

NORWOOD FORUM

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

Committee Meeting Minutes DRAFT Monday 2 February 2026, 6.30pm – 8.30pm The Hope

Present:

Tom Palmer (Co-Chair) Chair for this meeting	Anita Hall
Jane East (Co-Chair)	Bryn Lockwood
Kim Hart (Secretary) taking minutes	Gloria Orosungunleka
Noshir Patel (Treasurer)	Sue Osborn
Anne Crane	Tim Stephens
Pete Elliott	

Apologies:

Odilon Couzin	Andrew Johns
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Meeting began 6.38pm

1. Minutes of December 2025 meeting

1.1 Approved, subject to the following amendment:

Delete: Concerns were raised about the rapid approval of an adult gaming centre and Anne will check the details. It was also noted that the Elder Road pub remains listed in planning data despite being closed for several years.

Insert words in bold: **It was noted that experience elsewhere shows AGCs accept such restrictions as are imposed in gaining permission and then seek to extend the operation to hours that apply elsewhere - often 24/7.**

It was also noted that the Elder Road pub remains included in the data despite being closed for several years, **whilst conversely a number of local pubs were omitted.**

1.2 Matters arising

There were none not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

1.3 Actions

See end of this document for actions taken forward in addition to those agreed at this meeting.

2. Nomination to join the committee

2.1 Nomination form arrived after agreed deadline so too late to be considered; consideration deferred to next meeting.

3. Future of the Forum

The Committee reviewed its options for the future in the light of the Lambeth Council Cabinet decision to end all funding to all community forums (the Lambeth Forum Network) across the borough from 1 April 2026. In subsequent lobbying, the Council had confirmed officer support to Forums would continue to be available to the LFN Network, notwithstanding the decision to terminate grant funding.

3.1 Odilon verbal update on grant progress

Odilon was not present to provide verbal update on funding applications, including the application made before Christmas to the National Lottery (decision expected within 16 weeks). It was confirmed a meeting with Integrate had taken place on 23.01.26 and key advice on a Lambeth Community Fund application (deadline 13.02.26) was to consider focusing on one theme. After detailed discussion that included the

Forum's project work: Green Norwood, Safer Norwood (and other community safety issues), Thriving Norwood and Travel Norwood, as well as the broader and core role of informing and consulting the local community, the Committee concluded the Forum's work covered all four themes under the Fund. On that basis it was agreed committee members should email ideas based on the four grant themes to info@ by end of Friday 6 February for Jane and Odilon to put together a draft bid - that would most likely cover all four themes.

3.2 Discussion on options

The Committee considered a paper presenting ideas under three headings:

- Do nothing: N/A as we had already done something – lobbied the Council and applied for Lottery funding.
- Do something: Agreed this was the way forward for now, but no decision should be taken on creating a paid role for additional comms pending receipt of the decision on the Lottery bid.
- Do something big: Outline options were presented on changing the structure of the Forum by possibly creating a CIC or charitable status. It was concluded that CIC status may have advantages in opening up more grant opportunities; Pete and Tom to research the implications and regulations of CIC status so this information was available at the next meeting.

Discussion on our financial situation:

The paid Administrator had resigned with effect from 31.12.25, (though working some hours in January to handover files). Work arising was temporarily being covered on a voluntary basis by the Leadership Group, and in particular Kim as Secretary, with website support from Tim. Current expenditure had therefore been reduced; we had a little under £2.5K LFN funds in the bank as of 31.01.26 plus the new £490 LFN grant (see below). The Forum then considered whether other funds it administered should be released for expenditure on all aspects of the work of the Forum (which included in its scope the objectives for which the money was originally earmarked):

- ScrapTheYard: a little more than £450 balance remaining from public donations to the campaign, which had effectively ended with the granting of planning permission on Appeal in 2022. Agreed KH email the community group to seek their agreement. Outcome to be considered at the next meeting.
- Streetworks admin fund: agreed to repurpose remaining balance of approx. £5K for the wider benefit of the Forum's work, whilst still supporting Transform Tulse Hill with printing costs and the previously agreed sum of up to £500 to cover some of their admin. costs. For the purposes of complete transparency, a clear statement would be added to our website headlining the removal of our Lambeth funding, and these decisions, and highlighted in the newsletter. Kim to draft.

Outcome:

With these financial decisions, the Forum should have sufficient funds to continue for approximately one year – April 26 to March 27, creating the necessary breathing space to seek further longer-term funding.

Next steps:

- All committee members to take individual responsibility for researching funding options and send to Odilon.
- Anita to share Easy Fundraising details with Odilon.
- Committee to review Match My Project: [Match my project](#) raised at last LFN.
- Kim to complete setting up donate button for website, emails, newsletter and our social platforms.

