

Vince Buchanan noted that the bollards had been removed and should be replaced in the next few weeks.

Next meeting 30th October 2018