

**NOTES OF 27th CANNING TOWN RESIDENTS' STEERING GROUP MEETING  
HELD VIRTUALLY ON 20.10.22 at 6pm**

**AGENDA**

	<b>Item:</b>	<b>Item Lead:</b>
1.	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	Kamahl Ahmet
2.	<b>Engagement Update</b>	Algina Kamara
3.	<b>Design update</b>	Ricardo Bobisse, Athina Stylianidi
6.	<b>Newman Francis update</b>	Kamahl Ahmet
7.	<b>Any other business</b>	All

**Present:**

**Residents:**

Ameerah S  
Ibironke O  
Sheila A

**Newman Francis:**

Kamahl Ahmet – Project Worker  
Jodie Stringer - outreach worker  
Lauren Stringer – outreach worker

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

**London Borough of Newham:**

Maeve Dowling, Senior  
Regeneration Manager  
Algina Kamara, Resident Involvement  
Manager

**Design Team (Jestico & Wyles)**

Riccardo Bobisse - Community  
Engagement  
Athina Stylianidi – architect

**1. Welcome and introductions**

1.1. Kamahl welcomed everyone to the meeting

**2. Engagement Update**

2.1. Algina shared details of **events** due to take place in November and December and invited members to be involved in them. They included Open Spaces and Community Infrastructure masterplans' co-design workshops on 22 Oct and 19 Nov respectively; regular surgeries; information sessions; the Community Initiatives Project and the launch of the Resident Engagement Panels. There would be a workshop on the Co-Create platform on 17 Nov and a series of social events ending two weeks before Christmas.

2.2. Algina shared a second presentation and gave an update on the **Community Initiatives Project**. The planned areas selected by the community were described in more detail and would take place between October and March. These were:

2.2.1. to improve **communal and green spaces**. These would be mapped and specific areas identified, followed by training to enable local people to maintain and look after them;

- 2.2.2. an **art project at Beckton Rd subway**, with community involvement in the process of cleaning walls and voting for locally-produced art designs;
- 2.2.3. to **support new business developments and entrepreneurship**, working with existing bodies like Newham Business and Enterprise to include mentoring, advice and workspaces.
- 2.3. *Residents asked if the subway art programme would include improvements in the current drainage. It was felt this needed to also be addressed in the short-term, and the idea of clear canopies at each entrance was raised.*
- 2.4. This had not been discussed at the meeting with TFL and was a longer-term issue but would not be part of the CIP. Contact with TFL concerning this and other issues would be ongoing. The Design Team were also in touch with TFL regarding this and other longer-term issues. Flooding was also caused by runoff from the surrounding area and may not therefore be resolved by the use of canopies
- 2.5. **ACTION Algina** and the **Design Team** to contact TFL and report back on drainage improvements in the subway.
- 2.6. Algina reported on outcomes from the **outreach report and resident feedback** given at the engagement workshops. These included a number of ideas for improvement in engaging residents:
  - 2.6.1. Publicity could stand out more to attract more attention;
  - 2.6.2. Timings of workshops and events could be improved – this had been implemented;
  - 2.6.3. Childcare was an issue for several residents – this was being tackled with the use of a crèche / children's activities
  - 2.6.4. Use of the subway – meanwhile-use and longer-term plans were under discussion (see 2.2.2);
  - 2.6.5. Language barriers; vulnerable residents; disabled residents – specific contact would now be made targeting these groups;
  - 2.6.6. Making the Vincent St regeneration more relevant to residents who feel they are not affected;
  - 2.6.7. Residents feeling their views would not be taken into account – this would be tackled with a video of local people which would be attractive, user-friendly and accessible;
  - 2.6.8. Specific events and information for home-owners
  - 2.6.9. Online events;
  - 2.6.10. A number of residents felt the council should just get on with the programme;
  - 2.6.11. The idea of incentives for attendance had also been raised. Currently this extended to panels but not workshops.
- 2.7. *Residents commented on the outcomes and agreed they had encountered similar views. Concerning the language barrier, residents were not aware of who was most affected.*
- 2.8. Polish, Bengali and Spanish had been the main languages needed locally by the N-F outreach workers. It was suggested the videos, if produced, could be translated by a local resident. Leaflets could also be simplified and include additional languages.
- 2.9. *Residents should be invited to attend workshops and events with their questions ready, and expect them to be answered.*
- 2.10. *It was reported that a number of residents were very confused by the different stages of refurbishment and regeneration development. Newham staff on site also sometimes seemed confused, including about the type of housing being built on Vincent St,*

- 2.11. It was clarified Vincent St would be 100% social housing but note was made that things were confusing. Housing questions and concerns should now start being answered by the information sessions on the housing offer.
- 2.12. Housing and Highways had been in discussion with each other to ensure better information on works happening around the area.

### 3. Design Team update (Riccardo)

- 3.1. The team had listened to feedback on the **cultural workshops**, which had been poorly attended, and would be heading out of the building to speak to residents on the street. A gazebo would be set up at the Beckton Rd junction.
- 3.2. Priorities for **streets and open spaces** would be reviewed at the coming residents' workshop using a hands-on design exercise, and with a session of jargon-busting.
- 3.3. Concerning **community-led activities**, those residents interested in running a cook-and-share session were asked for their availability, and others were asked to be involved. It was agreed this would take place after Christmas.
- 3.4. Athena shared a presentation and update, including feedback on the **masterplan workshop**.
- 3.5. The **Vincent St** planning submission was now being made, and views of the planned buildings were shared.
- 3.6. *Residents gave their own feedback on the workshop, raising the issue of connections to the Trinity Centre. Using the design tools, such as Lego, had been helpful and engaging.*

### 4. Newman-Francis update

- 4.1. Kamahl reported on recent activities including the newsletter, coffee mornings, outreach sessions and attendance at the workshops, which in future would operate a creche.

### 5. Caretaking issues

- 5.1. Although some issues (vagrancy, foxes) had been dealt with, residents raised the issue of *ongoing poor caretaking, cleaning, safety and security. There had also been damage to items caused by workmen undertaking annual services. It was felt that the current caretaking did not match the fee paid by residents, and that it should not be the responsibility of residents to be pro-active in the face of apparent unconcern from the council about the living conditions.*

#### 5.2. ACTIONS:

- 5.2.1. **Newman-Francis** to pass on to Feraz issues concerning caretaking and repair / works activity issues.
- 5.2.2. **Maeve** to ask Faraz to attend all steering groups, having received notice of issues in advance, and be able to answer them at the meeting.
- 5.2.3. **Algina / Maeve** to find out about progress on the planned drop-in reporting service at Lawrence St

### 6. Positive feedback on Housing service response

A resident reporting problems had been temporarily moved out to have her flat refurbished and was now happily back home.

The meeting was closed.