

Minutes of the South Westminster Neighbourhood Network Meeting
Theme: SW Initiatives- Working Collectively for a Vibrant and Cohesive Community

Wednesday 10th July 2019, 3:00 - 5:00 pm
The Abbey Centre, 34 Great Smith St, London, SW1P 3BU

25 people in attendance

1. Welcome and Introductions, Chair – Jane Buttigieg

- Warm welcome to all from Jane
- Message to all to sign in and explanation of format of the meeting
- Housekeeping – Phayza Fudlalla- explained in case of fire alarm went off people need to leave the building immediately using the stairs and meeting point at Little Smith Street. Toilets for gents and ladies are in the basement.

2. Ebury Bridge Renewal: Meanwhile Space Project presentation - Lukas Holden, Senior Engagement Coordinator at City of Westminster; and Diana Grisales, Project Director and Alex Lauschke, Project Manager at Meanwhile Space

- They're planning to use redundant space during the 4-5 year Ebury Bridge renewal project to create workspaces, retail, community uses and more
- They plan to set rents significantly lower than local market without undercutting local people & businesses
- They have consulted with local people and now present proposed use of the space and timescales
- Amount of social housing will remain unchanged by renewal
- Asked if it will affect (Mike's) existing community garden: Meanwhile Space & WCC are in discussions with them
- Meeting attendees say they have not all been consulted, especially neighbouring properties not actually on the estate
- Asked how they located stakeholders for consultation? They worked with WCC, ACAL and other organisations to consult
- Asked how they choose applicants for the space? Several criteria including localness, quality, viability, deliverability, local impact
- Small gym proposed at the meeting
- Asked about impact on existing shops: Uniqueness is important and applicants must have something special
- Asked who can use proposed community hall? They are working on it
- Asked if there will be a kids' area: Not in the Meanwhile Space but yes it's in the wider regeneration project
- The play park will be staying
- Bike stands are included

3. Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Presentation - Ezra Ben-Yisrael, Community Innovations Lead & External Training Lead- Drug & Alcohol Wellbeing Service, Turning Point

- Explained ABCD – focuses on individual gifts & skills
- Explained Roads to Wellbeing online map for community assets, please do add your own to the website
- Invited applications to their grant funds – Innovation Fund and Big Ideas

4. Refreshments & Networking Break

5. Overview of Sport for Confidence Services for Westminster Residents Presentation - Sophie Garratt, Occupational Therapist & Westminster Lead, Sport for Confidence

- Bringing health professionals into leisure centres to support with wide range of issues such as M.S., osteoarthritis, autism, isolation and more general health & wellbeing needs
- Sophie is a registered occupational therapist and is available on Monday & Tuesdays at Moberly Sports Centre
- Running weekly inclusive sports activities at Moberly Sports Centre
- Please spread the word
- Most current participants are from GP referrals
- Asked about expanding to Queen Mother Sports Centre: They're planning to add another leisure centre in 3 and 6 months
- They're looking into more specific training such as "rebound therapy"
- Asked how to ensure people attend the sessions: They're planning talks in the community which end with them travelling together to sessions

6. Westminster Home Start Service Presentation - Lucy Allison - Coordinator, Home-Start Westminster

- Running various services for families with young children
- Funded by Lottery & John Lyons charity
- Anyone can make a referral
- Asked about bridging gap between young & old: Their new volunteer coordinator is working on it. They need their own activity space to do this properly
- Asked about if they have bilingual therapists? They have Arabic, French and (they think) Urdu-speaking therapists. Their befrienders speak even more languages.

7. Victoria Neighbourhood Forum (VNF) – Public Consultation - Chi Usanga, Lead Coordinator, SW1CO and Peter Roberts, Vice Chair of VNF

- Creating a "Neighbourhood Plan for Victoria" (VNP)
- Slides on VNP Objectives, Character Areas, Building Heights, Environment, Improving Public Space & Movement, Cohesive Community, and Your Thoughts and Ideas
- VNP to improve Victoria station and surrounding area
- Victoria BID and Victoria Interchange Group have been consulted on the area
- WCC in charge of approving applications
- You can submit your comments (even if not a local resident or worker)
- VNP boundaries are somewhat fluid as people will move across
- Neighbourhood forum is slow because it's a new idea
- Residents (groups) are encouraged to make sure they have their say
- It was pointed out that not all residents have residents' groups to represent them
- Asked if there will be more benches for seating: answer yes.
- The presentation slides are on their website (<http://www.yourvictoria.co.uk/index.html>) along with a Survey Monkey link to submit your comments
- Consultation document also available but it's large, so focus on the parts which matter to you
- Consultation closing soon - sign up now by contacting VNF

8. Discussion: Q & A

- All attendees introduced themselves, their organisations and key projects
- Opportunity for networking and sharing ideas
- The Alcohol Service just moved to 66 Lupus Street, still offering free

support for alcohol dependency issues

- Breathe Easy Westminster promoting new Tai Chi classes and consultation survey on NHS CLCCG joining NWL CCGs
- Landsec- representative - are providing homework support for young people in collaboration with Pimlico Academy- they are happy to support our after school young people club.