



Minutes of the Charlton Neighbourhood Forum Committee Meeting

Tuesday 17 May 2022 at 19:30
St Richards Hall, Swallowfield Road

Present: Jane Bland, Helen Brown (Treasurer), Paul Chapman (Vice-Chair), Philip Connolly, David Gayther, Richard Gunningham, Suzanne Hunt, Clare Loops (Chair), Rick Newman, Dave Picton, Brenda Taggart (Secretary)

Apologies: Ruth Dodson, David Gardner, Carol Kenna, Roden Richardson

Absent: Lindsey Barnett

1 Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 The community engagement strategy (see agenda)

The previous engagement brainstorm clustered (relevant to subgroups)

- i. Outreach (1 and 2): Other community group contacts
- ii. Comms (7, 8, 9, 10): Charlton Champion, other press, and Greenwich Info, Social media
- iii. Events (2, 3, 4, 5, 6): Raising awareness, building membership, workshops – these were fundamental to begin the plan

The Chair reminded the group the Plan must be 'positively prepared' with 'community as the starting point.' Community engagement was a collective responsibility, but aspects could be delegated to a working group. Our initial engagement could be with 7,000 households over two wards. Seeking the views of children could be done at a later date possibly via School Governors.

Actions:

- PC to prepare an information leaflet (mid-June) which would be multifunctional (raising awareness, encouraging community participation, expand membership, 853 blog, website etc)
- BT to prepare something shorter for RBG's Get Together (2nd June)
- RG to investigate mail-shots to the SE7 postcode
- BT to collate list of local events – all encouraged to send info to BT. BT to approach Charlton House
- JB to investigate copy for inclusion in Greenwich Info
- CL to write to membership about volunteering
- BT to collate info on volunteers

3 Creation of sub-groups of the committee (see presentation circulated to the committee)

a) Finances we need to set up the bank account, submit applications for funding, and set up book keeping systems. We could potentially draw down 10K for basic set up and 8K for technical support. It was agreed that RBG could hold the money for us in lieu. We have already incurred spending for hall hire charges etc.

Actions:

- HB to explore and open bank account
- CL, HB and DG to write funding application
- JB to liaise with HB on systems

b) Comms – this could include non-committee members

Actions

- CL to approach RD
- CL to write to membership about joining a comms groups

4 Petition (see presentation circulated to the committee)

Support was expressed for the petition. The initial focus should be residential areas, with a leaflet drop followed by door knocking, with tap into existing WhatsApp and other community social media groups.

Actions

- BT to action feedback on the wording (see the end of these minutes)
- BT develop an information leaflet
- BT co-ordinate door knocking group

5 AGM business

This item was deferred due to time constraints.

6 AOB

- BT will try and get Lee Forum to the next committee meeting
- Charlton Together – will continue to scrutinise planning applications but could morph into a sub-group of the Forum. The Chair will write to the membership seeking volunteers to become more engaged with planning applications. The Forum will have a view on issues that currently occupy CT's agendas e.g. site allocation plans, Core Strategy review etc. It was considered important that planning applications didn't sidetrack the work of the Forum.
- Charlton House – noted and discussed the moving of historical information and archives to Charlton House.

7 Date and time of next meeting

It was noted in discussion that the Labour Party meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month so we should avoid these dates if possible. Committee members should save the date of **Tuesday 6 September 2022**.

Brenda Taggart
Secretary
18 May 2022

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The Charlton (London) Neighbourhood Forum
Petition to Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG)

We the undersigned wish to

- lodge with Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) our disappointment regarding the exclusion of our street/road from the Area designated by the Charlton (London) Neighbourhood Forum;
- register with RBG our strong sense of identity as Charlton residents;
- place on record our concern that our exclusion was not debated/challenged at the relevant time, as the decision was deemed 'urgent' by Officers;
- request that RBG commits to a fully democratic and open process in any potential future reapplications for Area designation; and
- note our support for the Forum to include our area as a 'Zone of Influence' within the Charlton Neighbourhood Plan.