

# **Hammersmith & Fulham**

## **Local Agenda 21 Forum**

*The Borough's independent platform, taking initiatives  
Today to improve our Quality of Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2001

Present Matt Dunckley (Chair), John Griffiths, Mary Flynn-O'Connor, John Lamprell-Jarrett, Nick Pollock, Mary Corral, Louanne Tranchell, Dido Berkeley, John Ryan, Chris Amies, Richard Adam and David Wardrop

1] Apologies for absence Sumita Sinha, PC Peter Riches, Doris Lamprell-Jarrett

2] Minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January These were agreed as being a true record.

3] Matters arising

*3.1: Recycling*

*3.1.1 Brook Green Initiative* Matt Dunckley reported on his latest meeting with Rod Brown, LBH&F and Tim Houghton, Groundwork. A meeting to agree suggested parameters for this project will take place shortly to be followed by a larger consultative meeting for all interested parties.

*3.1.2 Energy Efficiency* A newly published informative leaflet will be summarised and flagged in the next issue of the LA21 Newsletter

*3.2 Your Borough, Your Future Grants Scheme* The grant assessment panel will meet on 9 March.(see addendum 1)

*3.3 Green Business Club* Matt Dunckley and Tim Houghton have met and propose that this event takes place in late-May/early June, shortly prior to West London Environment Weekend (9-10 June). Mike Robey, Groundwork and Orin Miller, independent business consultant for small businesses will be closely involved.

*3.4 North Fulham NDC* John Griffiths had not been able to attend the recent NDC meeting (25 Feb) but reported that some local residents felt that the project appeared to be becoming a top-down (architect-driven) project rather than a bottom-up (community-driven) project. He agreed to report on further developments.

4] Fair Trade Fortnight 5-18 March Mary Corral asked for staffing support for the stall in the Kings Mall Safeway store. The Forum would seek exposure in the *Gazette*.

5] The Thames

*5.1 Fulham Football Club, development* The Committee noted the Council's recent planning consent for the proposed development which involved river encroachment at the site being compensated by a commensurate increase in the river at some point on the Hounslow reach sector. It appears this might set a precedent which might be contested. Letter detailing our concerns about river encroachment will be written to the GLA Planning Committee and to John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister.

*5.2 Blue Ribbon Zone* The Forum confirmed its continuing support for the Blue Ribbon concept, supporting moves to inject it into the Council's UDP.

*5.3 Lots Road, development* Matt Dunckley reported that he had received a report from the

developers following the public exhibition and a consultation process. The report indicated that fresh proposals would be published in the Spring, taking into account concerns relating to access, arts and leisure, provision of 'key' workers, the affordable housing component, the use of Chelsea Creek as a public amenity and wildlife conservation area.

**5.4 River Group, meeting** This will be held at the Emerald Centre Office on 19 March at 6.30PM. All those wishing to attend should confirm through the Information Centre regarding the meeting time and location.

**6] Biodiversity** Nick Pollock circulated a variety of literature supporting Backyard Biodiversity Day but he felt that this did not adequately apply to urban gardens. The attached Action List (addendum 3) indicates where the Forum and individuals might take initiatives. It was agreed that the Forum's website could provide a useful guide for those interested. Currently, Nick's own site at [www.bushcomp.cwc.net](http://www.bushcomp.cwc.net) provides such information and this will soon be linked to the Forum's site. Efforts would be made to get coverage in HFM.

**7] Health Impact assessments** Dido Berkeley informed the committee that health, alongside the environment, was rising up the agenda when assessments were being made. The Committee agreed that an initiative should be taken. Accordingly, Dido agreed to contact Anthea Cooke, health Strategy development manager, LBH&F and Dr David Wingfield, Primary Care manager at Brook Green. These individuals could be approached to give presentations to the Forum at a future meeting. Dido informed the Committee on the Health Improvement Schemes (HIMPS) that had been introduced which took into account other programmes such as the work of the local Drug Action Team.

**8] Transport and Air Quality** John Ryan reported on the following new local initiatives:

**8.1 Direct Services Organisation** The Council's Direct Services Organisation (DSO) had now taken delivery of their new bicycles, to be used in favour of the familiar red vans wherever possible.

**8.2 Student secondment** Imperial College has agreed to cooperate with the Forum and is now identifying a suitable student to work in the Borough on one of the several proposed projects submitted by Executive members.

**8.3 Commission for Integrated Transport** The Commission's new report has been published and John Ryan will report to the Committee at the next meeting.

**8.4 Metropolitan Police** The Committee warmly welcomed the letter from Inspector Dick Blanchard, Metropolitan Police (see attached) and noted that John Ryan will be liaising with the Police on this encouraging development.

**8.5 Youth employment project** This proposal is summarised in Addendum 2. Please contact John Ryan (tel 0961 946064) for full details.

