**Public realm steering group**
19 February 2014, 6.30pm, Loughborough Centre

*Present: Anthea Masey (AM) (LJAG), Tom Bridgman (TB) Lambeth Council, Mark Dodds (MD) (resident), Victor Ferrero (VF) (SE5 Forum), Mark Trevethan (MT) Lambeth Council, Richard Ambler (RA) Lambeth Council, Cllr Rachel Heywood (RH), Stuart Gardner (SG) (resident), Walter Reed (WR) (LJAG), Tom Greenhall (TG) (DSDHA), Matt Lambert (MT) (DSDHA), Miles Judd (MJ) (resident), Mandy Mazliah (MM) minutes*

*Apologies: Danny Friedman, Peter Jacob, Clare Neeley, Tim Gaymer, Sue Bell, Phil Isaacs, Maude Estwick, Cllr Matt Parr*

1. **Welcome to new members**
* Miles Judd, Victor Ferreiro, Mark Dodds, Matt Lambert
1. **Note of the steering group 16 January 2014**
* The note was agreed
1. Matters arising
* Raw NEP data could not be shared due to data protection reasons
* Fine analysis of consultation has not yet been done, will be done for the next meeting. TB has someone who can help.
* **RA and AM to discuss cement mixers for bollards.**
* **Tim Gaymer to write a letter on behalf of LJAG about taking the Rathgar Road and Wickwood Road arches out of the proposed KIBA.**

Extra item

* MD & VF are concerned about the future of the Cambria pub. Propose that it should be a listed as an asset of community value under Localism Act. Agreed that LJAG would support this.
* **MD & VF to supply details of progress with listing Cambria pub as asset of community value to MM & AM for inclusion on LJAG website and newsletter.**
1. DSDHA presentation of preliminary ideas for public realm improvements
TG gave some background:
* Network Rail likely to work on Rathgar Road first, followed by Ridgway Road and Wickwood Street to improve the arches.
* TB is working with the Meanwhile Space group to take over the toilet block on Loughborough Road which is currently occupied by squatters. This will be used as a community space

TG then presented the options that DSDHA have come up with:

1. Billboard site (potential problems with current planning application on this site)
2. Improvements to entrance to Wyck Gardens and Loughborough Farm area on Loughborough Road.
3. Diagonal crossing at junction, remove islands. More focus on pedestrians.
4. Narrow Loughborough Road and Hinton Road making Coldharbour Lane the main route through LJ. RA – this would tie in well with this being a cycle quietway.
5. Also looking at space outside of Hero of Switzerland pub on Loughborough Road. Suggesting changing the parking to get more public space. Also mentioned the underutilized space outside Styles Gardens. This is a separate funding stream (NEP money).
* SG – big problems in LJ are road crossings and litter. **Cllr RH will ask someone to come down and look at business litter situation in LJ.**
* MJ asked if there are plans to find ways to fill empty shop units on Loughborough Road.
* RH – Lambeth are currently mapping empty commercial units, especially in Angell Town. St John’s Angell Town primary school to be rebuilt and become three-form entry.
* There was a discussion about the possible sale of the Loughborough Farm site by Lambeth to the Department for Education to build a free school for autistic children. This could have implications for the public realm improvements.
RH will support Loughborough Farm to find a new space to use if this goes ahead.
* **TG, RA, AM and WR to hold a brainstorming/creative workshop with traffic engineers to further develop these ideas before the next meeting.**
* MT confirmed that £500K available 2014/15 and a further £100K 2015/16 for these works.
1. Neighbourhood planning
Planning Aid has offered us some help to do a Neighbourhood Plan. This would give the local forum more power when it comes to planning applications. **Tim Gaymer, WR & AM to with Planning Aid people and report back at next meeting.**
2. NEP progress report
* RA – on schedule to be complete by end of March. **RA to send AM a list of what has already been done and what is outstanding.**
1. Loughborough Plan
* See section 4 above
1. Cambria Road and bridge improvements
* Tamara Froud is going to start putting remaining artworks up soon.
* Quotes for signboard have been asked for.
* Getting quotes for paving slabs.
* **WR and AM to supply an updated Cambria Road budget document to RA before the end of February.**
1. Heritage Lottery Fund
* TB agreed to go to HLF meeting with AM & WR.
1. Report of meeting with Network Rail on 7 Feb
* TB reported that it was a positive meeting.
* Network Rail is keen to start filling the empty arches. Its main focus and starting point is on Rathgar Road and is aiming for a town centre function rather than industrial. Important to make sure it doesn’t become a KIBA.
* Interested in Station Square proposals. TB to meet with GLA to discuss this. Cost of land has gone up because there is a planning application on it. Quite expensive.
1. Lambeth consultation on Overground stations
* MT reported that SDG has been commissioned to look at whether it is possible to get new Overground stops at LJ and Brixton and what the costs would be. They are also looking at whether the stations are up to modern standards.
* It looks like one additional stop is possible but two would be challenging. There are problems with the engineering of the tracks at LJ station. There is the possibility of a second entrance at the station.
* Re-opening the old Brixton East station (on Gresham Road) is looking like the most feasible option.
* A draft report is due in a few weeks so this can be discussed at next meeting.
1. Extensions of KIBAs in LJ under new Local Plan
* See section 3 above
1. Cycle route plans
* LJAG and SE5 joint project to improve walking and cycling in the area. A stakeholder meeting is due to take place on 30 April. MT to attend.
1. AOB
* RA to invite Susie (the car free day manager) to the next meeting to discuss the possibilities of some road closures in the area for Car Free Day in September.