

# Brixton Neighbourhood Forum

## Notes of Meeting on 24 August 2011

Held at the San Marino Cafe, Brixton Road, Nick Weedon (FoWG) in the chair.

Also present: Alan Piper (notes), Devon Thomas, Jean Kerrigan, Bill Linskey, John Spicer, John Gordon

Apologies for absence from: Matthew Clarke, Stuart Horwood.

## **Review of Draft Constitution for Brixton Neighbourhood Forum**

Bill Linskey (Brixton Society) introduced the latest draft (version 2) which had been circulated. No further comments had been received so the text was agreed.

## **Map to define Area of Benefit:**

Alan Piper (Brixton Society) introduced a paper with proposed amendments to the map previously circulated: This was to exclude areas covered by the Stockwell Partnership to the north-west, but to add most of Vassall Ward to the north and smaller extensions to the east.

Additional extensions were agreed in order to include:

- Loughborough Junction as a whole: part is included in the Brixton Masterplan and the Neighbourhood Forum may provide a more effective platform for local residents.
- Brockwell Park, as the major green space for the Brixton area.
- Most of Railton Road, and “poets corner” roads off it.

Nic undertook to prepare an amended map on this basis.

## **Constitution Arrangements:**

Adoption: The new constitution was adopted unanimously.

First Annual General Meeting: set for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012, with 21<sup>st</sup> as an alternative. Interim officers will serve in the meantime, to get the organisation functioning.

Interim Forum officers, to serve until the AGM, were agreed as follows:

Chair:	Devon Thomas,
Vice-Chair	Stuart Horwood,
Secretary:	Alan Piper,
Treasurer:	Nic Weedon,
Membership Sec.	John Spicer.

## **Next Steps:**

Promotion: Devon would explore scope for publicity in the new Lambeth Weekender and in the SLP.

Bill was willing to set up a URL for e-mail contacts and possibly a collective “cloud-group” on Google for all Forum members.

Notes of this meeting should be circulated to past attenders to encourage them to join.

Formal notification should go to the Council Leader and Chief Executive, relevant ward members, Town Centre office (Rheanne) and the Forum support officer.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October, Renton Close community centre, Brixton Hill SW2.

### **Brief Reports from Member Groups:**

**Networking:** The Council is establishing a Community Leaders Forum, focussed on grass-roots solutions to youth crime and youth unemployment issues. Lambeth Civic Forum has been formed from civic amenity societies within the borough and is now meeting quarterly.

**Brixton Business Forum:** Devon reported that the High Street multiples are getting together to improve liaison with the police and CCTV network. Plans are being made for a Winter Festival including a Christmas Lights switch-on event, with local business sponsorship and promotion for Brixton as a whole.

**Transition Town Brixton:** Design of the Brixton Re-use Centre is being finalised, and it should open in March 2012. TTB’s Heart & Soul group will be offering therapeutic activities.

The Brixton Pound is being re-launched soon with new designs, and digital payment facilities should be available from the end of September.

**Friends of Brixton Windmill:** Gearing up for guided tours of the windmill on set dates in September and October, plus the Windmill Festival. Next year’s season of activities will kick off with a MayDay parade.

**Brixton Society:** will be running stalls at 3 events this Autumn, and also plan to have a stall in Windrush Square on Saturday 10 December. Others could run stalls there on the same day provided they book directly with Lambeth: single promotions are easier to arrange than a larger event.

**Brixton Market Trader’s Federation:** is now set up as a Community Interest Company, and promoting a “make it grow it sell it” monthly market in Brixton Station Road. This may develop into a different theme each weekend.

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