

## **Camden Together**

### **Regent's Park King's Cross Ward Community Strategy Consultation Meeting**

**Notes of a meeting held on 12 November at 7.00pm at Dick Collins Hall, Redhill Street, London NW1**

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

Cllr Heather Johnson, London Borough of Camden  
Cllr Theo Blackwell, London Borough of Camden  
Dionne Greenaway, West Euston Partnership  
Chloe Horner, West Euston Partnership  
Tony Brooks, Head of Community Safety

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

Sahra Ali  
Muhubo B  
Sajjat Miah  
Jeanine Elgar  
Ronnie Elgar  
Mrs J. Johnston  
Jean Hurman  
Ms L Condi  
Mr Joynal Uddin  
Ms D Young  
Mark Ross, Diorama Arts Centre  
Jacob Stevens, Diorama Arts Centre  
Miriam Mohammed  
Eddie O'Connell, Regents Park Tenants Association  
Charlotte Chambers, Camden New Journal

#### **Introduction**

Cllr Theo Blackwell spoke about Camden planning for the future of Camden in a series of discussions by residents, businesses and community organisations. This document sets out the strategy which has been given by government for the council to influence police/health service on how to do a better job and what are our priorities.

These meetings are about the future of the area as a whole, discussing the direction we want to move in. Tony Brooks, LB Camden, Head of Community Safety, spoke about the eighteen meetings throughout the borough. The last communication strategy the feedback was fed into the annual police plan and they have taken into account the census information for the borough – this resulted in more policing.

## **1. Creating a borough of opportunity**

Cllr Blackwell spoke about how the council can influence services such as youth provisions. Camden is ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in London most deprived boroughs with over-crowded housing, health and employment issues.

### **Questions asked by residents?**

Places like Croydon and Harrow have large shopping malls. Will this be a possibility in Camden?

Camden charges high rates and this discourages specialist shops over high street chains

A thriving market

### **Resident's response - British Land development are hoping to have a farmers market in Triton Square**

More employment and training opportunities for local people, particularly with the Kings Cross area developments

Resident mentioned youth provisions; 1,000,000 people come to work in Camden and 230,000 live in the borough. Salaries are different for local residents. Opportunities for people in training and employment especially, training for women with children and help with childcare.

The Kings Cross planning application has gone through and residents were interested in how many people in the local area have been employed.

Councillors reported that the target for employing local people is 30%. It was felt that there should be more trade jobs for young people and professional jobs.

## **2. Balancing growth with our environment**

Empty recycling bins on estate more often so more recycling could be done

How does Camden interact with other parks?

**Councillors reported that the parks are managed independently; Hampstead Heath is managed by Corporation of London and Regent's Park is managed by the Crown Estate.**

Nowhere in Camden for football tournaments more organised sports events at Regent's Park and Hampstead Heath

Tennis courts in the borough

**Councillor's response – football and tennis courts are currently under development.**

More notice boards on estates

Make Olympic facilities available for Camden residents

Big issue is resolving problem of recycling on estates, difficult to provide doorstep recycling in high-rise

Composting, putting vegetables in a bag and it is collected and composted on estate

Need for new housing: where will it go?

Existing housing: needs to be decent homes standard. Residents felt that it would be okay to have higher density housing as long as it matched with increased services

The council needs to be tough on developers to provide affordable housing and larger units needed for families

Noise nuisance – a lot of students living on estate

**Officer response – community safety officers will have more powers to administer anti-social behaviour orders. The council will use the powers they have.**

Facilities do not match the operations (health, schools and housing)

**Councillor's response – the council does not have money to build new homes. The powers that the council has for building (4) bedroom properties for families is a 8 year waiting-list. Camden's target for affordable homes are 50%. The British Land development in Triton Square in partnership with St Pancras Housing Association, will build a tower block.**

There should be less families waiting for larger accommodation

Dirty pictures in telephone boxes

**Council officer's response – the council now has powers to remove cards, track telephone numbers and close down.**

### **3. Building Strong, healthy and connected communities**

How do you expect us to provide better services to young people when grants are being cuts

More social clubs for elderly people to prevent isolation

Fitness clubs in the borough are very expensive. There should be more affordable leisure facilities within the Regent's Park Ward

Locally based services for local people

No after school clubs now West Euston Community Association is closed

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

Re-open and open local police stations more often

Start young-parental skills support and training. Already Headstart and Sure Start provide parenting training but there is a need for more of it

Young people need places to go after school so they do not hang out on the street and engage in anti-social behaviour

Problem with over-crowding accommodation

More estate based CCTV is needed

## **2012 Olympics**

Use community facilities afterwards

Cycling facilities through Regent's Park

Camden has one of the largest number of hotels in the borough. Bed tax to help fund community facilities

Make links with schools

Fun, cultural, local events throughout Olympics

**Councillors thanked residents for their contributions.**