

WALPOLE WARD FORUM NOTES

Monday 6th February 2012
7.00pm-9.00pm
St John's Church (lounge)
Mattock Lane, W13

Members: Councillors Ann Chapman **(AC)**, John Cowing - Chair **(JC)** and Ashok Kapoor **(AK)**.

In attendance: The Mayor of Ealing, Councillor John Gallagher
Tan Afzal **(TA)** - Neighbourhood Governance Coordinator

Attendees: 20

Papers available at the meeting:
Notes from the previous meeting
Ward forum budget summary
Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

Councillor Chapman welcomed everyone to the meeting, introducing herself, her colleagues and officers in attendance. Cllr Chapman announced with pleasure the presence of the Mayor of Ealing, Councillor John Gallagher. He would provide an update on the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

The Mayor of Ealing stated that he had offered to attend all 23 ward forum meetings to convey information on the events taking place to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

For the Queen's Golden Jubilee he was invited to attend a lunch at Gunnersbury Park which was coordinated by a partnership of six West London boroughs. In consideration of the Duke of Edinburgh's health the Queen will be attending two engagements in London, one in the South to confirm the status for the Royal Borough of Greenwich. The other will be held in one of the North-West boroughs; details have not yet been released.

The Duke of York has asked to see some of the apprenticeship schemes. There are efforts being made to engage the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge for a visit to Southall, where the Duchess has a connection.

The main events are planned for the first weekend in June. 6th February is Accession Day. The late May Bank Holiday has been moved to Monday 4th June and there will be an extra Bank Holiday on Tuesday 5th June. The early May bank holiday will still be on Monday 7th May. Half-term for schools has been moved from the last week in May to the first one in June.

Saturday 2nd June HM goes to the Derby at Epsom.

Sunday 3rd June **The Big Lunch** has been moved from the end of June and beginning of July to this date; street, block and community centre parties are suggested; there will be an unveiling of the plaques for the black poplars the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London asked Sir David Attenborough to present to all the London boroughs before Christmas (ours is in Brent Lodge Park); there will also be a 7 mile long boat pageant on the Thames.

Monday 4th June there will be a **BBC concert at Buckingham Palace**; there will be a simultaneous lighting of beacons across the country at dusk and we are inviting ladies called Elizabeth born on 6th February, 1952, in Ealing and still resident, to light ours on Horsenden Hill.

Tuesday 5th June, the Queen will attend a **State Thanksgiving** at St Paul's Cathedral and there will be a carriage procession. The Mayor had suggested to faith groups that they can hold celebrations on their particular day over that weekend or on the Tuesday.

Some schools are participating in an art competition, the results of which will be displayed in Gunnersbury Museum.

There may be a large celebration in Acton on the Sunday. Hanger Hill Ward residents are planning tree plantings and Ealing Common Ward residents are going to plant a tulip tree.

It has been suggested by Buckingham Palace that boroughs do not spend a great deal of money on the celebrations and embarrass the Queen in this time of austerity.

Information on street parties can be obtained from the council on izzy@theeventumbrella.com or by calling her on 020 8825 6064.

Please remember uniformed organisations and cadets are likely to be called into Central London for the boat pageant and the thanksgiving service so if you want them to attend any celebrations, please contact them in advance. Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams should be advised in advance because they may want to join in for publicity purposes as well as maintain order.

Make sure you contact the council's licensing team if you are providing alcohol at any event. Even raffles and tombola should be licensed if drinks are among the prizes because buying a ticket is effectively a purchase. Street parties and some other events will require a temporary road closure order so contact the highways department. All events should have a risk assessment and information should be provided to the police, so please take advice from the council's Community Safety Team. All the Council's sections have been asked to treat requests with sympathy and charges will be waived where possible but some charges may be statutory requirements and have to be

enforced. There will be some form of block insurance for councils to cover the cost of parties.

It is hoped appropriate bunting will be on display in the major shopping centres supplied by the Regeneration Unit. The Department of Culture, Media & Sport will advise on the logo to be used and that should be the only one displayed. Shopkeepers and other traders who wish to commemorate the event should use it exclusively on any display items or wares for sale. The DCMS will also provide information on the national events and the Mayor of London's Office will provide information on London events.

Please remember that if you are organising a party it could be very warm in June and you should make sensible arrangements with St John's Ambulance to provide cover, especially where alcohol is being supplied.

Cllr Chapman stated that she was aware of one request to host a street party at Coldershaw Road.

