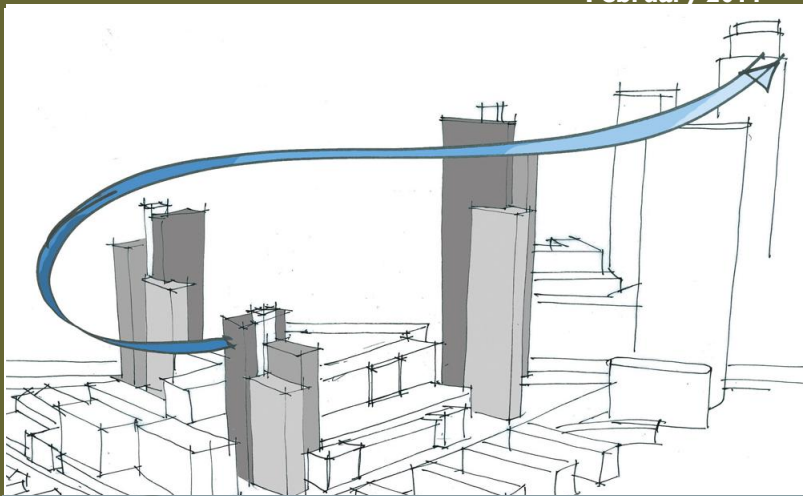


February 2011

Public meetings 2011

- 23rd March
- 18th May
- 22nd June (@ St Johns Church)
- 20th July
- 21st Sept
- 19th Oct
- 23rd Nov (AGM)



MEGA SAINSBURY'S NINE ELMS? & THE VIEW FROM SOUTH LONDON...

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PUBLIC MEETING

Wed 16th Feb

7pm—9pm

NEWS

Lambeth leaps objections and adopts new plan

In January Lambeth Council adopted a 'Core Strategy' which form the cornerstone of their new spatial plan for the borough.

Consultation on the Core Strategy in 2009 was followed by a public examination by an independent Inspector in September 2010 to which only three community groups were invited. In December the Inspector concluded that the Core Strategy was sound and that there was no need to make any significant changes.

The plans have been adopted in record time: Lambeth took six years to adopt their Unitary Development Plan in 2007, and eight years for the UDP in 1998. And in Southwark the Inspector for the Council's Core Strategy has asked for changes following a public examination last July involving over 20 community organisations.

The Core Strategy forms the overall spatial strategy, vision, strategic objectives and policies for the development of Lambeth over the next 15 years, and a framework to deliver and monitor progress. It also sets out how the council will respond to local priorities and identifies the broad locations, scale and types of development needed, along with the supporting infrastructure.

Following extensive consultation WCDG raised concerns about loss of open space in Waterloo, protection of employment sites, the proliferation of

hotels, air quality, and the absence of a clear retail strategy for Waterloo. With regeneration premised on a rapid return to economic growth, WCDG were also concerned about the lack of a plan B if the economy stagnated.

WCDG strongest objection was to the removal of long-standing aspirations to extend Jubilee Gardens over the entire Hungerford Car Park site. The site was designated as Metropolitan Open Land in 1998, but in recent years Lambeth has supported the development of a £210m national film centre on the site to replace the NFT under Waterloo Bridge. However, government withdrew funding for the scheme last July—leaving the site free to continue as central London's only riverside car park, beside Europe's second most popular visitor destination!

The Inspector chose to ignore these factors, stating that there was a need for the Southbank Centre to expand—despite the fact that it is already the largest arts centre in Europe and that there are no plans to expand...

The final adoption can be legally challenged until mid-March. In April a more detailed document will be published including policies for major sites.



Hungerford Car Park: purchased by LCC for gardens in 1930's... car park since 1951



NEWS

Imperial War Museum expansion—but park saved from development (again)

WCDG began in 1972 by successfully objecting to plans to expand the Imperial War Museum across its surrounding parkland. The Inspector agreed with local objections, and the Museum was forced to expand into its courtyard—now the central space of the Museum.

Now the Museum has appointed Norman Foster as architect for an ambitious masterplan of expansion, and to improve the experience for its visitors. The first phase will be delivered in time for national commemoration of the First World War centenary in 2014.

But expansion will be confined to within the footprint of the existing building. The Museum's internal space will be enhanced to provide new galleries and visitor services facilities that will help the Museum's wide ranging audiences, often with little direct experience of war themselves, get the most out of their visit. The long-term project will take a phased implementation approach, to commence once Foster &

Partners' spatial master plan has been approved by the Museum board, which will also launch a major fundraising appeal to support the project.

