

Crystal Palace Community Association

CPCA



Louisa **Allen**
Community Development Manager
London Borough of Bromley
Civic Centre
Stockwell Close
BROMLEY BR1 3UH

17th July 2012

Dear Ms Allen

Thank you for your responses to CPCA request for access to Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group Minutes and on associated matters, which as John Payne is occupied with CPCA affairs, have been passed to me for consideration and response.

Whilst the CPCA is sorry you take exception to assertion that procedures for selection of 'community representatives' and more specifically appointees to the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group did not follow procedures duly designated by those appointed by Bromley Council, statements in your letter of 11th June 2012 do not satisfy the concerns of the CPCA and in fact substantiate justification for complaint.

You say that ***"I take the view that whether we use the expression 'existing community groups' or individuals involved in local community activities associated with Crystal Palace Park and the local area" it amounts to the same thing"*** a view the CPCA does not share, as despite your contrary claims, distinction between the elements you say amount to the same thing is not only manifestly evident, but acute.

Since community representation necessitates appointment by others, how could this 'amount to the same thing' as an individual involved with local community activities, and furthermore, representation carries the authority of appointment whilst an individual is nothing more than a person acting randomly and without delegated authority?

I can confirm that the CPCA does ***"...place great weight on the semantics of wording..."*** as you imply, but since semantics is the branch of linguistics appertaining to meaning of words, the CPCA has no choice but to consider words relied upon by you. Although questions addressed to you remain inadequately answered or ignored totally, you responded fully on request for identification of the three ring-fenced appointees from what you describe as ***"...existing community groups..."*** in confirming them as:

Ray Sacks (Crystal Palace Working Group)
Martin Tempia (Crystal Palace Triangle Planning Group)
Victoria Papworth (Friends of Crystal Palace Park)

There is inherent implausibility to your claim that these appointments, together with those of others “...*meet the requirements of the role description of the posts.*” since there is no Crystal Palace Working Group that Ray Sacks could be a member of and you may be confused by similarity between a non-existent group and a relic of the long defunct Nigel Westaway Crystal Palace Park Stakeholder Dialogue, the Park Working Group. The Park Working Group meets irregularly co-chaired by Ray Sacks, under his dubious qualification for participation as chair of the Crystal Palace Campaign, a self-appointed ‘Steering-Group’ of about ten people with no membership, elections or accountability.

As the Park Working Group is not a community group, existing or otherwise, but a body with as many participants with vested interests as those with community association, Ray Sacks does not meet the requirements of the role description of the posts, as claimed.

The CPCA knows little of Martin Tempia, who is doubtless worthy in every respect, but the Crystal Palace Triangle Planning Group, a small number of self appointed people with membership by invitation only, is not a community association, and accordingly, Martin Tempia does not meet the stipulated condition to be from an existing community group.

Although there is clearly presumption against appointment of any with relationship with a Councillor or senior officer of the London Borough of Bromley in requirement for such declaration under **Person Specification**, Victoria Papworth, wife of Bromley Councillor Tom Papworth is given as a ring-fenced appointee in a manner suggesting she represents Friends of Crystal Palace Park, when although a member, she is not a FOCPP nominee.

These appointments are not only cause for concern but highly irregular in not complying with conditions established by the Council and by your attempts to suggest that they do.

Far more contentious is your refusal, in an email of 9 July 2012, of CPCA application under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for access to minutes of Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group meetings and the questionable justification you rely on.

It is quite evident that although you have made the refusal, this decision has effectively been made by others you may have consulted or received advice or instruction from. As you say you have discussed the request (CPCA) with both the “...*Chair of the Community Stakeholder Group...*” and the Council’s legal advisor would you kindly confirm who is Chair of the ‘Community Stakeholder Group’?

Grounds for refusal you rely upon do not withstand scrutiny for the following reasons;

1. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to Public Authorities in England. Advice you have received that *the Stakeholder Group is not a public body within the Meaning of FOIA or EIR* need not be tested as the CPCA has not applied to the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group for access to minutes of meetings, but directly to you as an officer of the London Borough of Bromley.

2. The Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group is a constituent part of the Crystal Palace Park Management Structure, as confirmed by you in writing and by the Structure-Chart produced by Bromley, and thereby, fully accountable to Bromley. It has been stated that all decisions, recommendations and initiatives by subordinate elements established by Bromley Council to address the future of Crystal Palace Park are subject to the authority the London Borough of Bromley Executive Committee. Although the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group as a constituent body clearly regulated by Bromley Council and within the jurisdiction of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 may not enjoy absolute and qualified exemption within the 23 exemptions listed in part 2 of the Act, and when, even if it did, such exemption might be time limited, the CPCA will not pursue this.