Res: On behalf of Walpole Friends we would like to host a lunch at Walpole Park, this may be a brunch to avoid missing the regatta. It would also be an ideal time to plant some trees in recognition of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

2. Actions from previous meetings

Cllr Chapman reported on actions from the previous meeting:

- There have been two extensive traffic schemes implemented recently, on Northfield Avenue and at South Ealing Road. Can these be appraised or reviewed, comparing pre-data with the current situation.

Response: Speed was not the catalyst for improvements. However fatality and collision rates will be looked at - 3 years of data is considered suitable to evaluate and review these projects.

- When will a new pump be installed at the fountain in Walpole Park?

Response: We don't have functioning fountains; both were drained and completely cleaned and then refilled. The parks team agreed to source a new pump and an engineer was due to install this pump. However, the pump delivered to the parks team was damaged and the engineer was unwell which has caused a significant delay to the repair and installation.

The Parks Manager has emailed us with the following comments:

I am aware you have your Ward Forum meeting next week so thought I ought to update you on the situation with the Walpole Park pumps. It is not good news - the engineer who is installing the pump has been ill, hence why he was not there last Friday as promised. Following this he was going to come to site this week but on inspecting the pump a crack was found so it has been returned to the manufacturer. This is now extremely embarrassing and becoming farcical to say the least, I can only offer our apologies.

Jon is currently trying to get hold of the engineer and I have also left a voicemail for him. Once we speak to him we will try to get a definitive date for the work to take place. If he cannot give this then we will look at alternative arrangements.

I know local residents and park users will be dismayed and frustrated by this news, I share these feelings. I can only sincerely apologise and promise to put things right as soon as possible.

3. Transport Updates

Cllr Cowing reported the overwhelming support for an extension to the existing Ealing Dean Controlled Parking Zone. He stated the project was at the detailed design stage. Dialogue would take place with the highways engineer to convey all the comments made at the consultation stage. This would include adding all day dual use bays at St Aidan's Road, with both shop workers and residents able to park there.

Felton Road is an ongoing problem, it being an un-adopted road, we would like to include it in the CPZ. Implementation is expected for March/April.

Res: None of the businesses were consulted on this matter. As a baker I have to be at my business sometimes as early as 3am. With the other side of the road not included in the CPZ, inevitably it will lead to displacement. I pay £610 in business tax every month yet I am not considered as a member of the community for Walpole ward.

Cllr Cowing: I have noted that the businesses were not included, neither were the residents on the other side of Northfield Avenue. We will look at the detailed design to establish whether something can be made available.

Res: Many of my employees do not live in this area of Ealing as it is too affluent. Since the CPZ creep there is no place for them to park. As a successful business contributing to the local economy, I do my best to meet the needs of local people, the CPZ policy must be reviewed.

Cllr Cowing: Until there is a complete review of how CPZs are implemented things are not going to change or work to the maximum benefit. Unfortunately the majority of residents do not share your view, their priority is to have sufficient residential parking. It is displacement that is creating a need for the CPZ.

Res: Can you adopt restrictions that accommodate parking for local employees?

Cllr Cowing: There is difficulty with setting the timings for the CPZ. Currently there is a website which recommends people park at Elers Road, which is promoted as free parking. Whereas if you look at the existing CPZ at Loveday Road you see empty bays during the day.

Changes are also being proposed to Stop & Shop restrictions in shopping areas across the Borough. These are being questioned by the opposition. The

Leader of the Council has stated that he would support and encourage local businesses; this needs to be made apparent with decisions on parking.

Cllr Chapman: We fully support a petition against the proposals and recommend that all businesses and residents take the opportunity to sign it, to validate their concerns about the changes in parking restrictions.

Lido Junction Consultation Results

Cllr Cowing stated that the overall response had been very good; it will be a positive move to have the green man phasing.

Res: I am very pleased that most people said yes, as I was told that it is the most dangerous crossing in the borough.

Cllr Chapman: Some detail on Drayton Green Road needs to be revised.

Res: Can the crossing have a flashing yellow phase, which is synchronised with the one by Waitrose.

4. Parks Update

Walpole Heritage Lottery Fund

Cllr Chapman reported on a public presentation, which took place on 7th Jan to update on park proposals. This included new buildings on the old animal centre site to incorporate an education/volunteer centre and public amenities. As a result of feedback there have been some minor alterations made.

Council will be submitting a planning application towards the end of Feb/early March.