3.3/3.4 LFN: disbursement of remaining funds

The LFN had also considered applications for the remaining LFN funds, and the Leadership Group had submitted a successful bid for £490 for development of the Forum communications and engagement strategy.

- Disappointment was expressed that LFN had not made these funds specifically available to fund Local Election Hustings across the Borough, as had been done previously.
- Kim had submitted a paper on the current integrated communications strategy and reported on improved social media achievement in January compared to the whole of 2025. Concentrating on re-raising our profile was agreed as a priority in 2026 - including Feast stalls. Holding hustings will also help.
- Kim to speak to Joe Pike – graphic designer working on Transform Tulse Hill - as a start towards this work.

4. Sub-committee and other one page reports

The Committee discussed reports on the following areas of activity over the past two months; the following additional points arose.

4.1 Green Norwood

- HEATA – using heat from data equipment to heat hot water in homes. Jane organising a meeting.
- Norwood Repair Shop – Kim to share contact with Green group.
- Parks budget 2026-27: it was reported that an FOL had established a Council proposal to cut the overall budget by £700K - which had not identified the precise services affected. Pete would seek to establish the detail of this cut.

4.2 Travel Norwood

- Group have met and agreed new webpage layouts
- Promote bus priority consultations. Gloria agreed to contact AgeUK Lambeth and share the links on our website.
- This group will draft the Forum's response and include to say walkabouts should be weekends or evenings as well.
- Healthy route extension on Rosendale Road. News item by Tom when TFL launches second consultation following design changes to Thurlow Park / Rosendale Rd junction.
- School Street confirmed as permanent – *Cllr Rezina Chowdhury acknowledged the problems and is going to review linked camera options again. Tom to write to the Councillor to support dual camera – correction by Tom – should read: **Tom to draft Forum response based on info shared by Sue regarding the position of cameras on Turney Road.***
- Croxted RA – bus campaign – update web story. Tom to send wording to Tim to amend on website
- Bus consultation on Tulse Hill is in our area – they are telling us what they are doing rather than asking for ideas – Tom send note to Luuk on our disappointment on this asking why a different approach was adopted on this consultation and why we were not earlier informed to prepare better promotion of community engagement. Tim to write web article.

4.3 Safer Norwood

Andrew not present to report on his review of the Ward Panel Handbook to enable effective governance; issue deferred to next meeting. It was agreed there was a need for our reps on each SNP to ask searching questions and for Andrew to write a regular news story for website on outcomes of SNP meetings; there was no point in attending unless we are sharing the information with the community. Best efforts to arrange meetings with proper notice so we can publicise remains a considerable issue; police support varied across the four wards. Pete and Philip were thanked for their efforts with the Gipsy Hill and West Dulwich SNPs.

4.4 Heritage

West Norwood Cemetery: The programme of works on the Robson Road entrance and landscape/tree works were the primary areas of concern. Agreed Tim would write to Cllr Fred Cowell about promised site visit with Capital Programme Team on Robson Gate and the non-circulation of supporting documents and to the SPB chairs for clarification on tree management / landscaping and the role of the SPB.

4.5 Thriving Norwood

A meeting was to be held on 06.02.26 with London Sport – leading for the Council - to discuss in detail the Sport England project. The meeting will discuss partners, budget, timescale and service level agreement. Kim will produce a report.

4.6 Planning and Licensing

It was important the sub-committee keep community better informed on important planning applications going forward. News stories on key planning and licensing applications were needed for the website when these were received so the Forum could ensure the community was kept informed and could support or object as they wished. Tim posted website articles on the recent planning committee decisions to grant planning permission for Chapel Road/Knight's Hill: [new Shurgard storge facility](#) and Thornlaw Road/Knight's Hill: [new block of flats](#) replacing the existing Trinity Baptist Church so they could be included in the recent newsletter.

Gloria left the meeting at 8.37pm

4.7 Education and schools

News arrived during meeting on closure of Effra Road nursery school. Sue to write News item for website and report to next meeting.

4.8 Gambling policy

The joint representations made by the Forum and Station to Station were reported. No response received to emails to lead Lambeth officer on why our joint representation had apparently not been represented in the published report, or information provided on how the new Policy was to be considered. A number of Lambeth committee/Cabinet meetings had been called and cancelled. No Policy appeared to be in place for 2026. Agreed Tim would escalate to Chair of Licensing Committee. Philip advised following the first *Lambeth Safer Neighbourhood Board – correction by Philip – should read: Safer Lambeth Partnership* meeting in January after 24months, a report on the LSNB will be considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 09.02.26 and this did cover criminality around gambling. Philip to send link to Kim.

4.9 Friends of West Norwood Health & Leisure Centre

Agreed Tim should follow up offer to help promote our weekly Wellbeing Walks that he leads.

Round up:

It was agreed to mix up order of reports so each has fairer proportion of time spent on discussion in the long term.

