

HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

LOCAL AGENDA 21 FORUM

61 Sedlescombe Road, London SW6 1RE

Tel 0171 385 6738 Fax 0171 610 0943

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee
held at the Lilla Huset on 18 September 1997

Attendance

David Wardrop (Chair)	Aki Suwa	Jerry Coogan	Jan Fiddes
Sav Kyriacou	Cliff Darby	Sue Ingham	John Repsch
Dido Berkeley	Gabby Rowberry	Richard Adam	Mike Evans
Pat Cox			

1] Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Anthony Lambert, Romi Shovelton, Mike Lachowicz, Louanne Tranchell.

2] Welcome to the Forum Members welcomed Gabby Rowberry, Mike Evans, John Repsch, Sav Kyriacou and Jan Fiddes, attending for the first time.

3] Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July These were agreed as a true record.

4] White City SRB Bid Jan Fiddes (LB H&F) outlined the Council's successful bid to revive the White City neighbourhood. Costing £15million, it will last seven years and aims to

- i) create jobs
- ii) encourage investment in the neighbourhood
- iii) implement schemes to raise the 'employability' of residents, especially young people, to improve their attainment and offer improved study opportunities
- iv) generate business output and encourage enterprise development especially amongst ethnic minorities

She observed that the timetable allowed only three weeks to prepare the proposal, reducing the opportunity to undertake local consultation. A *MORI* survey would assess opinion and a postal survey would be targeted at larger companies. A *Challenge Fund* would be set up and be output-driven. She hoped that a local community forum would evolve.

Discussion followed and the Chair summed up as follows: *The LA21 Forum congratulates all who have secured this funding. The planned consultation programme lacks elements which offer a sense of ownership to the local community through invitation to participate in determining immediate and more distant indicators of an improved quality of life. Greater effort must be made to involve formal representatives of sectors of the community identified with performance monitoring; the CRE and HAFAD will be important conduits to their constituencies. The LA21 Forum offers its services in encouraging the local community to support and participate in the SRB programme.*

5] WARM HOMES Campaign Cliff Darby (LB H&F) introduced the Council's new *Warm Homes* campaign, distributing copies of the impressive Information Pack for Care Workers. This set out to guide care workers in identifying and advising those eligible for grants and has been funded from the *Energy Savings Trust*. The Council views the initiative as part of its anti-poverty programme. He sought advice on reaching target sectors of the community. It was agreed that these were often elderly and isolated, sometimes with poor command of literacy. Besides formal approaches through *The Pensioner* and leaflet

distribution, members supported word of mouth initiatives. One possible approach, recognising that excluded groups do support each other albeit outside the wider community, could involve rewarding with £10 each introduction leading to a successful grant application.

Another idea set out to link young people with the elderly who, it was argued, would welcome such attention and thereby more readily accept guidance in a topic that might tend to confuse and frighten them.

6] The River Thames Dido Berkeley updated the Executive on progress in the setting up of *THAMESBANK*. She urged the Forum to continue its support and noted that the Southwark LA21 Forum had become a supporter. The Chair stated that he had contacted the *Evening Standard*, urging it to stage a debate on this important issue and which would provide a high-profile opportunity to launch *THAMESBANK* to the public.

7] Local Exchange Trading Scheme (LETS) Mike Evans updated the Executive on plans to launch a LETS group in the borough. The launch meeting (Lilla Huset, 7.30pm on 1 October) would aim to commence compilation of a directory of LETS participants. Members noted that many sectors of the community, traditionally linked with employment difficulties, should be made aware of this initiative. So it was agreed HAFTRA, CRE and HAFAD should be notified, ideally with a simple flyer for their members.

8] Children & Neighbourhoods in London Sav Kyriacou (Urban Studies Centre) introduced the new initiative, seeking to enable young people to feel involved with their environment in all its aspects. He hoped that this work, largely funded by the *Childrens Society* and several London boroughs, would be able to link in with that of the Forum. Disabled people would be targeted also. This initiative was welcomed and it was agreed that young people in it would be invited to make a presentation at the Forum's AGM (17 November).

9] Hammersmith Bridge John Repsch (Friends of the Earth) updated the Executive on his organisation's campaign to prevent the re-opening of Hammersmith Bridge to private and commercial traffic. The petition has already gained 2000+ signatures and will feature in the "*Fuming Mad*" rally in Trafalgar Square (27 September).

10] Transport Working Group:

a) Meeting with LB H&F, Transport Officer In the absence of Anthony Lambert (Chair, Transport Working Group), the Chair reported that a fruitful meeting with David Bull had taken place, attended also by Richard Adam (LB H&F) and himself. Richard Adam has recorded salient features of the meeting (for a copy, contact Richard) but Anthony Lambert's formal proposals will be circulated when available. The Executive is pleased it has been able to start these important discussions which will lead to further opportunities for the community to make proposals on transport issues in the borough.

b) White City development The Chair reported that the developers intended to undertake a series of public consultation exercises. Anthony Lambert will maintain close contact with the developers and it is felt that the Forum should offer platforms to the local community to make observations, should no other group wish to do so. A model plan of the proposed development will be set up in the Shepherds Bush Library.

c) Government Green Paper on Transport This important document has implications for the borough but, like many such initiatives, offers the community so little time to comment. The attached papers are

circulated and all members are invited to submit their observations to the Chair as soon as possible, enabling the Forum to put together a comprehensive response. Richard Adam was congratulated on the quality and clarity of his explanatory documents.

11] Indicators

a) Recycling The Chair drew members' attention to correspondence with the Chair of the Borough's Recycling Sub-Committee. He stated that he would seek meetings with Cllr Gray and with the Borough's Assistant Director, Environmental Protection.

b) Transport see [10] above

c) Health Initial indicators have now been logged and the Forum awaits later figures which will indicate improvements or otherwise to the quality of life in the borough.

d) Employment The Chair tabled detailed comparisons of unemployment by Ward in the Borough (submitted by Pete Turner) for appending to these minutes. A future meeting will determine which statistics will form our indicators.

e) Social Change The Chair stated that HAFAD, charged to develop a series of indicators reflecting the perceptions and experiences of its members, continues to work on this. Its *Speakeasy* Group will meet next on 2 October. It was noted that Kenneth Matheson could become involved.

12] Forum Newsletter The Chair reported that about 25 responses to the circular had been received and that these would be passed to Jeremy Barratt upon his return from an out-of-town contract. Richard Adam reported that, in consultation with the Chair, he would be preparing a grant submission for a *National Grid Community 21 Award*. This would comprise an 8-page, quarterly community newsletter in tabloid form, with a 10,000 circulation. It was agreed that a small group to liaise on these initiatives should be set up.

13] Financial Report and Audit The Chair reported that the Forum still seeks an accountant to check its accounts so these may be submitted to the Council together with other reports (completed) and trigger the release of the agreed 1997-1998 Council grant (£1950).

14] Annual General Meeting It was agreed that this could benefit through a more lively format, perhaps with music. Please contact the Chair if you have a contribution to make here.

15] Any Other Business

i) Liaison with adjacent LA21 groups The Chair and Richard Adam would draw up a database.

ii) The new Unified Development Plan (UDP) It was agreed that the Forum should seek to participate in the drawing up of this important document.

16] Date of next meeting 17 November (Annual General Meeting)