



Hackbridge & Beddington Corner
Neighbourhood Development Group
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www.hackbridgendg.com

Meeting Minutes

Date: 27th January 2022
Time: 19:00
Location: Via Video Conference

Present:

L Horrox (LH); N Jones (NJ); A Baker (AB); P Alfrey (PA); J Armstrong (AJ);
M Armstrong (MA); A Eckhardt-Smith (AES); G Platt (GP); S Vestey (SV);
D Tchilingirian (DT)

Future of the NDG & Neighbourhood Plan

Reconstituting the NDG & boundaries

- The NDG needs to reconstitute the forum and boundary in September. This process must be done every 5 years.
- Once our application is received by Sutton Council, the process can take up to 4 months including consultation.
- Remaining a constituted group also allows the NDG to apply for different types of funding.

Discussion: Do we want to change our boundaries to match the changes of the new Hackbridge Ward boundary?

Vote: NDG members voted to keep the southern boundary as it is as it would be disrespectful to those residents who have been so helpful in the past. It was also agreed that the northern boundary should be extended to reflect the new Hackbridge Ward map.

Membership

- To be a constituted group, the NDG needs a minimum of 21 members.
- LH attended a London-wide neighbourhood planning workshop where membership in general was discussed and how there should be different classes that residents and businesses can be members of a forum, without

having to be active, but kept informed by newsletters and ascertain their views by surveys.

Action: LH to set up membership page on website and advertise on social media.

Update to the Neighborhood Plan

- The current plan goes to 2027. We will wait for an update on what the new Planning regulations will be before looking to update.
- There might be the option to do minor amendments to the Plan before 2027.

NDG's Plan for the year ahead

- The AGM is to be held in April and further meetings/workshops to take place on how to implement our neighbourhood plan.

Continued work

Plant up Hackbridge Update

- A group of people have been brought together to start delivering the work. There are three projects yet to start; BedZED Field (mini lavender patch), fruit trees/planters on New Mill Quarter and new border plants on Hackbridge Green.
- Mile Road pocket park has been cleared by Thames Water and tidied. They have confirmed they will put in some planting and have been offered £1k from the project budget towards this.
- The Postcode lottery (£2000 funding) have been informed about the work that has been done.
- Others have since wanted to get involved with their own patches; Reynolds Close recently did some planting with the help from the NDG sourcing bulbs from Sutton Council and DT making improvements to the BedZED field and verge and getting street tree replacements.
- Next area to tidy up is the corner of London Road and Clover Way.

History of Hackbridge Project

- LH is creating an interpretation board for Hackbridge Green as part of the Plant up Hackbridge project. As only minimal information can be put on it, we decided to put a QR code to link it to our website where further information can be found.
- The website will be a living document where residents can help us put together their memories and historic facts about our area.
- LH has been in contact with Battersea Dogs Home who are delighted we want to share their history when based in Hackbridge. They are keen to interview anyone who had family who use to work for them. As this was a long time ago, direct employees likely to be deceased.

Beddington Farmlands Update

- Viridor want to submit an application to vary their planning conditions in regard to the cycle route. This has been read and responses submitted. The plan was a cycle way through the farmlands but they think settlement issues would be too great. They have suggested that the cycle path is changed to the submissive path.
- The NDG have asked Viridor to resurface the permissive path up to their lease boundary and Thames Water their section of the path, as well as a small link from the permissive path to Hackbridge Station.
- East/West routes: we have been told that as the changes only relate to what is in the approved Restoration Management Plan, we cannot ask for this to be included. This is fundamental to the whole access routes for the Farmlands. We are asking Thames Water to agree for the southern route and put in writing as part of this application in maybe the form of a Statement of Common Grounds to provide a guarantee to residents that this will happen.
- Mitcham Common Conservators are concerned resurfacing the permissive path will increase cyclists onto the common. We have since emailed Viridor and Thames Water with a suggestion of looking to bring forward the northern east/west access, so there is then a cycle path that actually goes somewhere and doesn't just stop before the common.
- The hedges proposed around the lakes are high to stop birds being spooked – we have asked to put in writing their assurances that gaps will be created to be able to look through.
- Beddington farm bird group will hopefully get access back to the site to continue the ongoing citizen science. They are currently restricted to the paths and the hides which doesn't allow good comparison as data collection has been limited. Hopefully they will be back in by spring.

