

## **Camden Together**

### **Kilburn Ward Community Strategy Consultation Meeting**

#### **Notes of a meeting held on 1 November 2006 at 7.00pm at Kingsgate Community Centre**

##### **Camden Council councillors and officers present:**

Cllr David Abrahams  
Cllr Janet Grauberg (Chair)  
Cllr James King  
Paul Inglefield, Head of Communications  
Jonathan Brenner, Senior Policy Officer

##### **Members of the public present:**

Z. Amade, Kilburn Business Association  
Katharine Bligh  
Maria Castrillon  
Anna Dwira  
Hugo Gerschel  
Neil Goulbourne  
Susan Harris  
Mike Katz, Chair, The Winchester Project  
Eddy Newman, Hampstead District Monitoring Panel  
Simon Palmer  
Celia Quantrill  
Eileen Rec  
Gillian Risso-Gill  
M. M. Ryan  
Pauline Ryan  
Chester Sheeha  
S. Tomkin  
Paul Keilthy, Camden New Journal

##### **Introduction**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Councillors and council staff that were present. She explained that the priority for the meeting was to hear the views of residents.

Cllr Grauberg went on to explain that Camden's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), which comprised the representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors, produced a Community Strategy every 5 years. The next strategy, the borough's second, would set out the vision for 2007 to 2012.

There was then a brief presentation from Councillors Abrahams and King about the key areas being consulted on. This was followed by a discussion on each of the four topics.

Individual residents raised the following points:

### **Creating a borough of opportunity**

- There was a lack of affordable, local office accommodation. Incubator units were particularly needed.
- There should be greater diversity in shops, possibly encouraged by planning policies.
- The opening of Tesco on Kilburn High Road, along with its long opening hours, was stifling other businesses.
- Mr Amade, of the Kilburn Business Association, spoke of the negative impact to businesses of the works to the bridge on Belsize Road. He spoke of the need to encourage a wider range of shops. He also said that parking regulations, high business rates and daytime burglaries harmed those he represented.

### **Balancing growth with our environment**

- There was not enough about housing in the consultation document, and in particular how to increase the amount of social housing available and improving Camden Council's housing. There was general agreement on this point.
- Many young people cannot afford to live in the borough, especially if they want to buy their own home. There was general agreement on this point.
- It was becoming increasingly hard for communities to maintain a demographic mix.
- Camden should learn from countries who had better records on recycling and energy efficiency, for instance using crushers for recycling so more could be stored and using sustainable materials in more buildings.
- There should be better facilities to recycle organic waste, with incentives and fines to encourage residents to recycle more.
- There should be local disincentives for owners of fuel inefficient vehicles, for example like increasing their resident parking rates as Richmond Council do.
- There should be fewer speed humps, with speed cameras used for enforcement. Traffic lights should be phased better.

- There should be better facilities and lighting at West Hampstead Interchange. These roads and pavements should be a priority for gritting/salting in winter.

### **Building strong, healthy and connected communities**

- There should be more entertainment for older people. The Kingsgate Resource Centre's activities were praised as good examples.
- There was insufficient parking near Kilburn Library, which made the facility hard to use for those who were less mobile.
- Mike Katz, Chair of the Winchester Project Youth Centre, spoke about the need for sufficient and consistent Council funding for services like his. He said it was actually an efficient investment as it provided better-rounded individuals and reduced anti-social behaviour.
- Neil Goulbourne, a local GP, said that there were many links between the quality of housing available and the health of those who lived in it. The high turnover of residents, made it hard for them to receive consistent medical care and treatment.

### **A safe and vibrant place at the heart of a world city**

- The Safer Neighbourhoods system was working well in Kilburn, although young people were still vulnerable and vehicle crime had gone up.
- Youth provision was important in reducing the level of anti-social behaviour. There was general agreement on this point.
- Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, Anti-Social Behaviour Agreements and the related processes had an important part to play.
- Petty offenders should be made to improve the local environment, such as cleaning up graffiti and litter.
- The Olympics should be a reason to improve transport links such as West Hampstead Interchange.
- There were no athletics tracks in Camden.
- Kilburn Library was excellent.

**The Councillors thanked everyone for attending. The meeting ended at 9.20pm.**