3. Your claim that “*...the Council’s rights to demand access to minutes of the group are governed by the constitution of constituent bodies.*” is untenable since the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group constitution provides at;

2.2 The Crystal Palace Park Project Board shall decide as and when to discontinue or include any element of the CGS’s role after consultation with the CSG.

3.6 Reports will be presented to the Crystal Palace Park Executive Project Board at the discretion of the CSG OR as requested by the Crystal Palace Park Executive Project Board.

3.7 All discussions and resolutions shall be recorded in the minutes at every Meeting of the CSG.

3.8.3 The meeting will receive minutes of the Crystal Palace Park Executive Board and of other stakeholder groups as appropriate.

8.2 Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by the Crystal Palace Park Executive Project Board.

From this it is evident that the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group does not have full regulation of its affairs which are subject to approval by the Crystal Palace Park Executive Board and accordingly provisions of its constitution cannot supersede the authority of the Council to exercise such authority to obtain minutes of CSG meetings. and furthermore, distribution of minutes amongst stakeholder groups is established.

You describe the Community Group as an Association, but you should find no comfort in this as under the Human Rights Act 1998, although Public Authorities and Bodies are given as those serving a government purpose or public function, private organisations can be classed as a public authority when performing duties of a public nature.

You mention that the Group has opted to provide a summary of minutes, which although well intended may not be possible as there is no provision for this in the constitution, and as you will be aware, Minutes need not be verbatim record, but must record details of resolutions and decisions and be duly confirmed as a true record in order to be valid. Summarised Minutes would also require confirmation as a true record to have validity.

Whilst it is always necessary to maintain proper balance between the right to know, the right to personal privacy and the delivery of effective government, the CPCA believes it is unlikely that the grounds for refusal you rely upon would withstand the test of the Balance of Public Interest as set out in Section 2(1)B and 2(2)B of the Act.

In October 2010, the CPCA had exchanges with Bromley Solicitor Mahtab Munshi concerning application under the Freedom of Information Act for access to minutes of cross-borough meetings concerning joint funding for Crystal Palace Park claimed to have taken place by LDA officer Mark Lloyd, during Local Public Inquiry into the LDA Crystal Palace Park Masterplan application.

In challenging refusal by Bromley for information under the Act, the CPCA submitted that information it was seeking did not relate to the establishing of a defence facility or a NATO base within the Authority, but to the restoration and regeneration of Crystal Palace Park and its historic features, which Bromley conceded in releasing the information.

Much the same situation exists where the CPCA is seeking information that is hardly sensitive or contentious, may already have been disseminated and should be readily available under Bromley's claimed policy of openness and transparency.

The CPCA is concerned that as a leading amenity society campaigning over the last ten years for preservation of Crystal Palace Park, it has been allocated a seemingly non-participatory role, together with other leading stakeholder associations, in the Structure Chart under the classification **Existing Community Stakeholders**, whilst Capel Manor College has been appointed to the London Borough of Bromley Executive Committee, which the CPCA find perverse since Capel Manor, a company providing fee paying student training whilst claiming to be a zoo, should not be in the park at all.

The same favour bestowed by Bromley upon sycophantic elements who have abandoned undertaking to 'Save Our Park', in return for recognition and participation, could easily be enjoyed by the CPCA, but the CPCA will not betray its principles.

Although the CPCA is mindful that you have a difficult task in striving for coordination of stakeholder interest in the future of Crystal Palace Park, your considered response on earlier questions and on matters raised by me would be conducive to this, and particularly as with the benefit of that most exact science hindsight, your response may be different.

Finally, I indulge my personal views in offering Bromley word of warning that persistent claim that the Masterplan is supported by the community is preposterous, as will become quite evident if threat of commercial development of Crystal Palace Park becomes reality.

Yours sincerely

Mike Warwick

From: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
To: 'cpca'
Cc: R&R freedomofinformation (Group)
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2012 5:47 PM
Subject: RE: CP Park Trust

Dear Mr Payne

Further to your e-mail of 29th May I have now discussed your request with both the Chair of the Community Stakeholder Group and the Council's legal adviser.

The latter has advised that the Stakeholder Group is not a public body within the meaning of the FOIA or EIR and, as such, the Council's rights to demand access to minutes of the Group are governed by the constitution of the constituent bodies.

