****

**Norwood Forum Committee**

**Monday 14 December 2020 at 5:00pm**

**Zoom meeting**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Kim Hart (KH) (Vice-Chair), Anne Crane (ACr), Su McLaughlin (SMcL), Noshir Patel (NP) (Treasurer), Sunil de Sayrah (SdS) (Chair) and Philip Virgo (PV)

**Absent:** Ibtisam Adem (IA), James Davis (JD) and Gloria Orosungunleka (GO)

**Apologies for absence:** Gerry Evans (GE) (Lambeth Council)

**Also present:** Councillor Jackie Meldrum (JM)(Lambeth Council); Tim Stephens (TS) (Administrator)

Sunil de Sayrah in the Chair

**Declarations of interest**

Item 2: community grant applications:

KH as joint operator of Network Norwood; offered to leave meeting and would not vote on that application.

NP as partner of Chair of 4All; would not vote on that application.

1. **Notes of last meeting: 28 October 2020**

Approved.

Registration of small pockets of green or garden space as open space: JM would ascertain what list of sites across the three wards could be provided, and check the position on sites being maintained by Lambeth landscapes. Norwood Forum would then be in a positon to start the necessary work.

Streetworks: JM would establish with the incoming manager of the newly reorganised Highways department the Council’s position on the future of the removal of the Tulse Hill gyratory, and on progressing all the outstanding projects on the Norwood Road phase. SdS thanked JM for raising the matter already; this had elicited a reply from the responsible council officer to propose a meeting with SdS but without a timescale and the questions raised had not been addressed. A number of email queries to officers and councillors over the past eighteen months or more had not been acknowledged or answered, and the overall financial position on the project was unknown. JM also reported that Lambeth Parking had reviewed the four car parking spaces at the southern arm of Waylett Place and were proposing changes to the signage. JM will report further.

1. **Community grants: consideration of applications**

KH took the Committee through each application in turn, with the Committee debating the merits of the application(s) and voting on each separately. The only queries raised before the meeting had been from SdS, and queries raised at the meeting were dealt with by reference to the documentation provided by the applicants and sent to the Committee with the agenda. Each application was approved unanimously, with the exception of the second from Movers & Makers, which was carried by majority vote.

During the discussions a number of issues were flagged for consideration for consideration for inclusion in the criteria for operating future grant schemes:

* Steps to ensure wide publicity of the scheme
* The length of notice to be given to applicants
* Whether or not multiple applications should be allowed
* Whether or not a ceiling of £300 should be applied to each application
* Whether applicants should receive support in successive years
* How we determine what is capital funding
* What is our approach to applications from faith groups
* What do we mean by ‘community benefit’
* The degree of promotion for Norwood Forum to be required from successful grant recipients.

The following grant applications were approved:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project | Grant £ |
| 1. Open Orchard Project: creation of new orchard to be utilised and looked after by the local community: protective metal cages and timber posts | 247.90 |
| 1. Hugo Harrison Limited: free cargo bike deliveries aiming to change attitudes and build sustainable local business | 300 |
| 1. The Stitch: necessary to vacate Portico Gallery, new storage shelves and boxes for new donated storage location | 300 |
| 1. Norwood Pensioners Group: to underwrite costs of classes from January 2021 while attendance is built back. | 300 |
| 1. Nature Vibezzz: outdoor learning/Forest School trip for school aged children residents of Fern Lodge Estate during February half term w/c Feb 15th, 2021. | 300 |
| 1. Nature Vibezzz: two Forest School sessions for local Childminders network: beginning of 2021 school term (w/c Jan 4th, 2021) and upon return from February half term (w/c February 22nd, 2021). | 300 |
| 1. Salvation Army: heating/water costs for weekly youth sessions | 300 |
| 1. Friends of West Norwood station: bee & bug and bird boxes; masonry paint for Hannen Road wall | 255.90 |
| 1. Jessie Huckin: Movers&Makers C.I.C: kids holiday camp in school holidays at Rosendale Community Centre | 300 |
| 1. Jessie Huckin: Movers&Makers C.I.C: West Norwood Feast craft and play activities – April-June 2021 | 300 |
| 1. South London Botanical Institute: create a series of workshops for children/young people with learning difficulties or in need of mental health support | 300 |
| 12. South London Botanical Institute: printed flyer 'Five Ways to Enjoy Nature this Winter' distributed across three wards - practical ideas for getting outdoors and enjoying local urban green spaces under Covid-19 restrictions | 300 |
| 13. 4ALL - Building Community in West Dulwich: youth club outing to theatre | 300 |
| Project | Grant £ | |
| 14. Network Norwood: Coffee Connectors, a pilot event - information on local activities and services as a coffee morning at Cheviot Gardens Housing | 298 | |
| 15. Lambeth TechAid: to refurbish, update and make safe as many devices as possible | 300 | |
| Total: | 4401.80 | |

SdS thanked KH for all the work undertaken in finalising the grant application criteria and process, and attracting such a wide range of applicants.

