

**NOTES OF 22<sup>nd</sup> CANNING TOWN RESIDENTS' STEERING GROUP MEETING  
HELD VIRTUALLY ON 19.5.22 at 6pm**

**AGENDA**

	<b>Item:</b>	<b>Item Lead:</b>
1.	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	Howard Mendick
2.	<b>Housing &amp; Repairs</b>	Jon Hillier
3.	<b>Regeneration Hub launch</b>	Shabana
4.	<b>Regeneration News and Design update</b>	Alex
5.	<b>Engagement</b>	Algina Kamara
7.	<b>Newman Francis</b>	Howard Mendick, Kamahl Ahmet
8.	<b>Any other business</b>	All
	Date of next meeting: <b>Thursday, 23 June at 6.00pm</b>	All

**Present:**

**Residents:**

Ibironke O (IO)  
Sheila A (SA)  
Mustaf M (MM)  
Edward R (ER)  
Ameerah S (AS)  
Fawsia E (FE)

**NewmanFrancis, resident advisors:**

Kamahl Ahmet (KA) – Project Worker  
Howard Mendick (HM) – Chair

**London Borough of Newham:**

Maeve Dowling (MD) Senior  
Regeneration Manager  
Jon Hillier (JH) – Head, Housing  
Property Services and Works  
Commissioning Manager  
Algina Kamara (AK) – Resident  
Involvement Manager

Shabana Qadir (SQ)

**Design Team (Jestico & Wyles)**

Sade Abdul (SA) – Deft Space  
Director and Community Engagement  
Lead  
Athena – architect at J&W  
Alex – architect at J&W  
Ricardo - Co-Design process

**Presenting**

Rokiya - LEAP micro-AD

**Apologies for absence:**

Judith J, Chair Residents' Group  
Loraine, Design Team  
Dami Segun- LBN resident involvement

**Notes** (from recording): Clare Maybury

**1. Welcome and introductions**

1.1. Introductions were made and HM welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Housing Refurbishment & Repairs update**

2.1 JH gave an update on progress since the last meeting:

- 2.1.1 The tender process was complete and roofing works at Lawrence St and Formont Close would begin on Monday following notification to residents.
- 2.1.2 A letter to residents this week would give an update and timetable for internal refurbishment works. Mona St and Beckton Rd works were already in progress.
- 2.1.3 A Repairs meeting had been held. Repairs were now being completed rapidly.
- 2.1.4 In response to a query JH explained only those blocks previously painted would be re-painted, but he would clarify this and report back

2.2 **ACTION** All to escalate any delayed housing repair issues direct to Jon Hillier.

2.3 **ACTION** JH to check which blocks would be repainted, and report back to HM

2.4 Jon was thanked and left the meeting.

### 3. Regeneration Hub launch

3.1 Steering Group members were invited to have a presence at the event due to take place **this Saturday 12pm - 4pm at the Trinity centre** on Bothwell Close. Free ice cream and healthy foods; face-painting and other activities; the Regeneration team and Design team would all be present. This would help launch the opening of the Trinity Centre for regular activities and information about the regeneration. Staff attending had been asked to wear white and grey to be recognisable.

3.2 The aim was for the Design team to get to know people and open opportunities for engagement, and to help Trinity become known once again as a hub for the community and regeneration. Residents showing an interest in greater involvement could also be identified. NFL would be present at the event and had helped publicise it to residents.

3.3 Residents stated their ability to attend, and Shabana was thanked for all her work.

### 4. Regeneration news and Design update

4.1 MD spoke briefly about **governance** and the issues needing to go to Cabinet in July. This would now be delayed to September to enable more consultation and agreement on co-design principles.

4.2 Alex updated on the **completion of key stage one** (fact-finding and research). The team had been finding out as much as possible about the area and people locally. From the launch, direct contact with residents would begin in earnest. Following this, initial designs would be shared.

4.3 **Site analysis** was shared on-screen [presentation included with minutes], showing the existing buildings with the A13 running through the middle. Historically these had been seen as very separate, different areas but the team wished to see the site as a whole. Noise and air pollution were clearly major issues, basic to the whole development, and feedback was sought on all these issues:

- 4.3.1 Residents reported on **noise levels** having worsened due to deterioration of existing windows and the addition of the current works. There were fears about the next stages of the works.
- 4.3.2 Asked whether the **subway** would be retained or removed, Alex explained that both existing underpasses (one outside the redevelopment area, although it could be influenced by the team) were being considered, especially issues of lighting and security.
- 4.3.3 Residents reported they used the **existing subways** on a daily basis out of necessity but felt it was unsafe after dark, particularly in winter. It was a very important link and short-cut, although alternatives were used where possible, including taking a bus the long way round, to avoid perceived dangers. Cameras (particularly if monitored) and cleaning would help, but the underpass also flooded from time to time and the dirt and aesthetics were not pleasing.
- 4.3.4 It was felt by a number of residents that the social issues were overwhelming. A mother, for example, wanted **more sustainable and safer routes** to her daughter's school to enable future independence.
- 4.3.5 Regarding improvements made to the **Rathbone market subway entrance**, residents felt both entrances needed to be brought up to standard, and both crossings to be retained. The entrance had improved but overall improvements were not yet good enough.
- 4.3.6 The question was raised as to whether crossings needed to be underground. There had been an **overhead bridge** in the past, although this had not suited everyone. The team explained all options were currently on the table, and all plans would include addressing accessibility issues.

4.4 **Trees** were also under consideration, with the aim to retain those that were healthy.

4.5 Alex outlined future-proofing regulation covering the small risk of **flooding** in the area.

4.6 The site was also an area of many **connections** (including the new Elizabeth line) for others not living there, and the team were considering connections for them as well as those living locally, particularly the links North-South within and through the area.

4.7 Early ideas would be brought back to the group for further consultation.

- 4.8 **ACTION MD** to consider which TFL and other representatives needed to be involved in hearing residents' feedback, in addition to the Design team, and to invite them to the SG meeting to answer concerns.

## 5. Engagement update

- 5.1 AK introduced Rokeya to talk about Leap micro AD sustainable food growing systems:

- 5.1.1 A presentation was shared on-screen [included with minutes]. This showed the amount of food and garden waste produced from within London; the greenhouse gas emissions that result, and the heat-trapping effect of these emissions, particularly methane.
- 5.1.2 The LEAP model showed how, in any given building, campus or area, the methane could be processed using anaerobic digestion near to where it is produced, and made into compost, bio-gas and liquid fertiliser. These would then be used to produce new food within the area, using hydroponics (growing foods without soil) as well as in raised beds. This would eliminate waste. This had been done in other parts of London, including on the Teviot Estate in Poplar, on a small, community scale, enabling resident involvement and skills-learning.
- 5.1.3 Funding was available for such a project in Canning Town as a pilot. Potentially there could be waste management savings, a decrease in the use of fossil fuels, training and employment for local people, and better tasting, nutritionally-better, locally-grown produce.

- 5.2 Residents welcomed the ideas and the possibility of having such a system in place locally: food was seen as central to people's healthy lives, sustainability locally and globally were issues of huge importance; a way of taking back control and educating people about energy and sustainability. Employment provision would be a real bonus.

- 5.3 Residents felt it was far better to include such sustainability at the design stage of new buildings but wanted to know whether the council and other bodies would also be on board in relation to existing buildings. It was pointed out in response that the council had a major interest in improving waste management, that laws would be changing which would support such a system and that interim arrangements would be put in place if this system were to be introduced.

- 5.4 Asked how many households had benefitted from previous projects in solar generation, R explained these had been small-scale - powering, for example, a community kitchen. The extent of inclusion of solar power in the project would be a decision for the housing and regeneration teams.

5.5 With the bids due in the next month, projects would start from about September and run until 2024. The process would be competitive but the LEAP proposal would ensure all requirements, such as emissions reductions targets, were well met.

5.6 **ACTION Rokeya, MD and the Design team** to consult over a joint approach and timetables, to ensure such ecological sustainability plans are built in from the start.

5.7 **ACTION All** to contact MD and the Design Team about any aspect of this meeting's discussion, in particular the "circular economy" as presented.

5.8 Rokeya was warmly thanked for her presentation.

## 6. Engagement update

6.1 AK explained that **special interest groups** were being set up to address specific issues. A survey had shown residents' interest levels (low) and availability. The survey would now be re-circulated to stimulate more interest, with groups to be established shortly.

6.2 **Hub activities**, following the community initiatives survey, could include mother and baby groups, coffee mornings, young people's sessions, surgeries, educational activities and more. Ideas were being assessed and would be reported via the Co-Create platform. Popular ideas included an improved park with a snack shop, a gallery in the subway, and improved lighting. Votes would determine which project(s) go forward.

6.3 **ACTION KA** to recirculate the community initiatives survey via WhatsApp

## 7. Newman-Francis update

7.1 KA reported 110 residents had been contacted in the last two weeks, through **outreach** regarding the launch event. A number of issues had been raised by residents, which had then been reported back to the relevant teams. A number of residents had not been aware of the location of the Trinity Centre but were very interested in the event.

All were thanked for attending and the meeting closed.