Whilst the Group are required to take minutes there is no obligation on them to forward these to the Council or Management Board. Instead what they have opted to do is to provide a summary of those minutes and, as mentioned before, we will make those available as soon as they are provided.

In any event I understand that this summary will be published by the Group themselves once their own website is established.

In the meantime I regret that I must refuse your request under s1 FOIA on the basis that the Council does not hold copies of the minutes you seek. A similar reason for refusal will be advanced insofar as the summary which is due to be published contains information which might be susceptible to disclosure under the Env Info Regs.

If you wish me to do so I will, of course, forward the summary as soon as it becomes available.

I attach details of the appeal procedure operated by the Council in respect of FOI/EIR requests.

Yours Sincerely,

Louisa Allen

Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager

From: cpca [mailto:cpca@onetel.com]
Sent: 15 June 2012 11:52
To: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
Subject: Re: CP Park Trust

Dear Louisa

The CPCA now requests production of completed minutes and agendas of 'The Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group' under the Freedom of Information Act.

Regards, John

John Payne
Crystal Palace Community Association

From: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
To: 'cpca'
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2012 8:38 AM
Subject: RE: CP Park Trust

John,

The Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group will post their minutes on either our website or their own when ready to do so.
Please find attached a response to your letter of 11th May.

Best wishes, Louisa

Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager



Renewal and Recreation

Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley BR1 3UH

Telephone: 020 8464 3333 Fax: 020 8461 7890

Direct Line: 020 8313 4880 Internet: www.bromley.gov.uk

Email: louisa.allen@bromley.gov.uk DX5727 Bromley

11th June 2012

John Payne
Chair of the Crystal Palace Community Association

Dear John,

I refer to your letter of 11th May.

I resent the implication in it that I have failed to answer your earlier questions. I believe I made it quite clear how the selection of the “community representatives” as I would call them was made. You appear to place great weight on the semantics of the wording used to describe them. I take the view that whether we use the expression “existing community groups” or “individuals involved in local community activities associated with Crystal Palace Park and the local area” it amounts to the same thing. All potential applicants, including yourself, were interviewed and recommendations were made by Community Links Bromley to the Council’s Executive who made the final decision on the constitution of the Board. There was considerable discussion at that meeting last October and I am confident the Members gave full consideration to the various matters you raised.

I should point out that, of course, you are quite entitled to have an input into the Board through any lobbying you wish to make of the appointed representative groups.

Yours Sincerely,

Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager

From: cpc
To: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 1:50 PM
Subject: Re: CP Park Trust

Louisa

We are not asking for a 'summary', we are asking for the actual minutes.

Thank you, John

From: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
To: 'cpc'
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 12:26 PM
Subject: RE: CP Park Trust

John.

The group are preparing a summary of their first two meetings for the website. As soon as these are available I will let you know.

Best wishes, Louisa
Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager

From: cpc [mailto:cpc@onetel.com]
Sent: 29 May 2012 12:23
To: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
Subject: Re: CP Park Trust

Thank you Louisa.

We are considering our response.

You say that the 'Community Group' have met twice but the 'minutes' of these meetings do not currently appear to be on the LBB website. Surely the minutes of the first meeting must have been completed for consideration at the second meeting. Would you please let us have sight of these minutes along with the two agendas.

Thank you, John

John Payne, Chair

Crystal Palace Community Association

From: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
To: 'cPCA'
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 5:28 PM
Subject: RE: CP Park Trust

John,

I have reviewed my original response and feel I have addressed all the points you have addressed and raised.

The minutes from the Crystal Palace Park Management Board meetings are on the Council website.

The Community group have met formally twice, I will post these as soon as I'm able to.

Best wishes, Louisa

Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager

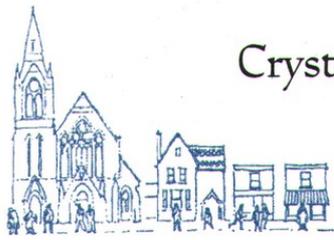
From: cPCA [mailto:cPCA@onetel.com]
Sent: 11 May 2012 17:03
To: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
Subject: CP Park Trust

Dear Louisa

Please find attached CPCA letter for your urgent attention.

