



**Minutes for WLSE25 Town Team (TT) Meeting on
Monday 8th November 2021 at 6.45pm
via Zoom**

Members present: Mike Bonello, Judith Burden, Louis Caserides, Patsy Cummings, Clive Fraser, John Hickman, Henry Leland, Chris Peskett, Doreen Soukup, Pooja Takiar, Nicky Thompson, Dan Winder,

In attendance: Michelle Normanly, Tamara Amarquaye

Apologies: Shuba Rao

Minutes: Minutes of April (Deferred from July) & July meetings were **ACCEPTED**.

Completed Action Points 8.11.2021

Person	Action
Shuba/ Officers 14.4.21	The process and conditions for grant applications will be posted on the website when the Officers have confirmed, with a deadline for applications. <i>See Item 2) b) i</i>
Shuba 6.7.21	Shuba will put contact details for Marcus on the WLSE25 website for people to add events. <i>The website has been updated.</i>
Rhubi, Dan, Nicky and Chris 6.7.21	Rhubi, Dan, Nicky (Thompson) and Chris will liaise on the Christmas lights on line. Input was requested for other ideas to happen around the switch-on. <i>The lights have been installed. The shop Local campaign is being worked on but late opening will coincide with the switch on.</i>

Action Points 8.11.2021

Person	Action	Outcome
Town Team 14.4.21	Town Team members to approach the Community for Project proposals when confirmed, with a deadline for applications for funding.	Ongoing
Shuba 6.7.21	It was suggested that some of John Hickman's stories could go on the website. Shuba will get in touch with John.	Ongoing
Shuba 6.7.21	Under advice from Michelle, Shuba should talk the underpass project through with Heritage England.	

Tamara and Rhubi 6.7.21	Tamara and Rhubi will contact potential occupants of empty premises, who have previously asked about taking over spaces.	See Item 5
Patsy 6.7.21	Patsy will get in touch with Dan, on line, with information about the Network Rail Project.	Patsy will prepare a short report re. the update for the Town Team.

1. Chair's Welcome

2. WLSE25 Funds

- a. WLSE25 Financial Report
 - i. Bank balance: £17,757.33
 - ii. Ring-fenced funds for ongoing projects: Mini Grants & website costs £5,153 (£5k of this is the mini grants).
 - iii. The existing bank account was switched to Metro Bank and was opened on 4 November. This should save money in fees since ward budgets are discretionary and cannot be recommended by the Council at least until 2023.
- b. Community Micro Grants.
 - i. Progress report
 - A. There have been 16 applications for the first tranche of grants. 3 were rejected. 13 are being processed: 7 have been approved; 6 are still to be interviewed. About £5,000 will be spent on this round.
 - B. A timeline for the projects will be checked in order to be able to evaluate them.

3. Engaging with different parts of the community post lockdown

- a. Suggestions for strategies.
 - i. There was a suggestion that a single A4 sheet be created explaining what WLSE25 is, what its purpose is, and how to get involved. It would be something concrete that could be handed out at events or left in local venues for people to take away.
 - ii. There was a question whether there had ever been any feedback from TT Members.
 - iii. Under-represented groups should be targeted.
 - iv. John Rother could be asked to publicize WLSE25 via SN.Net, which has a wide circulation.
 - v. Stanley Arts will be holding a borough-wide social event, which WLSE25 could be part of, or could hold its own event.
 - vi. Public activities, such as power-washing the High Street, result in engagement with local traders or passers-by.
 - vii. Louis is willing to contact people by phone or in person.

4. The Town Team – what we are and how things should work: Members being more active.

- a. Working Groups (WG)

- i. Suggestions for new TT members
 - A. There was a request that members have conversations with prospective members so their names can be put to the TT for inclusion.
 - B. New members should be prepared to be active.
 - C. There was a request that members be asked to RSVP for future meetings.

