

Roman Road Implementation Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Roman Road Implementation Group

Location: 57a Anchorage House

Date: 1st September 2010, 1:30pm – 3:00pm

Attendees:

Council		
Cllr Josh Peck	Deputy Leader, LBTH	Councillor
Cllr Marc Francis	Lead Member for D&R	Councillor
Chris Chubb	Group Manager Local Environment Teams	CLC
Jill Embleton	Empty Property Officer	D&R
Anuradha Parmar	Urban Design and Conservation Officer	D&R
Margaret Cooper	Head of Highways and Public Realm	D&R
Christopher Horton	Town Centre Project Coordinator	D&R
Cain Duncan	Enforcement Officer, Development Decisions	D&R
David Saunders	Head of Market Services	CLC

Apologies:

Council		
Marissa Hernandez	Principle Planning Policy Officer	D&R
Louise Wallace	Neighbourhood Manager	CLC

Item		Action
1	Introductions JP asked all attendees to introduce themselves and describe their role within the Council	
2	Shopfront Improvement Programme AP advised that all shop front improvements had now been submitted for planning approval. AP and CH have been working with landlords and shopkeepers to ensure that the appropriate costings were provided, that designs were appropriate to the town centre's conservation area status and that delivery could start as soon as is practicable. CH stated that the aim was to ensure expenditure before July 2011. The level of response has been high and there are lessons that can be learnt in terms of best practice. There were concerns about 'This and That' both in terms of its eligibility and representation from the freeholder. Officers are currently looking at the waiting list to reallocate this funding. CH stated that it was his view that the property had been subject to development in the past that would need to be corrected if shopfronts had been approved at implementation stage.	
3	Markets Update CH stated that he was working with Tribal Consultants and Vision On to prepare a feasibility report on the provision of two specialist markets for the town centre. CH also stated that subject to a range of issues relating to parking, road closure and designation senior officers were advising that Friday (from afternoon into evening) would be the best day for the markets to take place in view of the problems posed by it being designated on other days. CH stated that a consensus across officers had been reached with regard to Friday being the most feasible day for delivery. JP stated that he did want the market to take place on a Friday and that Sunday would be a better day for it in terms of footfall and promotion. MF stated that he felt	

	<p>that an evening market was unlikely to be successful for the reason that most people from the wider area did not return to work via the town centre. CH stated that he would convey this response to the relevant service heads and directors. CH also stated that it would be a good idea to have a separate subgroup meeting on this in due course.</p> <p>DS updated the group on the level of pitch availability at Roman Road East Market. He informed the group that take up of market stall pitches had increased considerably and that he was very happy with the progress that had been made. MF asked that DS provide statistical information to demonstrate the increase. DS stated that he would provide this evidence.</p>	DS
4	<p>Planning Enforcement Update</p> <p>CD stated that the report had been circulated subsequent to the last Roman Road Implementation Group meeting and that he and his team had been responding to the enforcement violations highlighted within it. CD also stated that the Planning Enforcement Team would be employing a new officer and that for an initial period of three to four months this officer would be designated specifically to Roman Road.</p> <p>JP stated that he would forward a best practice example of design guidance to CH to disseminate more widely amongst the relevant officers. CH stated that it would very useful to see the guidance used by other authorities and that there was a particular issue with regards to the enforcement of shopfronts where none was provided.</p> <p>CD stated that an SPD (Supplementary Planning Guidance) on the design of shopfronts would address issues relating to size and scale of units but not the enforcement of shopfront provision specifically. CD said further to this that submitted drawings for newly developed retail ordinarily provided for a shopfront and that where a shopfront had not been provided it was because planning permission had not been adequately implemented.</p>	CH
5	<p>LETS Team Update</p> <p>CC stated that LETs have received very few complaints from Roman Road East over the last few months. CC outlined forward plans to remove commercial waste bins from streets and move to a pre-paid sack collection, Roman Road was to be covered in the second year. MF asked if Roman Road could be considered as a priority area. CC agreed to discuss this with the waste team.</p> <p>JP mentioned the state of the litter bins in Roman Road, yellow stars half peeled off and the cleanliness of the bins and asked if that could be rectified. CC agreed to ensure this was done.</p> <p>Recent festival events in Victoria Park saw the LETs work in conjunction with THEOs, Police and Markets with coverage by CCTV control to deal with environmental issues (fly-posting, leafleting, littering, emptying of litter bins etc) ticket touting and crowd control around the perimeter of the Park. This model was very successful in reducing inconvenience to the residents.</p> <p>CC mentioned the enforcement work being done by LETs to reduce fly-posting. MF mentioned fly-posters in several roads with cancelled stickers that were still present from events in July and requested their removal. CC agreed to ensure this was done.</p>	

6	<p>Public Realm Improvements</p> <p>CH stated that he had asked Urban Initiatives to draft a list of costings for the expenditure of the £700,000 of Olympic/ CLG funding that remained and that this work would help inform members and officers of possible spending options. JP confirmed that he and MF had received the Strategy and that would consult the various projects proposed within it.</p> <p>CH stated that the Fish Island link was included within the strategy and that it was strategically important due to the connections it would enable, especially to the Olympic Park. CH also stated that the LDA (London Development Agency) had expressed an interest in funding this. JP stated that his preference was for the majority of the funding to go towards core town centre projects, in particular providing electricity points to the market.</p> <p>CH will ensure that the list of projects referenced from the Roman Road Public Realm Strategy is sent to lead officers and members and will ascertain from the LDA the amount of funding they are able to provide the Fish Island link area. JP stated that he would like there to be a separate meeting to discuss projects.</p>	
7	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>CH stated that he continued to work with Bow Arts Trust on a project designed to ensure the use of empty properties for creative use and that he would update at the next Roman Road implementation group.</p> <p>JP asked what was happening with regard to the Christmas Programme. CH to consult the Neighbourhood Management Team on this request</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>CH</p>