Statue of war hero Walter Tull vetoed by Southwark

Plans for a bronze statue of division one football player and army officer Walter Tull to be erected in Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park (which surrounds the Imperial War Museum) have been vetoed by Southwark Council's planning committee after objections by a number of local organisations including WCDG.

Although there was general agreement that Walter Tull was deserving of a statue, the Park was not the correct location as Tull had no connection with the area. There was support for an application at Tottenham Hotspur's ground, where he played.



WCDG argued that putting any statue on the open grass of GMH park would be setting an unwelcome precedent, and would undermine its status as Metropolitan Open Land.

2011 Census

On 27 March all residents in the UK will be taking part in the 10-year census.

The census has provided essential information about changes and trends in the population since 1801. The information enables central and local govern-

ment, health authorities and many other organisations to identify need for housing, education, health and transport services for years to come. The information is used by everybody from the fire brigade and water companies to housebuilders and supermarket chains.

The census statistics also feed

into the allocation of funding for local authorities and plays a major part in identifying need for local services in communities, so it is crucial the population estimate is as accurate as possible. WCDG relies on census information—so when the purple questionnaire envelope comes through the door, please complete it and return!

Lambeth—Co-operative Council ?

Lambeth Council launched ambitious plans in Waterloo last month, to become a 'co-operative council' delivering services in partnership with residents and service providers.

In 2010 Lambeth Council launched its Co-operative Council White Paper and launched a Commission to investigate ways of 'making this vision a reality'. The Commission gathered evidence from over 100 organisations and more than 2,000 people, who have been consulted via public events or formal surveys.

The Commission recommended sharing Council resources with partners to deliver services, and internal changes to Council working practises and culture to allow it be open to alternative ways of doing things. It also proposes 'time banking' incentives to get residents more involved in the delivery of services.

The Council is also considering different ownership models, and has included Living Space among five "early adopter" schemes across the borough, including the Living Space café/ hub, which "will be sup-



ported to implement its proposals to develop a partnership approach to the delivery of youth provision, becoming a social enterprise or equivalent".

Living Space was first developed by WCDG in partnership with Blackfriars Settlement and Lambeth Council in 1999, but has suffered funding problems and was closed in October 2010.

Waterloo subway poem to be restored

London's largest public art poem commissioned 10 years ago for the underpass at the IMAX is to be revived—after a zealous refurbishment obliterated it in 2009.

Written in a series of three-lined stepped stanzas the poem was set out so that it could be read whilst walking through the tunnel. Using the metaphor of Eurydice descending into the underworld it aimed to make walkers feel safe. As well as the classical myth, the poem's imagery makes reference to London's river history and to the famous Waterloo Station clock.

A campaign by poet Sue Hubbard's publisher received strong support for the restoration of the poem. Network Rail has finally agreed to its reinstatement, although not to funding. £1,000 was raised on Facebook and the rest of the money is being donated by risk management software provider Neural Technologies. Restoration is being undertaken by James Salisbury of the City and Guilds Art School.

New luxury penthouse atop Festival Hall?



Designs for a boat on the roof of the Southbank Centre have won a competition for a temporary installation for the London 2012 festival. Artists, writers and cultural commentators of all kinds will be invited to stay for a night and become 'thinkers-in-residence' and "encouraged to muse". If you are thoughtless but have deep pockets the boat-room will also be available for hire. Planning permission has yet to be applied for...

PLANNING DECISIONS

Address	Description	Application	Comments/Decision
Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park	Erection of a statue in memorial to Walter Tull	10/AP/0641 & 10/ AP/1361	Refused. WCDG objected along with KOV & others.
The London Eye, The Queens Walk	Installation of a temporary ice rink, chalets and ancillary chiller unit from 20th November 2010 - 5th January 2011.	10/03489/ FUL	Granted. WCDG and oth- ers raised concerns about impact and management, which were addressed by the applicant

MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Address	Description	Application	Comments to:
231–241 Blackfriars Road	Erection of a 20 Storey building with basement (max 89m AOD), providing 29,198sqm office space & 455sqm retail.	10/AP/3372	Kiran Chauhan PO Box 64529 London SE1P 5LX 020 7525 5513 planning.applications@ southwark.gov.uk
Car Park Adjacent to 47-48 Lower Marsh	To extend to the existing cycle scheme rack from the current 24 places to a maximum of 48 places.	10/04138/FUL	Ruth Smithson Lambeth Planning Phoenix House 10 Wandsworth Road, SW8 2LL 020 7926 1192 rsmithson@ lambeth.gov.uk
14 & 16 Theed Street	To extend the 2nd floor extension to the rear in various forms and cover with a green roof. One application for 16 includes a pagoda on top of the 2nd floor extension.	10/04269/FUL 10/04267/FUL 10/04266/FUL 10/04265/FUL 10/04232/FUL 10/04232/FUL	Richard McFerran Lambeth Planning Phoenix House 10 Wandsworth Road, SW8 2LL 020 7926 1205 rmcferran@ lambeth.gov.uk

