



## Minutes of Networking Meeting – Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> April 2012

### Attendees:

R Bridge – Chair – Chaplin Close TA  
D Clarson - WCDG  
S Coyte – LB Lambeth  
L Glynn - Oasis  
K Hamilton – Waterloo Action Centre  
D Tootill – Southbank Mosaics  
Cllr P Truesdale  
R Wright – AWG

**1. Apologies:** R Leech – Oasis,, , G Goddard – St John’s Church, E Elkington – Waterloo Community Development Group, M Tighe – Treasurer, Friends of Archbishop’s Park, Natalie Bell – SEI United

**2. Conflicts of interest:** none reported.

**3. Minutes of last meeting:** Minutes were accepted.

### 4. Matters arising

#### i. Neighbourhood Planning Group

No further progress to report

#### ii. Plan to have an event on the Millennium Green

This has not been progressed due to a lack of capacity amongst member organisations to take the lead on the project. However BOST, thanks to a recent grant, were now planning an market day themed event towards the end of June/beginning of July

#### iii. Elizabeth House redevelopment

It was noted that that a formal planning application had now been submitted.

#### iv. The new WaCoCo website

This is now ready and once training on its content management system and use of social media has been conducted (provisionally for 1<sup>st</sup> May), then the site will go live. Its new features were noted and approved of.

### 5. Financial Matters

It was noted that WaCoCo remained solvent and with sufficient unrestricted funds for its immediate future.

## **6. Use of under-spend from LFN monies 2011/2012**

A proposal had been received from Oasis with regards a Jubilee Jamboree to be held on the Millennium Green on the 4<sup>th</sup> June. This event would coincide with the Jubilee bank Holiday and be Waterloo's replacement for the Big Lunches planned around the country for the preceding Saturday when it was felt that residents of Waterloo would be otherwise engaged enjoying the Thames River Pageant. The event would provide music, food stalls (in partnership with Westminster Artisans) and children's entertainment.

At the request of WaCoCo board, in return for the £ 2,000 funding, Oasis agreed to acknowledge funding by WaCoCo and the LFN in all publicity, to contact all WaCoCo members to offer them a free stall for them to promote their activities and seek to engage more volunteers and to make available to Lambeth Council departments opportunities for them to engage with local residents. Sarah Coyte offered to liaise with Lucia Glynn on this last matter.

Further Lucia noted the suggestion to approach SEI United with regards them providing stewards from their core of trained young people.

Leading up to the event various groups will be involved in a world record breaking attempt to produce the longest ever piece of bunting. Suggestions were made to Lucia of groups who might participate in this such as GLAWN, the Roupell Street TA (known as LERA) and the Older Peoples' groups at WAC.

The funding was agreed.

## **7. LFN bid for 2012/2013**

A discussion was held on priorities and ideas for inclusion in WaCoCo's bid to the LFN for funds for 2012/2013.

It was agreed that the bid should contain as usual £ 4,500 to underpin the physical costs of three South Bank Forums and £ 2,000 for LFN administration and communication costs throughout the year.

There was then a discussion with regards to what other bids should be submitted that would also meet one of the four LFN chosen outcomes for the year.

Richard Bridge noted that a first offer had been made to WAC to support any proposed public engagement and consultation they might have in mind to develop their business plan and proposal to be one of the Community Hubs under the LBL Hubs policy, but that this offer had been declined.

Concern was also expressed over the lack of cooperation and partnership working by WAC in developing these ideas, and the fear that if WAC did not properly appreciate and take up the opportunities around this LBL policy that this may threaten the community's continued access to this vital asset. Concern was also expressed with regards to the dangers to the sustainability of many smaller groups and the need for a strategic view to be taken with regards the possible rationalisation of the local community sector. It was noted that WAC as an organisation ought to be well placed to take up this challenge but doubt was expressed as to whether the current leadership had the inclination to do so. The possibilities of the local community and community

sector looking to other organisations such as Oasis to take up this 'anchor' role were also discussed and noted positively.

A proposal had been received from the Waterloo Youth Strategy Group with regards a to the launch of a new way of engaging young people in shaping community/ youth services, setting goals and prioritising the youth voice to those who make decisions which affect young people. This process would look at issues which impact on young people in Waterloo, the quality of services they have, what the gaps are and how they could be addressed. The evaluation of services would be revisited on an annual basis to see if improvements have been made. The project would run throughout the year with an initial conference of young people and youth workers with opportunities for all sections of the community to engage as well. This would be followed by a series of workshops led by each of the local groups who work with young people, with all the issues and knowledge and opinions brought back into a plenary meeting in April 2013.

The whole exercise would include Oasis, SEI United, Coin Street Community Builders, The Blackfriars Settlement, Johanna Primary School, as well as smaller groups such as the Guides, St John's Youth Group and South Bank Mosaics.

It was noted that the programme would meet all of the four key outcomes agreed for the LFN borough- wide as well as being timely, given LBL's mutualisation and outsourcing of all youth provision and services currently under way.

It was agreed that Richard Bridge would draft a LFN bid based on these projects and priorities for final discussion and confirmation at the May WaCoCo networking meeting and then presentation to the LFN for appraisal at their next meeting on the 8th May.

**8. Next meeting:** Wed. 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, 8:30 am start, St Andrew's Short Street