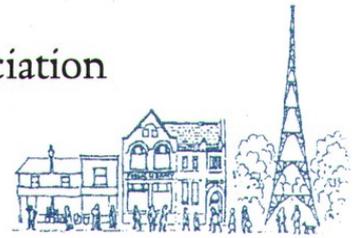
Regards, John

John Payne, Chair
Crystal Palace Community Association



Crystal Palace Community Association

CPCA



Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager
London Borough of Bromley

BY EMAIL: 11 May 2012

Dear Louisa

Thank you for your letter of the 2nd April. Regrettably, yet again, you fail to answer substantive issues of concern, raised by the CPCA, with regard to the non-representative selection process of appointees to the Community Stakeholder Board of the proposed new Crystal Palace Park Trust. Accordingly the CPCA ask that you revisit our letter to you of the 27th March 2012 and answer fully the questions raised within it. It is hardly necessary to remind you of the requirement that is upon you to answer fully, as an incumbent officer of the Council, questions put to you by individuals or groups that relate to council matters and that are of concern to them.

Before the CPCA embarks upon the official complaints procedure we would ask you for some further clarification regarding the status of firstly the 'individuals' that have been appointed and also that of the three ring-fenced positions of "*...people already involved in voluntary activities related to the Park*".

The CPCA would also like to have sight of the agendas and minutes of any meetings that have been held between the 'Community Stakeholder Group' and others.

We await with interest your most urgent response.

Yours sincerely

John Payne, Chair



Renewal and Recreation

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Email: louisa.allen@bromley.gov.uk DX5727 Bromley

2nd April 2012

John Payne
Chair of the Crystal Palace Community Association

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter dated the 27th March 2012.

The membership of the Crystal Place Park Management Board has been carefully considered and selected to ensure a wide range of community participation and expertise from all sectors. This includes elected ward councillors, local heritage, leisure and environmental expertise, regional decision making bodies.

It is proposed that this board will be in place for the length of time it takes to plan the future governance of the park. The board will react to the challenges that Crystal Palace Park will face going forward and will have the option to bring on board additional expertise if appropriate.

In response to you concerns of the membership of the Community Stakeholder Group the Council are confident that the current composition of the group meets the demands of the Crystal Palace Park terms of reference.

The individuals who have been appointed to the ring fenced posts for existing community groups are;

Rack Sacks (Crystal Palace Working Group)
Martin Tempia (Crystal Palace Triangle Planning Group)
Victoria Papworth (Friends of Crystal Palace Park)

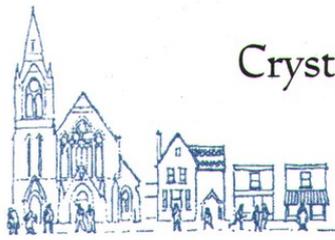
The remaining members of the group are actively involved in community initiatives and other groups in Crystal Palace and meet the requirements of the role description of the posts.

Bromley Council were committed to a fair and transparent recruitment process for the community group and used Community Links Bromley for their skills and expertise in this area.

The Crystal Palace Park Terms of reference requires that all members ensure the aims and objectives of their organisation or group are aligned with those of the Crystal Palace Park Management Board. It is also stated that should a member be acting against the best interest of Crystal Palace Park or be representing another interest they may be removed from the group. In this way the terms of reference have been designed to prevent a conflict of interest.

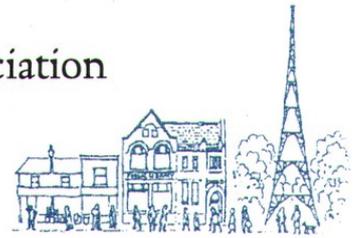
Yours Sincerely,

Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager



Crystal Palace Community Association

CPCA



Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager
London Borough of Bromley

BY EMAIL: 27 March 2012

Dear Louisa

Thank you for your email of the 27 February in answer to the CPCA email to Colin Maclean of the same date.

Disappointingly your response, on behalf of Mr Maclean, fails to answer ANY of the questions that the CPCA raised in our email to him. The CPCA's specific concerns are centred on the composition of the Community Stakeholder Group. According to your letter, "*The majority of the group **APPEAR** to take part in a number of local activities in relation to Crystal Palace and the Park*". Clearly 'appear' is insufficient justification for appointment as a community representative and we would again ask that you clarify the positions of all eleven selected appointees. Would you also please note that your letter of reply refers to only eight of the appointed 'community representatives.

Also who are the individuals who have been offered the ring-fenced posts and which organisations do they represent?

