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**Norwood Forum Committee**

**Wednesday 27 September 2023 at 6:30pm**

**The Hope pub, 49 Norwood High Street, SE27 9JS**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Anne Crane (AC), Jane East (JE), Kim Hart (KH) (Chair), **Gloria Orosungunleka** (GO) (Vice-Chair), Noshir Patel (NP) (Treasurer), Jane Pickard (JP) and Philip Virgo (PV)

**Apologies for absence:** Laura Rigden (LR); and Viv Kind and Sue Osborn

**Also present:** Tim Stephens (TS) (Administrator)

Kim Hart in the Chair

**Declarations of interest**

None.

1. **Notes of last meeting: Tuesday, 29 August 2023**

Approved.

Noted that the AGM notes (15 July 2023) were not finalised.

1. **2023-2024: Organisation development**

New objectives workshop

The Committee reviewed the current purpose and objectives of Norwood Forum [as set out in the Constitution](https://norwoodforum.org/constitution) and decided these were still relevant for the forthcoming year. The Committee needed more resources to cover the growing number of issues requiring consideration – often in an extremely limited timescale.

The past two years had presented the enormous challenges of #ScapTheYard and SADPD Sites 18 & 19 campaigns. In both cases, the Forum had succeeded in bringing together the local community and obtaining volunteers to undertake some of the work involved. This had hugely enhanced the reputation and standing of the Forum in the local community.

However, and despite considerable efforts, these campaigns, public meetings, considerable grant-giving schemes, communications and regular local presence, had not led to attracting many new volunteers to join the committee to share the considerable workload (or to work outside the committee on projects such as Green Norwood: how green can we go). The operation of the Lambeth Forum Network and Norwood Forum seemed increasingly to not be within the focus of mainstream council departments.

The Committee discussed how the Forum could achieve more positive outcomes going forward, in the light of our limited resources. Committee members have other interests and commitments outside of the Forum. The need to find ways of directing the expertise of Council’s officers and councillors (and the experts from other public facing organisations such as the London Fire Brigade and the Police) to our local community was identified. The Forum can facilitate and support through its local contacts and knowledge but we do need to focus our efforts.

The website offered an opportunity for committee members to write news articles on organisations they were in contact with and local issues they became aware of, and to notify forthcoming events. There is a constant request for organisations to send the Forum news and events information which results in a steady stream, though more could always be done if we had more resources. (*KH – since 2017 when we launched our new website we have listed just under 5000 News items and just over 1000 Events*).

**Young People**

The need to reach the youth in our community was discussed at length, and there was recognition that often the young in less well-off families were not reached.  Local youth engagement should also include work experience opportunities; early intervention had the potential to reduce the risk of antisocial behaviour including violence. There was recognition too that there are expert organisations within our community who do work with these groups – we know and work with them and often fund them too – such as Rathbone Society and Nature Vibzzz. What further added value to these relationships can we bring?

The issue of voter registration for young people was considered - the need to encourage registration to vote and spread awareness on the new identity requirements when voting in person was identified as being of key importance to our local community, given there are expected to be two major elections in 2024: London Mayor and GLA (2 May 2024) and a general Election (date to be determined). It was agreed that we would not be devising anything from scratch but that we might (for instance) facilitate Electoral Services to visit schools, youth clubs and other environments to explain the importance of democracy and practical steps to voting.

JE agreed to host a planning session for all committee members who wished to be involved on Saturday 28 October 2023 (11:30am).

**Ethnic minority groups in our community**

We had a very similar discussion as for our reach to young people.

GO agreed to use her church contacts to find out what activities were planned for Black History Month, so that the Forum could support those activities.

More discussions planned to follow our EDI workshop – see below.

The next 12 months

Draft calendar approved; all to send through any additions.

1. **LFN Commissioning Outcomes 2021-24**

Lambeth Forum Network providing training session on EDI

Most of the committee had responded on WhatsApp to KH request for availability for training on w/c 23 October. The rest to respond asap.

KH to provide copy of our EDI policy to Bimpe Oki in advance of training and confirm we are looking to workshop the practical implementation of our policy.

1. **Health and Wellbeing**

Thriving Norwood: funding application

Application approved, subject to comments from JE to be submitted later that evening.

Community Safety Partnership

Not discussed due to time constraints. KH, PV, LR plus Caspar Kennerdale from ClearCommunityWeb are discussing CSP separately. Report will be made to the next meeting.

1. **Working towards a greener Norwood**

Not discussed due to time constraints. The outcomes of the AGM discussion on **Green Norwood: how green can we go** would be a main subject of discussion at the next committee meeting.

1. **Heritage issues**

Report noted and that assurances had been given by the Deputy Leader of the Council that the Robson Road entrance would be provided.