5. Planning/Licensing sub-committee Terms of References for discussion/signing off

It was agreed this would be taken forward to the agenda at the next meeting due to time constraints

6. Hustings

6.1 It was agreed we would hold hustings – and in all four wards if possible. Kim agreed to put together a draft schedule of dates in April. Potentially committee members pair up to arrange each one. From past experience biggest challenge is contacting and confirming attendance of candidates - and overcoming issue of paper candidates not being allowed to speak. Agreed to have a Feast stall in April to promote. Kim to book.

7. AOB

7.1 Kim to share calendar dates for future committee meetings and AGM.

7.2 Odilon and Gloria to submit final report on the small grants scheme 2025 to next meeting.

END 8.53pm

Actions collated from above minutes:

No.	Action	Who	When	Status
1.1	Amend previous minutes	Kim	ASAP	
2	Nomination to join committee – on next agenda	Kim	Before publishing next agenda	
3.1	Committee members ideas to feed into Lambeth Community Fund application being written by Jane and Odilon to info@	ALL	Friday 6 Feb	
3.2	Pete and Tom to research the implications and regulations of CIC status	Pete and Tom	Report ready to be shared for next mtg. Kim to advise	
3.2	Email community group about reallocation of remaining ScrapTheYard donations	Kim	Report ready to be shared for next mtg	
3.2	Draft web announcement on reallocation of Streetworks admin funds	Kim	ASAP - share with LG for approval before posting on website	
3.2	All committee members to take individual responsibility for researching funding options and send to Odilon.	ALL	ASAP and ongoing	
3.2	Anita to share Easy Fundraising details with Odilon.	Anita	ASAP	
3.2	Committee to review Match My Project: Match my project raised at last LFN	ALL	In time to discuss at next mtg	
3.2	Kim to complete setting up donate button for website, emails, newsletter and our social platforms.	Kim	ASAP	

3.3/.4	LFN small grant	Kim	Speak to Joe Pike re website/comms in time to report at next mtg	
4.1	Green - Norwood Repair Café	Kim	Share contact with Green group	
4.1	Lambeth Parks budget cut – establish details	Pete	In time to report to next mtg	
4.2	Travel - Share bus priority consultation details with AgeUK Lambeth	Gloria	ASAP	
4.2	Forum response to bus priority consultation	Travel group will draft	By deadline 15.02.26	
4.2	Design changes to Thurlow Park / Rosendale Rd junction – News story	Tom	When TFL launches second consultation	
4.2	School Street confirmed as permanent – Forum response re camera positions	Tom	ASAP	
4.2	Croxted RA – bus campaign – update web story	Tom to send wording to Tim to amend on website	ASAP	
4.2	Bus priority - Tulse Hill proposals	Tom send note to Luuk on our disappointment on this asking why a different approach was adopted on this consultation and why we were not earlier informed to prepare better promotion of community engagement. Tim to write web article.	ASAP	
4.3	Safer - Need SNP updates to publish and share	Andrew	Timely	
4.4	Heritage – WNC – lack of site visit, info on tree management	Tim write to Cllr Fred Cowell	ASAP	

4.5	Thriving – Sport England project update	Kim	ASAP	
4.6	Planning – need to keep the community informed on our work in this area – regular News stories	Anne	Timely	
4.7	Education – Effra Nursery School – News story	Sue	ASAP	
4.8	Gambling policy – our response: Escalate to committee Chair Report link to Kim	Tim Philip	ASAP	
4.9	Friends WN Health & Leisure Centre – promote our weekly H&WB walk – share info	Tim	ASAP	
6.	Hustings – suggest dates and book April Feast stall	Kim	ASAP	
7.1	AOB – future meetings calendar invites	Kim	ASAP	
7.1	2024-25 small grants scheme - share evaluation report to next committee meeting	Odilon and Gloria	Kim to confirm dates	

Outstanding Actions carried forward

No.	Action	Who	When	Status
1	Sophie to share committee meeting dates and AGM date for 2026	Sophie	ASAP	Kim to do – also upload missing previous minutes.
2	All to keep record of volunteer hours spent on NF work	All committee members	Ongoing	LIVE
3	Anita to speak to Kim about adding more Green Norwood information and resources to the website for community access	Anita & Kim	Arrange to meet	In progress
4	Consider preparing generic grant application info so its ready to go when funding ops arise	Odilon lead	Ongoing	In progress

5	Organise public meeting on dockless bikes/scooters (action from AGM)	Transport Sub-Committee		To follow – currently working on bus consultation, TTH. This does to be done before this years AGM but we need to decide what the objective would be
6	Review Planning Sub-Committee structure and draft ToR	Planning Sub-Committee	Before next meeting	Sign off at April meeting
7	Review workshop outcomes from the three workshops – possibly revisit Older People and Young Families	Transport Sub-Committee		Families 'workshop' plans well advanced