LICENSING APPLICATIONS

Address	Description	Comments to:
Coffee Culture, 49 York Road	New Licence for alcohol inside and outside and dancing to recorded music inside 1700– 2400 daily	Licensing Officer 2 Herne Hill Road London SE24 0AU Phone: 020 7926 6108 licensing@lambeth.gov.uk

Minutes of General Meeting 26th January 2011

PRESENT:

Rosa Wright	Jean Bates	Mike Tuppen	Ken Hamilton
Eileen Hamilton	Margaret Mellor	Tatiana V. de Jesus	Marion Marples
David Clarson	Sue Pitman-Dalton	German Rodriguez	Von Slughtman
David Tootill	Jenny Stiles	Wendy Matthews	David Fisher
Ken Hamilton	Elizabeth Broadbridge	R Mead	Steve Dalton
Jill Hobday	Michael Ball	Shan MacIennan	L Ostendorf
L Ostendorf	Maureen Johnstone	Anne Critchley	Mark Trevathan
Ann Parnell-McGarry	Roger Davids	Andrew Richardson	Ron Lynn
CLlr Gavin Dodsworth			

APOLOGIES: CLlr Peter Truesdale Andrea Dahlberg CLlr Diana Briathwaite

1) Minutes of previous meeting—agreed

2) Matters arising—none

3) Festival of Britain 1951 – 2011: Jude Kelly (Artistic Director, Southbank Centre), Shan MacIennan (Director of Learning, Southbank Centre)

Jude explained that the Festival of Britain was a positive response to the changing face of Britain in the world after the second world war, and exhaustion and austerity at home. The 1951 Festival was audacious, stylish, and hugely popular, with a quarter of the British population attending, and it helped set the direction of British culture towards inclusivity – the UK was not the most successful multi-cultural community in Europe.

The Southbank Centre was proposing to celebrate the Festival sixty years on in 2011 with a playful homage of events running from April to September. Various ‘National Treasures’ including Ray Davies, Tracey Emin and Wayne Hemingway would curate or exhibit across four areas reflecting the 1951 ‘Lands’ of power and production, sea and ships, the land, and people of Britain. Proposals included a beach and beach huts, stairways made from shipping containers containing flower beds, wattle and daub buildings, canopies across the site, including the longest stretch of bunting in the world, a 60m high funfair ride, and an exhibition of cars and vehicles from the period. People will participate from across the UK including singing, dancing, and crafts. Each weekend is programmed with a theme including mass piano party, hip-hop, vintage fashion, Royal Wedding, Las Vegas, and ending with Liberty Festival of International artists.

There were questions about funding (answer: sponsorship from Mastercard, but it is a celebra-

tion of a period of austerity, so it is reliant upon partner institutions and individuals chipping in); about the apparent London focus (no, it involves 55 schools across the UK and wide range of artists, plus an internet Festival on-line); about the futurism of the original Festival which appears to be missing now (this is not a new Festival looking forwards, it’s a celebration of the success of our shared culture fostered by the original Festival); about access, especially to hard to reach groups (most events will be completely free, playful and open); about signposting and maps for visitors (a series of beacons proposed around the site, plus bell-ringing at appropriate moments); about reliance on volunteers as a substitute for employing people (this was about inclusiveness, many of the artists would also be volunteers). Three planning applications would be submitted in the next fortnight.

There was enthusiasm for the proposals, but concerns about the frequent lateness of planning applications by the Southbank Centre, which effectively bounced Lambeth into granting approvals without proper scrutiny. There was also concern that in Lambeth’s calculations the riverside was the largest stretch of open space for local residents, yet besides the 16m tourists annually it was used for events drawing huge crowds for months on end – the amount of loss should be calculated and planning policy should reflect this. It was agreed that a small committee of WCDG would scrutinise the planning applications in detail, particularly focusing on the impact on public realm, toilets and services, cleaning up arrangements, seating, crowd control and legacy.

