

ROEHAMPTON PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the meeting of the Roehampton Partnership (RP) meeting
held on Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 7.00 p.m.
at University of Roehampton

Present:

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| The Revd Joshua Rey | Holy Trinity Church (Chair) |
| Angus Robertson | Our Roehampton |
| Cllr Matthew Tiller | Roehampton Ward |
| Marc Newey | Chief Executive, Roehampton Club |
| Tom Rowson | Chief Operating Officer, University of Roehampton |
| Steve Fannon | Residents representative |
| James Quail | Met Police |
| Colin Cooper | Wimbledon and Putney Common Conservators |
| Deacon Kathy Johnson | Roehampton Methodist Church |

In Attendance:

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| Eliza Burrows | Minute taker |
| Nieves Carato | Local Resident |
| Anthony Arthur | Local Resident |

Online:

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| Cllr Graeme Henderson | Roehampton Ward |
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1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were given by Cllr Jenny Yates, Emma Lewis, and Orode Faka who were unable to attend.

Revd Joshua Rey (JR) welcomed Colin Cooper to his first Roehampton Partnership meeting, from Wimbledon and Putney Common Conservators.

JR welcomed the residents who were in attendance.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes of the meeting held on 15th October were held as a true and correct record of the meeting and were approved.

Angus Robertson (AR) provided a brief update on the recent communication with Clare O'Connor regarding Alton Estate Regeneration project, Wandsworth Cost of Living

Commission report (November 2023) and a paper which was presented at Wandsworth Council's Finance Committee (February 2024). The group agreed they should reach out again for further answers and clarification.

ACTION FEB25/01: JR and AR to draft a further response to Clare O'Connor on behalf of Roehampton Partnership and pursue the matter.

There were no additional matters arising.

Previous Actions

Action OCT24/01: HTA to send information that is on their website and invite the group to future events.

Action OCT24/02: Cllr Tiller to send files to Cllr Yates.

Action OCT24/03: JR to follow this action up as no response has been received by Cllr Dikerdem re allocation of funds to improve the playground. - Short update to be discussed in this meeting.

Action OCT24/04: Partnership group to send contact details to JR. This action was incomplete, but AR to send contacts to JR following this meeting.

Action OCT24/05: Cllr Yates to share this data if possible.

Action OCT24/06: Partnership to forward emails to Cllr Yates if they have recently experienced a bad bus journey. This action is ongoing.

Action OCT24/07: Cllr Yates to send petition to EL so this can be circulated further. This action was incomplete, JR to remind JY. Action complete.

Action OCT24/08: SF to draft something what the Barnes station petition would look like and circulate. - To be discussed under AOB during the meeting.

Action OCT24/09: Cllr Yates to connect with AA so she can be put in touch with the organisers at the Sheltered Housing Club. This action is ongoing.

Action OCT24/10: AR to draft initial letter, JR to write to Hospital and TR to talk to HTA – TR provided a short update on previous conversations he had had with Lidl, and HTA regarding supermarket proposals. TR also previously shared Lidl proposal with HTA and left it with them to come back to him. The committee stressed the importance of a bigger supermarket in Roehampton – these actions superceded by subsequent discussion relating to locating a supermarket on a remodelled Danebury Ave.

3. Regeneration and Housing

Cllr Aydin Dikerdem joined the meeting

Cllr Aydin Dikerdem (AD) introduced himself to the group and gave an update on the Alton Estate regeneration and housing.

There will be a workshop at the Roehampton Library on 1 March 2025. It will begin to showcase early designs of what buildings will look like in the demolition area and plans for commercial buildings and businesses.

AD indicates that the demolition of shops will be a phased approach, whereby one place is removed and another built to avoid loss of business during this phase of the project. There is also a plan to build shopping units backwards to utilise space.

AD encourages members of the public and members of the Roehampton Partnership to attend and provide their feedback and opinions at the workshop. It was stressed that there will be two more workshops at a later date.

Following the workshops, the architects will be working with residents in more focused sessions. This will be ahead of the consultation ballot in summer 2025 and the decision in autumn.

Ballot

There was a brief discussion about the ballot area and who, in the Alton Estate, would be invited to vote. The group wanted to know more about the ballot process and what the Council are hoping to achieve from the ballot in summer. **Action FEB25/02:** Cllr Aydin Dikerdem to be invited back and present a detailed plan on ballots and decisions at the July meeting.

Concerns were raised about who would be able to vote in the ballot and who wouldn't and what consequences this could cause. The Partnership did not express a view on the plan for the ballot, but some members were concerned that it should include all on whom the regeneration would have an impact (through construction traffic, as well as increased pressure on infrastructure) rather than just those in the intervention area. AD confirms that the decision on who can vote in the ballot is a collective political decision between the Council and GLA guidance. AD acknowledges the Partnership's arguments.

AD confirms that the ballot should not impact on the timeframe for any works to Block A.

Supermarket

The group addressed whether there was an opportunity for larger supermarkets in Roehampton as part of the renewal plans. Everyone agreed that it is important that residents have access to a shop where they can do their weekly shop and easily get to.

A few key determining factors were addressed, such as the need for a large car park. Nieves Carato (NC) stresses that other supermarkets in the surrounding areas do not have car parks and function well. NC also highlighted that not all residents have a car, but they do need somewhere they can easily walk to. JR stressed that the Council should consider a larger supermarket space in Roehampton as part of their plans. It was thought possible that if what replaces the blocks on the South side of Danebury Avenue were able to build back into Laverstoke Gardens this would provide the necessary footprint for a full size supermarket (Lidl or Aldi) with car park – this, if realisable, would be strongly supported.