Hackbridge Train Station

- NDG has been involved in trying to make the carpark safer. It has been agreed that they would go ahead with a plan that they suggested. It is not exactly what the NDG wanted, but it is better than what is currently in place.
- Responses from businesses opposite have been forwarded to GTR who oppose the scheme, but there is also suggestions it stops businesses using the car park for their work.
- Spring flowers have gone in on the bank along the station.
- Need to chase regarding a new 'Hackbridge Station' sign which has supposedly been ordered.

Developments - Elm Close

- They have received approval for 4 maisonettes, down from 6.
- The concern is that there will be no parking and people can't sign up to the PPA scheme, which will push people to park in the non-PPA areas. The Flowers Estate for example has seen a massive increase in parking since the PPA scheme of implemented.

Currently not aware of other developments being proposed.

Sewage and drainage

- DT asked a question to Sutton Council regarding flooding after heavy rain; he received an answer that the council are responsible for liaising with all relevant parties regarding this.
- Clover Way drains are a particular issue, a drain cleaner said it was a sewage issue from the Flowers Estate.
- NDG should ask council to do survey work especially within known issue areas for flooding.

A.O.B

Beddington incinerator and air pollution monitoring

- Sutton Council was challenged on their ability to monitor the air quality.
- DT managed to bring South London Waste Partnership, Viridor, Environment Agency etc. together to work out the simplest way to allow residents to complain about air pollution and smell.
- Viridor want to burn more waste, NDG should have a unified comment; need to try and get others involved in commenting as well.
- Still need to try and site some air quality monitors around but might need expert opinion to think about how to split different sources of air pollution i.e., road, incinerator etc.

Culvers Lodge

- Sutton Housing Partnership have restored it and intend to rent it out in the short term. In the long term NGD doesn't know what will happen but building on part of the garden hasn't been officially ruled out by Sutton Council.
- There is to be an open day coming up in February but unsure if it can be advertised to a wider audience at this time.

Wider grants

- Looking into Watercress Park Café/Community Outreach in conjunction with the Riverside Center. Would be looking to get lottery funding.

In person meeting

- LH to speak to DT regarding possibly booking BedZed Pavilion.

Land North of BedZED

- No progress on moped inhibitor, more statements from the council. If possible, it needs to be reviewed and actioned before spring.
- Previous statements said no access pedestrian or otherwise so currently receiving conflicting information.

Bank Account

- We have discovered belatedly that HSBC is now charging £5 per month for our bank account. Although the account looks healthy, the majority of this is earmarked for the Plant up Hackbridge project. We therefore cannot sustain this charge.

Discussion: Do we want to change our bank account to a free one?

Vote: All members agreed due to the charges to find a new account and that Julia Armstrong and Lysanne Horrox should remain named holders under the authority of 'one to sign'. The account name should be 'Hackbridge NDG' which is the same as our current account.

Action: JA to research options. Metro Bank was mentioned. [post meeting note: Metro Bank are taking new applications. Members were asked by WhatsApp to approve or reject proposal to transfer HSBC account to Metro Bank, and approval was unanimous.]

Key Roles

Chair – Lysanne Horrox
Vice Chair – Julie Carrick
Secretary – Grace Platt
Treasurer – tbc
Marketing Officer – Sheldon Vestey
Project Officer – Dave Tchilingirian
Project Officer – Peter Alfrey

Minutes approved by:

Lysanne Horrox
Chair

4 March 2022

Julia Armstrong
Member

4 March 2022