1. **Wild Norwood (28 November – 13 December 2020): report back**

KH reported orally on the success of the two week Wild Norwood festival (“a celebration of nature in an inner London Borough”) which had finished the previous evening with a free open air film show: Where the Wild Things Are at St. Matthews Church car park. Tremendous feedback had been received, with social media activity from the local community and with some involvement from worldwide audience:

* 109 neighbourhood windows, (up from 60 windows last year)
* Windows map viewed 1978 times (to date)
* Three schools took part: Oakmead Preparatory (first time), Rosemead Preparatory (second time) and Rosendale Primary (first time)
* 43 shops and local businesses window displays (up from 16), sponsored by Station to Station
* 66 festival programme events and activities of which there were:  
  - 11 live on-line events - most popular Tim Smit, Eden Project with 354 views to date

- five authors with 15 books “set free” in the neighbourhood

- overall 2,423 views to date of all online events  
- five live in-person events - including our finale film in St Matthews car-park  
- four live in-person workshops

- two legacy projects: Norwood Green Map and 15min City

* Partners:  
  - South London Botanical Institute, programmed various live on-line, live in-person and workshops  
  - Open Orchard - who ran two live in-person events    
  - London Wildlife Trust - cross promotion of festivals - their Great North Wood festival running at same time

- Station to Station - sponsored shop window display along Norwood Rad and Norwood High Street  
- West Norwood Library - enabled installation of main community window display  
- St Matthews Church - host for finale film in open air car-park  
- South London Theatre - who sponsored the final film

- Gerry Lyseight – festival soundtrack

- and many others too numerous to mention.

* All videos would remain online on the facebook page

SdS thanked KH on behalf of the Committee for all the work undertaken and the promotion of Norwood Forum.

1. **Community Safety Partnership (see circulated written reports)**

PV had reported on the success of the recent zoom meetings. One example of successful connecting of the community was the connection made with the London Grid by Lambeth officers.

1. **Xmas boxes: report back**

SdS reported that 250 Xmas boxes had been delivered to nine local groups for distribution. The boxes had been gratefully received by all, and he hoped to receive further feedback in the coming days.

1. **Chair’s report**

In order to build on the existing successful projects, SdS urged other committee members to develop fresh project proposals for consideration by the committee in the new year.

He now expected to move outside of London in the new year, and intended to withdraw gradually from Forum work until he stepped down as Chair on 31 March 2021.

He mentioned the interest stirred by the Blue Plaques project at Saturday’s Christmas Market when the map showing the locations of the first 21 plaques had been distributed.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

Nothing further substantive to report following the allocation of grants earlier in the meeting. He pointed out the Forum was reliant entirely on LFN funding and expanding our income source through grant applications in 2021 was essential.

KH suggested that the Forum should maintain reserves to cover at least six months running costs as protection against the LFN grant reducing or being removed.

1. **Planning applications and pre-applications**

SdS would write to ACr (who had had to leave the meeting early) on the advantages of Norwood Forum also appearing alongside NAG at Planning Applications Committee to make representations.

1. **Local economy**

SdS observed a new Cajun food business and Beer establishment had opened opposite West Norwood Bus Station.

SdS would seek to meet with Station to Station before any Streetworks meeting.

PV reported on the connection he had made between Station to Station and Lambeth Made.

SdS and NP would attend a meeting with Govia to mark the opening of the new canopy at Tulse Hill station. PV reported on the apparent lack of a linkage between British Transport Police and the Thurlow Park SNT.

1. **Forum community co-ordination role**

Not discussed.

1. **Forum communications**

In discussion it was agreed that the next newsletter would be delayed until the week commencing 21 December to enable committee members to draft items that wrapped up the year of activity and with festive messages.

1. **Other business**

Next meeting: date to be decided.

The meeting ended at 6:58pm.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action Points {last date discussed)** | **Who** | **When** |
| 1. GDPR and data protection: annual review {15.07.20} | KH/ TS | June 2021 |
| 1. Defibrillator: research costs, national scheme, possible locations {19.11.19} | JD |  |
| 1. Clean air: a public update to be prepared {14.01.20} | SdS and ACr |  |
| 1. Norwood Community Safety Partnership: cycle of zoom meetings {28.10.20}:  * Schools, skills, jobs: TBA * Public zoom meeting | PV |  |
| 1. Blue Plaques {16.09.20}:  * phase two * worked up ideas | TS  All |  |
| 1. Next Community Conversation {16.09.20} (ideas: all) | SdS/KH/NP |  |
| 1. Online banking: potential {16.09.20} | NP |  |
| 1. Small parcels of land: Assets of Community Value {14.12.20} | JM |  |
| 1. Local listing (NPA) {16.09.20} | SdS |  |
| 1. Station to Station: quarterly meetings {16.09.20} | KH |  |
| 1. Paxton Time Bank: liaison and publicity {16.09.20} | SdS |  |
| 1. Electric scooters: local enforcement {16.09.20} | JM |  |
| 1. Position of Chair and committee membership {28.10.20} | SdS/KH/NP  All |  |
| 1. Community Chest grants: write to all applicants and arrange payments {14.12.20} | KH |  |
| 1. Community Chest grants: next programme {14.12.20} | KH |  |
| 1. Streetworks: finishing the Norwood Road phase and a statement on the future of the Tulse Hill gyratory removal project. SdS to meet with S2S before proposed meeting with officers {14.12.20} | JM |  |