Playground and Community Spaces

Cllr Dikerdem agreed to ask officers about plans for a playground funded by planning gain at Ibsley Gardens.

Action FEB25/03: JR to follow up and obtain plans from AD to send to the Partnership when they are ready.

AR provided a short update on a piece of work, commissioned by the Council, that Our Roehampton had undertaken with locals and businesses about what community services people use and what is needed. The group agreed that a community space in Block A will be a good improvement for Roehampton residents.

JR thanked AD for his commitment to the regeneration project and for his willingness to engage in an open-ended conversation with the Partnership.

The Roehampton Partnership **NOTED** this update.

Cllr Aydin Dikerdem left the meeting

4. Transport Update

JR tabled an update on transport in Cllr Jenny Yates (JY) absence, which included updates on the following:

Putney Heath Bus Stand

Following lobbying from the Council and Fleur Anderson MP, TfL has agreed to return the routes 14 and 37 to alighting at the Putney Heath bus stand. This arrangement is on a trial basis from 8th February to 8th March.

Other TfL bus services serving Roehampton

JY and the Council continue to lobby TfL to improve all bus services for Roehampton. Together with Fleur Anderson MP, they have also established a Putney and Roehampton Bus Taskforce. Residents have been encouraged to continue to feedback their experiences with the buses serving Roehampton, as it feeds into the need for improvement to services.

University Bus free for public use

The Council has partnered with the University of Roehampton to allow free public use of the University shuttle bus, which operates during term time. This is proving very popular with residents.

Roehampton Transport Club and the upcoming schedule for trips

The Council has launched the Roehampton Transport Club Minibus, which provides a free door-to-door service for those less able to use public transport. The service is

operated for the Council by Wandsworth Community Transport. Residents should contact them directly to book.

Regular Trips:

Every Monday – Tooting Market and St George's Hospital

Every Tuesday – ASDA Roehampton and more

Upcoming Trips:

Thursday 20th February – Knights Garden Centre, Chesham

Wednesday 5th March – Kingston Shopping Centre

Thursday 20th March – Kingston Shopping Centre

Wednesday 2nd April – Kew Gardens (free entry)

Thursday 17th April – Kew Gardens (free entry)

Putney Bridge junction and road congestion

The final phase of improvement works at Putney Bridge junction will be completed from 24th February – 4th March, when the road is resurfaced and TfL installs traffic sensors in the road. The resurfacing of the roads will take place at night, between 9pm-5am.

Hammersmith Bridge

The on-going closure of Hammersmith Bridge to vehicles causes congestion in Putney, which in turn slows down the buses and makes the services unreliable. The Department for Transport (DfT) will now look at the plans and costs for restoring the bridge, and at traffic conditions in the area. The Taskforce is expected to meet again in the spring.

District Line

Fleur Anderson MP has been working hard to improve the reliability of the District Line Wimbledon Branch, meeting with the Deputy Mayor, TfL and Network Rail. This section of the line is due for upgrading and Fleur is pushing for this upgrade and further investment in this part of the District Line as soon as possible.

Trains in the area

There is a whole fleet of new trains that will be introduced gradually on this route during the next few months. The new trains have free-flowing carriages and therefore capacity for a lot more people, which will help combat the over-crowding.

Some additional business was raised relating to transport, including 20mph zone for Roehampton Lane and Barnes being in Zone 2. The group agreed to continue to petition for these.

The Roehampton Partnership **NOTED** this update.

5. Any Other Business

Action Group meetings

The group discussed how to keep up momentum in implementing actions between meetings. It was agreed that the group would trial having an action group meeting on the second and fourth Monday of each month (6pm-6.15pm). The meetings will focus on a particular action/ project and the aim is to build a tempo of execution. The trial will last for two months, and the group will reevaluate. The first Roehampton Partnership Action Group meeting will take place on Monday 24th February and the focus will be the Barnes/ Zone 2 petition.

2026 meeting dates

The group also discussed potential meeting dates for 2026. **Action FEB25/04** - Eliza Burrows (EB) to circulate the dates to the group and report back to JR on availability.

Better working relationship between Roehampton groups

Action FEB25/05 - Secretary to add Review of working relationship between Our Roehampton and Roehampton Partnership to the agenda for 15 April 2025 meeting. This should include detailed mapping of how both groups work, and how they can work better together with the Council.

University updates

Tom Rowson (TR) provided some brief updates on the university. This included the contract with the Roehampton Bus provider, the ongoing Mount Clare dispute and the university gym being open to the public.

Membership of the group

The group briefly discussed the current membership and whether it would be beneficial to have another Roehampton business representative sit on Roehampton Partnership group, who could speak on behalf of the Regeneration project.

Action FEB25/06 - JR to speak with two local business managers (owner of the local cafe and manager from the Kings Head) about whether they would consider joining the group. JR to report back at the next meeting.

There was no other business.

6. Close of meeting

The meeting concluded at 21:02.

7. Next Meeting

Tuesday 15th April
Richmond Room, Parkstead House
University of Roehampton, Whitelands College,
Holybourne Avenue, London SW15 4JD