**9] Website and newsletter**

**9.1 Website** Access to the web and our site is now available at the Information Centre now that the necessary modem has been purchased by John Griffiths. It was noted that the Council's own website still fails to associate automatically with the LA21 site and that this should be addressed, using the right keywords and other techniques. It was agreed that Matt Dunckley should formally draw this to the attention of Charles Shearer, now that the Council's website has been revised, and also bring to the attention of Peter Bishop, LBH&F, the need for greater clarity on the Council's own site as to the programmes and obligations on Councils of LA21.

**9.2 Newsletter** This will be published in the week beginning 19 March.

**10] Personnel** Matt Dunckley reported that Kate Allen had moved to a Groundwork programme in Plymouth and that, pending the appointment of her successor, an interim contact within groundwork would be appointed. It was noted that the Council has yet to publish its report on the Bishops Park event (9 July 2000) and that Matt Dunckley should write to Jon Whitwell urging him to expedite this.

**11] Funding and training opportunities** The regular journal, *Funding News* will be available for inspection by all visitors to the Information Centre.

**12] Any other business**

**12.1 New website** [www.enviro2B.com](http://www.enviro2B.com) promises to offer much.

**12.2 Libraries:** Matt agreed to approach Vernon Burgess, Chief Librarian, to obtain a permanent space in H&F libraries explaining LA21.

**13] Dates for the diary**

Fair Trade Fortnight	5-18 March
Hammersmith Community Trust, AGM	28 March at 6.30pm
Real Nappy Week	end April
London Wildlife Trust, Wildlife week	26 May- 3 June
London 21, launch, Case studies in LA 21	21 June
Backyard Biodiversity Day	21 June
Richmond Regatta	30 June to 1 July

**14] Dates for next two meetings:**

**9<sup>th</sup> April, 21 May 2001, both commencing at 6.00pm, at the Information Centre**  
 Alan Watts, LBH&F's new Town Centre Manager will be our guest speaker, explaining his role and receiving input from the Forum.

**Addendum 1 (item 3.2)**

**YBYF GRANTS...FINAL AWARDS 2001** *Grants totalling £25000 have been awarded to the following*

<b>Project organiser</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant</b>
Vanston Youth Project/Samuel Lewis Housing Trust, Fulham	<i>Growing vegetables and education on Agenda 21</i>	£500
Flora Gardens Primary School, Hammersmith	<i>Substantial pond repairs and improvement of pond as wildlife garden/educational resource</i>	£4000
Cycick (Community cycle workshop):	<i>Additional tools and equipment to expand this scheme, in collaboration with Chelsfield and other organisations</i>	£2000
Shanti Asian Community Care Resources Centre:	<i>Residents/clients to refurbish garden area and use gardening as an exercise for residents. Also to encourage the Asian community in sustainability</i>	£6000
Pupil Referral Unit	<i>Pupils to redevelop garden &amp; recreation</i>	£5000

	<i>area; grant linked to other funding</i>	
H & F MIND	<i>Conversion of a vehicle to low-emissions vehicle for use in community repaint and community gardening projects</i>	£1000
Hammersmith Community Gardens Association	<i>Fund a part-time community gardener for 6 months, to match funding from other agencies</i>	£6500

**Addendum 1 (cont)** The following applications were unsuccessful. The panels' comments below are a brief summary only.

<b>Project organiser</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Barton Court Residents Association	Storage facility for recycling	further work required
Brackenbury School and Connections Communications	Animated video on the environment	too costly and needs more pupil involvement, please represent
Bayonne Nursery School	Refurbish garden as a sensory garden	Needs greater support before feasible. This could link to Groundwork
Normand Park Primary School	Redesign play area	Insufficient LA21 relevance; suggest referral to NDC
Melcombe Primary School	Create secret garden in disused toilet block	More detail and development required
WestLETS	Skills sharing scheme	Assessed by Groundwork Business Devt Officer. Needs more development. Referred for Urban Programme Partnership support
Wendell Park Primary School	Replace dead trees and broken benches	This will be undertaken by the Council
Randolph Beresford Early Years Centre	Play area with sensory corner	LA21 aspects not clear; also, quite expensive
Youth Entertainment Studios	Part of major scheme to encourage ethnic minorities to engage with environmental issues	Major scheme to be encouraged, but at too early in its development for a small grant which would make little impact. More focus needed.
Peterborough Primary School	Refurbish playground, shed, etc.	LA21 aspects unclear, but should re-apply when nature reserve element is ready for implementation.
Eco-logic	Open-air theatre made of recycled materials near Lyric	Not a sustainable project and in an inappropriate place at the present time, but could be reconsidered in a different form and location
Shepherds Bush Housing Association	Play equipment for Pulton Place Estate	Unclear sustainability benefits and very large project
Rowberry Close Tenants	Replace armchairs in	Referred to Housing Dept/Furnish