Currently undertaking additional surveys required - for example to ascertain tree root zones around the proposed building areas; To ascertain what works need to be done to the structure of the water features; Listed building consents for the removal of old toilets, restoring the listed wall, restoring the bench, and the listed bridge.

Lots of activities planned, see Walpole Friends website and council website.

Aiming to start works in the Autumn this year, and by the time of the next ward forum the parks team will have a clearer idea of which area first.

Res: Once it is completed, will the park be locked?

Cllr Chapman: Currently there are about 20 parks that are locked in this borough. Lammas Park and Walpole Park are both locked. They must be continually locked as we need to protect our investment. If you give people the opportunity to damage or misuse the parks they will do so. I have been

told some parks are likely to continue to be locked and Cllr Mahfouz has said he is now prepared to look at them all on their merits.

Dean Gardens

Cllr Chapman reported on Dean Gardens which has long been a site for continual anti-social behaviour, with street drinking during the daylight hours and youths gathering there at night to deal and engage with drugs. There are two 24-hour licensed outlets in this area.

Funding for lighting in the form of 3 CCTV cameras with lighting attached is the preferred option for Deans Gardens by Ealing Police.

The proposal of 'tactical' lighting will not increase the overall level of lighting in the park so it will not:

- Contravene the LBE policy
- Encourage people to congregate in the park
- Encourage people to walk through the park

The CCTV will be installed with Infra red cameras. This will allow the park to be monitored by CCTV and identify anyone in the park. As soon as someone is identified in the park there is a white light spotlight activated by the CCTV control room, which will illuminate the person/people in the park.

The impact of this will help:

- Make the people in the park very aware of the fact they are being watched (the light will move with the CCTV camera)
- Deter them from staying in the park
- Enable effective CCTV capture

The decision to not have lighting columns in the park is a direct response to the advice received from Ealing Police. They have stated the following:

- This is against the LBE policy of no lighting in parks at night
- The light has a tendency to attract people into the park area to congregate so might make the situation worse and increase this as a drinking / socialising venue
- This might attract people to think it is safe and walk through the park rather than round it and hence increase the number of 'potential victims' in the park.
- CCTV can be used more effectively so long as the lighting is sufficient (not included in the costings). This may provide a route to identify offenders, but will not stop the situation arising.

- The current park users may continue to congregate in the darker areas of the park
- Continual light pollution and electricity cost

The riot fund will help pay for the improvements, there are no specific constraints to this funding, which means it won't need to go to a decision making body before the work starts.

CCTV Manager has confirmed the installation can be completed within 6 weeks of ordering. If the order is placed in the next couple of weeks it could be completed around the end of March.

The Olympics

Cllr Chapman reported that at this time for security reasons not much could be revealed about the events associated with the Olympics. The torch is coming to Ealing on 24th July and there will be a number of Olympic themed events in the borough.

5. Ward Forum projects

Budget Update

Cllr Chapman reported on the current status of ward forum project.

- The milestone has been taken away for repair
- The community notice boards will be installed on receiving permission from Tesco and Sainsbury's
- The revenue earmarked for maintaining the recycling bins at Lammas Park is not required this year
- A meeting with the economic regeneration team and highways has been planned to discuss the installation of power points at Melbourne Avenue

The budget summary sheet indicated a capital under spend of £22k and a revenue under spend of £1.22k. The available budget for 2012/13 is £52k capital and £8.72k revenue.

Ideas for ward forum spend included:

- Open Ealing : Currently located at 113 Uxbridge Road, they will be moving to the Blockbusters building. A five-year lease with Catalyst is under discussion. Access and visibility is very good at this location.

Cllr Chapman: You have been very successful, we would like to continue supporting you, but first we would like a copy of your business plan.

Res: This would be a beneficial investment, Ealing needs an art facility and Open Ealing provides a great art facility.

- 'Welcome to Northfields' sign at each end of Northfield Avenue - close to The Plough and The Forester
- Christmas lights
- Support for a shop front scheme

Suggestions via email:

- Tree planting in the Lammas Enclosure on behalf of Ealing Transition.

6. Any Other Business

Res: Potholes at the rear of Dean Gardens have not been repaired.

Cllr Chapman: One of them has been repaired, majority of the undulations are not sizeable enough to be considered for repair.

Res: First of the monthly craft markets will be taking place on 7th April at St James Avenue.

Dates for future meetings:

Tuesday 10th May 2012 – Pitzhanger Manor and Gallery (The Georgian Eating Room)

Monday 1st October – St Johns Church Lounge

Monday 11th February 2013 – St Johns Church Lounge