5. Update on Regeneration Project and Current Negotiations

- a. Rhubi has left the Regen team and Michelle and Tamara are continuing conversations that she began.
- b. Community Capacity Building.
 - i. A summary of the programme and targets was given.
 - ii. The second workshop is due on 10 November. The final report and recommendations will appear at the end of November/ beginning of December.
- c. CAAMP
 - i. A design team has been appointed and is liaising with the CAAMP team, the shop building design team and the Love SE25 app.
 - ii. CAAMP work started in June. A draft has been produced. Statutory consultation begins in November.
- d. HSHAZ Cultural Programme
 - i. In principle we have until 2022/23 to deliver results. An extension has been requested because of the covid lockdowns.
- e. Grant Programme will be launching soon
 - i. **Michelle** will organize a single issue meeting to give a detailed update.
- f. Local Businesses
 - i. Business Support
 - A. Tamara's main task is to identify the needs of local businesses and she has put together a programme of 1 to 1 support for existing businesses in Portland Road.
 - B. There are On-Line courses and workshops for new food and hospitality start-ups.
 - C. Tamara has been supporting SN Business Network and giving training for traders. The Shop Local campaign is building a repository of information as part of the GLA legacy demands.
 - ii. South East London Chamber of Commerce:
 - A. Croydon now has its own division. It is offering free membership for the first year. Small/micro businesses could call on them for support. The information should be sent out to a wider audience than just WLSE25 as it is a Borough-wide initiative. **Tamara** will circulate the information.
 - iii. Business and Community Initiatives
 - A. Grants were available to businesses because of lockdown.

- B. Patsy went through the application process with micro-businesses, which in most cases were successful.
- C. There has been some growth in the area with a new café and Yoga in Nico's, the Carrib Vegan, a tattoo parlour, and a fish shop.
- iv. Socco Cheta
 - A. The long entrance corridor has been removed and turned into a courtyard behind the street frontage.
- v. CYTO
 - A. Discussions are going on re. their Capacity Building needs.

6. Working Group Updates

a. Updates

i. Stanley Arts

- A. More night buses around South Norwood would help the night-time economy. Michelle has already begun a conversation with TfL.
- B. The lights on the Stanley Arts Christmas tree will be switched on, on 10 December.
- C. A pottery-making event was held at the market as part of the cultural programme and there will be a 'Design a Dame Costume' competition and workshop. Junk Action will be holding an event at the Halls.
- D. Tender submissions for the capital works have come in but all bids are higher than the budget. Negotiations are under way.

ii. Placemaking

A. Underpass Project Update

- a. Will has waived his fee for the project. Pictures have been posted on facebook.
- b. Chris has been given a WLSE25 stencil that could be used to take ownership of projects like the mural.
- c. John has contacted the artist who created the original photos for the underpass but she is not willing to hand over the artwork, though she is willing to co-operate on restoring them. The cost might be prohibitive . **Michelle** will speak to John.
- d. The tunnel space inside is too small for the H&S of any artist using spray paints.

B. Bridge Lighting Project.

- a. There should be an update ready for the next meeting.

C. Station Road re-painting

- a. This item to be removed from future Agendas.

7. AOB

- a. Community announcements
 - i. Friends of the Country Park have produced a photographic calendar for sale at £10.

Action Points 8.11.2021

Person	Action
Michelle 8.11.21	Michelle will organize a single issue meeting to give a detailed update on the Grant Programme, which will be launching soon.
Tamara 8.11.21	Tamara will circulate the information about the Croydon division of the South East London Chamber of Commerce to a wider audience than just WLSE25 as it is a Borough-wide initiative.
Michelle 8.11.21	John has contacted the artist who created the original photos for the underpass but she is not willing to hand over the artwork, though she is willing to co-operate on restoring them. The cost might be prohibitive. Michelle will speak to John.
Pooja 8.11.21	Pooja to request TT Members to RSVP for future meetings.

Date of Next Meeting
January 2021