4) New Station for Waterloo—Mark Trevathan, London Borough of Lambeth
Mark explained that the area of the station was

owned by two bodies, Network Rail and BRBR, who own the disused Waterloo International Terminal (WIT). There had already been consultation on the Waterloo SPD in 2008 which suggested the need to remodel or even rebuild the station to deal with problems of congestion and the need to increase the number of passengers by increasing the length of trains. NR already planned to clear the concourse of retail units in 2011 and create a retail balcony along the edge of the concourse. Phase 2 up to 2016 would accommodate 10-carriage trains in WIT, and introduce significant additional shopping areas in the mezzanine. From around 2020 some of the station will need to be rebuilt to accommodate 12-car trains, which will require platforms 1-5 to be extended across the existing concourse, and possibly demolishing the front of this south eastern end and constructing tall office buildings along Waterloo Rd to help fund the scheme. These works would require the opening up of the ground level undercroft, encouraging movement across the site at ground from Lower Marsh to York Rd. They would require planning permission, although the retail balcony would not.

Mark proposed that the key issues were improving street level entrances to the station; achieving significantly improved public realm around the station linking Lower Marsh to Waterloo City Square; getting the right balance of uses including retail, office development, community facilities, and possibly residential; ensuring views and listed buildings were protected (analysis suggested heights should not exceed those of the Union Jack club towers); and accommodating the Cornwall Rd bus garage. NR had commissioned a transport study which appeared to rule out moving the bus garage under the station. Mark agreed to share the report with WCDG. In the meantime Lambeth were investigating the arches at Hercules Rd.

There were questions about reducing train turnaround times and the impact on other stations on the network; about ensuring that a key objective is creating a properly integrated transport system, such as getting buses back under the Waterloo Rd frontage; about bringing improved connections to Lower Marsh in the short term and longer term, including exits and entrances into the station and tube from the south. There were concerns about the difficulty of getting a national service provider like NR to act in the local regenerative interests and the need for Lambeth to defend Lambeth resident's interests and businesses: the removing the bus garage from Cornwall Rd should be a very priority; improving the retail offer and connecting to Lower Marsh is also high; as

well regenerating Leake St as a major route under the station.

5) WCDG policy review: housing—Michael Ball, WCDG

Michael outlined the issues facing Waterloo when WCDG first developed its housing policies in 1974: a dramatic collapse of the residential population from around 50,000 in mainly social housing in 1939 to around 6,000 in 1972, and the resulting decay and closure of facilities and services. This decline was engineered by planning policies, but these were reversed in the 1990's and the population has been increasing since, mainly through the conversion of major office blocks into private flats. There has also been a large number of small housing co-ops emerge in the area, but the Right to Buy policies had greatly eroded the amount of affordable housing in the area. In recent years there had been a switch to conversion of office sites to hotels. Michael suggested that the key issues were protecting the balance of land uses in the area; maintaining a critical mass of housing to support local services such as schools and the shopping centre; creating genuinely affordable housing, more family housing and sheltered housing; dealing with the growth in second homes; and re-introducing space standards for accommodation.

Michael promised to return to the next meeting with a draft policy which captured those objectives

6) Any other business

The chair expressed his thanks to Dr Patricia Moberley for her sterling work as chair of Guys & St Thomas' Hospital since 1998. Happy birthday was sung to Rosa Wright OBE!



WCDG
General Meeting
Wed 16th February
7pm

- 1) **Apologies and introductions**
- 2) **Minutes of previous meeting and Matters arising**
- 3) **Redevelopment of Sainsbury's Nine Elms—Jonathan Rawnsley, Sainsbury's/ Charles Graham (Rolfe Judd architects)**
 Sainsbury's opened their flagship store at Nine Elms in 1982, with most of the site a giant open air car park. The Vauxhall/ Nine Elms area is now earmarked for massive redevelopment and intensification, and Sainsbury's propose building three towers of housing providing 750 new homes on the car park and an extended superstore, plus a new tube station for the proposed northern line extension. What do you think?
- 4) **The view from South London—Rebecca Freeman & Michael Ball (WCDG)**
 Views of London's skyline are protected in 26 places—all but three of which are in north London. How did this bias arise and what can be done about it? Are long distance views of London more important than local views? Rebecca outlines new research and Michael looks at alternatives.
- 5) **WCDG policy review: Housing—Michael Ball, WCDG**
 At January's meeting Michael outlined issues (see minutes pg 7) —what do you think our policy should be?
- 6) **Recent Planning Applications**
 - 8 Albert Embankment
 - 240 Blackfriars Road

@ Waterloo Action Centre
14, Baylis Rd, SE1 7AA

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 Company Registration: 4269850;
 Charity Registration: 1114299

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wates
foundation

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Lambeth