

## ROEHAMPTON PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting of the Roehampton Partnership (RP) meeting held on Wednesday  
26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7pm at Roehampton Club and on Zoom

### Present:

The Revd Joshua Rey (Chair)	Holy Trinity Church
Deacon Kathy Johnson	Roehampton and Putney Methodist Church
Councillor Claire Gilbert	Wandsworth Borough Council (West Putney)
Mr Marc Newey	Roehampton Club (CEO)
Mr Michael Hill	Rackets Cubed
Councillor Matthew Tiller	Western Area Housing Panel and Wandsworth Borough Council (Roehampton)
Councillor Jenny Yates	Wandsworth Borough Council (Roehampton)
Councillor Aydin Dikerdem	Cabinet Member for Housing
Tessa Shields	Putney Mead Medical Practice
Councillor Steffi Sutters	Wandsworth Borough Council (West Putney)
Eleanor Merrick	University of Roehampton
Harrison Cohen	President of the Roehampton University Students' Union
Steve Fannon	Western Area Housing Panel
Graeme Henderson	Wandsworth Borough Council
Natasha Beckwood	Focal Point Opticians

### In attendance:

Nilofar Arman, Minute Taker	Roehampton Club
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## 1. Welcomes and apologies

Joshua welcomed Partnership members to the meeting and asked all to introduce themselves.

Apologies for absence were received from Tom Rowson and Pam Harris.

Joshua opened the meeting by expressing congratulations to Councillor Aydin Dikerdem, the newly appointed Cabinet Member for Housing on his appointment and welcoming him to the meeting.

## Minutes of 20 June 2022

The Minutes from the last meeting were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

## 1. Alton Regeneration

Cllr Dikerdem said that the existing masterplan would be redrawn as it only provided 43 units of social housing. Of 260 secure tenancy families who had been offered relocation packages only 80 remain. A new consultancy, Inner Circle, will be responsible for finding out what

residents need and providing options for the new plan. They will also be actively meeting with councillors. Any new scheme will be the subject of a ballot.

It is important that those outside of the regeneration area, who might face the consequences, are also part of the conversation, as well as local businesses and residents.

At the moment the Council are looking for ways to progress Block A quickly; part of that process is working out what people want. MN said that the officers do need to speak to residents and businesses to get their views but these need to be informed views.

There will be 40 council homes in Block A. The plan is to take down the fencing and creating an open play area with equipment for children. MN said that the council should be careful if things get trashed then they should not be left unrepaired. By having 2-4 estate managers will also categorically re-assure residents that actions are being taken and things are being done.

Cllr Dikerdem said that his plan is to get something done on Block A during his term of office. This block is now vacant, as families in the housing element have been rehoused.

Questioned as to what model he was trying to emulate Cllr Dikerdem said that the more relevant models were negative models of what Block A should *not* look like and to avoid issues from those negative models. Strong agreement on the importance of the library, but different views on whether its aims were best accomplished by building a new one or improving the existing building. HC said that the university students also use the library often.

The view was expressed that the Estate has been neglected for years, with no facilities for children either, and people have lost faith in the council due to inaction. MN emphasised that the trust of people will be gained through action and that council officers need to be chased and pushed to ensure results are achieved. JR also said that working with partners like MN, who has been supportive through financial aid, will help in accomplishing more good work which will gain trust and in turn make the regeneration possible.

Cllr Dikerdem said that improving the quality of life for current residents is at the forefront and that real professional opinion needs to be obtained to make this a safe place long term. The aim is to start the Block A project as soon as possible.

There are also concerns about the mismatch between what Roehampton could be and what it is and the reasons for this were enquired. Many people leave Roehampton and go to areas such as Barnes or Putney for socialising as there are no attractions to draw people into Roehampton. This causes an economical detriment as the incomes gained in Roehampton are not then spent at Roehampton. A plan, such as a festival or affordable community attractions such as cafes, needs to be put in place to bring in consumer investment.

It was also mentioned that events are not well publicised and also mostly take place during daytime. The council needs to have a better way of informing residents of events. Furthermore, there needs to be a more sophisticated process of involving people in the community by presenting them with ideas and engaging them rather than simply acknowledging their concerns. HC also mentioned that socialising options are very limited for students at Roehampton compared to areas like East Sheen that are filled with shops. The aim is to have more thriving businesses on Danebury Avenue and the High street.

Cllr Dikerdem expressed a willingness to attend future Partnership meetings. MN suggested it would be most helpful if he were to join these meetings twice a year.

### **3. Transport Proposals**

A Report and Proposals from the Transport sub-group was previously circulated.

It is the aim of the Partnership to find ways to improve the traffic in the borough and to also link this community with Richmond. This might be done by, for example, by extending the route of the K3, possibly sending it down Danebury Avenue and on into Priory lane, with access controlled by raising bollards. There is also no bus access to Richmond Park except on a Wednesday and having buses running through parks can help reduce traffic.

Cllr JY will be looking into the possibility of giving direct access from Alton Estate onto Richmond Park by having an additional gate at the Estate. However, should this go ahead then cautionary signs need to be put up for cyclists as there is a concern of cyclists crashing into pedestrians by speeding through the gate.

Councillors Clare Fraser and Aydin Dikerdem are to be kept informed of the transport proposals.

#### **4. Constitution**

A revised version of the Constitution for the Partnership was previously circulated.

The constitution is looked at every 3 years.

There is a desire to include more resident groups join the Partnership. JR and KJ will have a discussion on the requirements for eligibility to join. There is also a hope for more business leaders to join. Overall, the Partnership would like to include more diversity in its members. Furthermore, they would like to have more public settings for these meetings where the public is aware of when these meetings are and feel welcomed to join.

The forward plan is for the cabinet to let members know about upcoming Committee meetings.

The Partnership hopes to have Clare Fraser at the first meeting of the new year and also to have Inner Circle attend a meeting. Frequency of meetings are also to be discussed.

#### **7. AOB**

Item 8 of the agenda, meeting dates for 2023, postponed to next meeting.

**Meeting concluded at 21:35**

**8. Date of the next meeting – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm at Roehampton Club**