1. **Other business**

Lambeth Council: officer decision reports

The Committee discussed the absence of responses to representations made on two recent officer delegated decision reports:

* Proposed introduction of shared bays for e-scooters and dockless bikes boroughwide
* Streatham Wells Low Traffic Neighbourhood Trial - Scheme

In both cases Norwood Forum had made representations within the time allotted for public consultation, but no response had been received showing consideration had been given to the expressed views or reasons given for their apparent rejection. The online [officer decisions](https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/mgListOfficerDecisions.aspx?XXR=0&FULL=1&BAM=0&DR=15%2f07%2f2023-29%2f09%2f2023&ACT=Go&K=0&DM=0&DEP=0&PH=0&C3=0&Next=true) database showed that the original recommendations had been adopted unamended.

It was agreed that appropriate representations be made to the Chief Executive.

Next meeting: Monday 6 November 2023 (6:30pm) on Zoom.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

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| **Action Points {last date discussed}** | **Who** | **When** |
| 1. Small parcels of land: Assets of Community Value {24.02.21}  * Need to proceed * Suggestions on areas of land | JM  All |  |
| 1. Streetworks:  * finishing the Norwood Road phase {19.06.23} | KH/NP//TS |  |
| 1. Naming the Station Rise to Norwood Road alley way: competition with Elmgreen School. ACr: note on street naming principles NP: consider competition {28.04.21} | ACr  NP |  |
| 1. Treasurer reports {20.02.23} | NP |  |
| 1. Planning applications {19.06.23}  * Avenue Park Road application; draft response * Auckland Hill appeal; report back on response | AC |  |
| 1. Equality, diversity and inclusion: EDI Policy – implementation {19.06.23} | GO/JP/JE | 06.11.23 |
| 1. LFN EDI training session {29.08.23} | KH | 06.11.23 |
| 1. Website: explore addition of health & wellbeing page {20.02.23} | KH/PV |  |
| 1. Draft Site Allocations Development Plan: sites 18 & 19campaign etc {13.06.22}: stakeholder meetings {15.05.23}  * Draft report * Draft FoI * Movement against tall blocks | KH  ACr  KH |  |
| 1. GDPR and data protection: annual review {24.07.23} | TS | By 01.08.24 |
| 1. **Norwood Forum role in 2023-24** {24.07.23}:  * **Draft objectives** * **Calendar of commitments** * **AGM** outcomes on Greener Lambeth * LFN Commissioning Outcomes 2021-24 | TS  KH/TS  KH/TS | 29.08.23 |
| 1. Thriving Norwood: Norwood Forum Community Grants scheme (round 2) {29.08.23} | KH |  |
| 1. Thriving Norwood: funding application for Coordinator {29.08.23} | KH |  |
| 1. Green Norwood: how green can we go {27.09.23} | KH |  |

**Groups with named Norwood Forum representative**Seek contact details as necessary from KH

(Attendance feedback forms to be sent to info@)

Lambeth Forum Network KH (NP)  
Lambeth Biodiversity Network KH  
Friends of various parks –

* Norwood Park - JE
* Tivoli Park - JP
* Tritton Vale Pocket Garden - GO
* Brockwell - NP

Safer Neighbourhood Panels – ward based:

* Gipsy Hill – GO (Pete Elliot chair)
* Knights Hill – JP
* West Dulwich – PV
* St. Martins – PV (deputy chair)

Friends of West Norwood Health & Leisure Centre & Park - JP  
Lambeth Thriving Network – KH (co-chair)   
Lambeth Local History Forum – TS

West Norwood Neighbourhood Working Pilot - KHLambeth Community Hub Network - PV  
Lambeth Food Hub Network – not currently meeting regularly

Lambeth Voluntary and Community Sector Participation Group - KH

Lambeth Prevent Advisory Group – PV (CSP)

Lambeth Digital Inclusion Network – PV (CSP)

West Norwood Cemetery - TS

Streetworks - KH, NP, TS

Friends of Gipsy Hill - KH

Norwood Action Group – NP

Also:   
Lambeth Air Quality Action Plan Steering Group – AC to advise (ask Sandy Nutgens)  
Lambeth Neighbourhood Champions – Freshview; all to raise requests/issues with Jason Prentis: [JPrentis@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:JPrentis@lambeth.gov.uk)  
Lambeth Safer Neighbourhood Board – PV to advise outcome of meeting with Olivia Patton  
Health and Wellbeing Network Breakfast meetings and Primary Care Networks/PEG/PPG – CSP: KH/PV/LR separate discussion  
Norwood Forum Planning Sub-Committee: AC/GO/NP/JP