Can you also please clarify whether the posts are ring-fenced for representatives from existing local community groups, as set out in the terms of reference; " 13.1 The membership of the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group shall be by appointment only. Up to 11 membership opportunities will be advertised in the local and national press and members appointed after a formal interview process. Three of these membership opportunities will be ring-fenced for representatives from existing local community groups.", or are they as you now state "for individuals who have been involved in local community activities associated with Crystal Palace Park and the local area"

The latter suggests a shift from including community organisations and makes the following terms difficult, if not impossible, for the ring-fenced post holders to comply with:

Members of the CPP Management Board:

5.2 must have sufficient authority to speak for their organisations/sectors/partnerships and to provide worthwhile contribution to the work of the Crystal Palace Park Management Board.

5.3 must ensure that feedback is given to their nominating organisation and it is sufficiently reflected upon with action taken as appropriate and relevant feedback provided in a timely fashion and to the appropriate structure members.

The Terms of Reference, LBB trust report, Statements from 19 Oct 2011 LBB Executive, Community Links-Bromley Briefing Note are all clear that appointed nominees must be representative of the 'community' and be able to report back to their parent organisations. Unlike the CPCA that produces an informed and detailed newsletter and regular website updates, not one of the appointees or parent groups provide ANY 'feedback' to their members.

The current non-inclusive composition of the appointees fails to comply with the recommendations of the 'trust report' to the LBB19/10/11 Executive and may be seen as a failure to conduct due process and apply due diligence. Particular regard should be paid the Leader of the Council, Cllr Stephen Carr's, comments as highlighted in our Appendix.

Additionally, Bromley's 'Statement of Community Involvement' (SCI), in which the CPCA is identified and listed, is equally clear for the requirement of community participation and involvement.

Other major issues of concern are the participation of groups, some with a commercial interest, on more than one board, and the potential for a 'conflict of interest' in appointing the wife of a Crystal Palace Ward councillor to the 'community board'.

The matters raised by the CPCA are of a serious nature. Accordingly, we would respectfully ask that you first revisit our original email to Colin Maclean and answer the specific questions contained within it, along with the additional issues raised in this letter.

In an effort to further assist, please refer to the following Appendix, which is highlighted for ease of reference.

We await with interest your most urgent response.

Yours sincerely

John Payne, Chair

APPENDIX

Extract from LBB SCI

To prepare the SCI, the Council was required to actively consult and involve the community, as they are required to do in the preparation of all their local development documents (LDDs). This provided an opportunity for the community to assess the Council's existing consultation procedures on planning issues and suggest possible improvements or alterations. It also provided an opportunity for the Council to assess the various community groups to ensure that they adequately represent a cross section of the Borough, to find out if groups identified were still active and still wished to be involved, and to identify and target 'hard to reach' groups.

It is hoped that the Statement of Community Involvement will provide a series of benefits to the community such as:

- improved community cohesion and sense of inclusion
- more attention to public priorities
- an enhanced sense of contributing to the community
- an ability to influence the decision making process
- a better understanding of the way the services and the Council work

Types of groups to be approached

The Council is committed to comprehensive consultation and involving as many people and organisations as possible in drawing up its planning policies. Appendix C gives a breakdown of these, but it is considered the principal groups to be approached are:

- residents (including "hard to reach" groups)
- businesses
- developers/agents/landowners
- central, regional and local government
- statutory bodies and groups
- local strategic partnership
- interest groups, e.g. youth, health care, architectural, environmental
- local community groups / residents associations / faith organisations

2. Extract from Crystal Palace Campaign website

Incorrectly described as 'LIST OF PEOPLE SELECTED FOR THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT BOARD'.

The people selected have a wide range of experience and skills suitable to carry forward the debate and resolution of the continued governance of the park, its funding and the role it plays in the neighbourhood and further afield.

It was quite clear at the first get together that the group would not suffer from the negativity which some local people cannot escape from and which will no longer be a drag on the deliberations.

3. The Crystal Palace Campaign's Core Principles

4. The community must have a full consultative and participatory role in any proposal for the future of its Park.

4. Extract from LBB trust report

It is suggested that all community representatives including a newly recruited Community Stakeholder Group to be recruited through advertisements placed in local and national newspapers and a formal interview process to ensure that the community is fairly and appropriately represented. These opportunities will be proactively promoted to all existing community interest groups and to all other local residents in and around the area. It is suggested that Community Links could be involved in the recruitment process to demonstrate transparency.