Association	communal lounge	
Hammersmith Embkment Residents Association	Flower baskets along Fulham Palace Rd	Unclear sustainability benefits, but now funded from elsewhere
Edward Woods TRA	Fenced dog walking area	Not LA21, referred to Housing Dept
Old Oak Primary School	Replacement drinking fountains	Not LA21, referred elsewhere
Yarrow Housing Ltd:	Refurbishment of 14 gardens/sensory gardens/willow workshops	Good, but currently expensive scheme. It has now been developed further and is under consideration for funding elsewhere
Harbledown RA	Hanging baskets and litter bins	Unclear sustainability benefit; suggest application to Highways or elsewhere
Recycled Art Group	Using/reusing recycled and waste materials in art works	Very interesting, but costly and benefits artists more than wider community and could refocus with some more practical uses of artworks

## Addendum 2

### *Youth Employment Project*

The project is a community cycle workshop, which started in May 2000. It is currently registered as a voluntary sector project supported by *Community Networks* and due to end in December 2001. The project's primary focus is centred around youth activities to provide training in cycle maintenance, to help develop the youths' potential, as well as offering re-cycling facilities as a means of promoting local sustainable development initiatives. To date, Cycick has enjoyed local support from both the private and public sectors and attracted keen political interests in its activities. It is currently run by a number of volunteers who constitute the working group to promote its full development.

#### ***Project Aims:***

The aims of this project are to develop a community cycle maintenance workshop, recycling facility and training. It will be concentrated around youth activities in the area.

The main areas covered have been successfully implemented in the pilot at White City, Old Oak and Edward Woods, this started in early May 2000, and has continued to date, to make this a permanent, and, sustainable enterprise. The feasibility study was conducted with local organisation support.

Those individuals that have shown an interest (all residents from within the local area), are now involved on a full time basis, the employment aspect of this project, is to keep the development of the individual as much as possible in the forefront, to maximise their potential.

It is planned to have a "community shop", employing local people, in particular the youth in the area who are at risk from becoming offenders or re-offending. This has been successfully piloted, within the existing structure of Cycick, and, it's supporting agencies i.e. a Local Business, Youth Service, Youth Offending Team, Metropolitan Police - Community Officers, a Residents Association, LA21, Chelsfield PLC, Hammersmith & Fulham Cyclists, Seagrams, Groundwork, Cleanaway and a housing association.

### **Addendum 3**

#### **Biodiversity in the city**

*Please contact Nick Pollock, 22 Oaklands Grove, London W12 0JA (tel 0208 740 9646) with your suggestions on this proposed programme.*

**Objective**The Hammersmith & Fulham Local Agenda 21 Forum agreed on 25<sup>th</sup> January to promote Biodiversity and Nature Conservation through Wildlife Gardening.

**Proposed Name**A name is needed. Some permutation from Sustainable Gardening, Biodiversity, Organic or other words might be suitable. *Suggestions please.*

**Events**Backyard Biodiversity Day, 21 June 2001 is being coordinated by *Action for Biology in Education*, a charity working only with schools.

There are many events arranged by other organisations so we should dovetail our own efforts with these. these could include:

- \* link with the Ginkgo Garden Centre, Ravenscourt Park and others to distribute leaflets and provide other support.\* introduce a Plant Exchange scheme. How could this work effectively?\*
- \* run a wildlife gardening competition.

#### **Literature**

The London Wildlife Trust's leaflet *Wildlife Gardening* is well illustrated and has many useful ideas and contacts but it is not specifically targeted at our urban environment.

Other wildlife gardening literature published by HDRA and PTES can be circulated also  
*It makes sense to distribute currently available material rather than produce our own.*

**Articles and pictures**Many people are unaware of what can be done in small urban gardens. By publicising local gardening achievements, we can complement the wealth of general advice and literature available. Nick Pollack has a typical Victorian terrace house, as does Simon Powell.

Emma Robertshaw has an upper floor flat with a balcony. All are prepared to write short, illustrated pieces about their experiences.

**Promotion**The LA21 website is ideal for short seasonal hints or topics with pictures which can be updated regularly. We can add links to HDRA and other sites. The LWT website currently has stuff about their garden survey, and will shortly have extensive (and seasonal) wildlife gardening pages. The newsletter would need more general, less topical articles. Pictures are more difficult. Most local groups of organisations like London Wildlife Trust, Friends of the Earth and HDRA write short pieces for their local papers, who are usually desperate for copy. How good is the local media including HFM, Shepherds Bush Gazette, Hammersmith & Fulham Gazette -and how often should we aim to contribute articles?

**Topics for articles and pictures**\* **Hedges.** They provide food and habitat for wildlife and are more attractive than fences.\* **Compost.** They reduce domestic waste, are good for plants and save money.\* **No peat use.** This is an unsustainable product, destroying lowland bogs.\* **No pesticides.** We should encourage wildlife -and save money.\* **Habitat piles.** These piles of woody material that can't

be composted and reduce domestic

waste. They encourage wildlife such as invertebrates and fungi.

\* **Ponds.** These are ideal for private gardens. They encourage wildlife such as frogs which eat snail eggs.\* **Feed the birds.** They also eat your pests.\* **Choose the right plants.** There are alternatives to Hostas (ravaged by slugs) or double flowers

(which insects can't get nectar from).\* **Take an allotment.** Hammersmith and Chiswick Allotment Societies can assist.