5. Statements from 19 Oct 2011 LBB Executive

a) **Marc Hume:** The report then goes on to suggest that we set up a board with a number of working groups and **the working groups and board to comprise all of the vested interests locally**, regionally and indeed nationally who have potentially a key role to play to support the park going forward.

b) **Cllr John Getgood:** I think the Executive Board needs be more 'executive' and I would suggest that, rather than leaving it open for discussion as to who those community representatives should be, that we should actually define now that **what we actually want to see on the board is somebody who has emerged from the community and has the support of those community stakeholders.**

c) **Marc Hume:** [Refers to the proposed structure chart appendix to the report] Can I refer you to Appendix 1, with the different working groups we suggested here - **Box 3, at the bottom left, that is the various community groups in Crystal Palace that we have been in regular dialogue with. We are suggesting that that group needs to be involved throughout the process. We are suggesting that Box 4, next to it, which is the Stakeholder Group representing the community's interest** that should feed directly into the Board should have about 10 representatives in total comprising the group, which will include the Chairman.

We think that, at the moment, that should probably include **3 of the organisations listed in the community stakeholder box and an additional 5 representatives from the community**, which we are seeking to appoint, following an advertisement - that would give us 8 community representatives in that particular grouping. And further, we suggest that from that grouping, the 2 community representatives currently described upon the board would be selected by that group for the board.

Can I make just one other comment? Cllr Getgood's comments about organisations represented on the board, not just the community but others, **what we have attempted to do is to ensure that any organisation that has got a current or a future stake in the park, any organisation that is of significant weight, is involved directly from the outset** and that is why the organisations that we have flagged in Box 1 are as listed. But it might be, as time moves on we need to vary that listing.

d) **Cllr John Getgood:** **I am worried about various conflicts of interest such as with Capel Manor who are actual users of the park as much as if Crystal Palace Football Club were on the Project Board – people with an interest in how the park may go forward should actually have to make their representations to the board and not actually be part of it – that is the way I would like to see it working.**

e) **Cllr Stephen Carr:** I think it will be a moving feast. I think you know my style and I am not minded to ignore anyone's views. **We need to be as inclusive as possible if any of this is going to work.** I think that approach has to be shared by individuals as well as groups if we are ever going to get anywhere.

There has to be sort of compromise, give and take, if we are ever going to get anywhere, and if we are going to go to funding bodies, and the Mayor perhaps in the future, Mayor Johnson, of course, after May, then of course he will want to see a board that is working together, **pulling together in the best interests of the community and particularly vocal minority groups**, if I can call them that, I don't wish to insult or offend anybody, is not going to help that matter.

It is pointless, if people think we are going to get where we want to go if everyone is expecting to get everything they are expecting or wanting to get out of it. It is simply not going to happen. There will have to be compromise on all parts.

f) **Marc Hume:** ... I think we would clearly attempt to ensure that there was adequate representation in those community groups that we have been in discussion with.

I am sure it would work so long as we were sure that there is proper information and communication systems put in place.

g) **Cllr Stephen Carr:** There is an argument that if there is going to be discord, it does not matter if there is 1, 2 or 3, in many respects, I don't think we are saying it will prevent organisations having a voice, being present, putting questions to the board, being present at some of those meetings.

6. Extracts from LBB Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group Member Vacancy application pack.

The volunteer role description below relates to the general skill sets that we have identified to help progress the work of the Group. However, we are particularly interested in applicants with a knowledge or interest in green space, heritage, communications, IT, events, fundraising or finance. This is not an exhaustive list and if you feel that your skills and experience would benefit the Group we would still be very interested to hear from you.

Are you interested in championing Crystal Palace Park for the community? Have you got strong networking and communication skills and a desire to make a difference to a historic and valuable green space? Then we want to hear from you!

Applicants with a knowledge or interest in green space, heritage, communications, IT, events, fundraising or finance are particularly welcomed.

7. Vacancy: Community Stakeholder Group member

Role description

The Community Stakeholder Group will be directed to investigate and deliver projects and initiatives in Crystal Palace Park that will ensure that the overall Management Board's vision and aims are realised. Their purpose is to celebrate and promote Crystal Palace Park and to represent local community interests.

To take opportunities to engage the community in dialogue about the park

Person Specification

Experience of working in and for the community

Additional Information Are you related to a Councillor or senior officer of the London Borough of Bromley. If yes, please state her/his name

YES NO

Warning – Canvassing of, or failing to disclose relationship to a Councillor may disqualify you.

8. Extracts from Crystal Palace Park Management Board – Draft Terms of Reference

1.3 These terms of reference are being established to set the ground rules for the operation of Crystal Palace Park Management Board. The terms of reference are designed to support members in understanding their role and responsibilities and in ensuring that the business of the Crystal Palace Park Management Board is carried out in an effective, professional and transparent way.

1.4 These terms of reference should be read in conjunction with the Crystal Palace Park Management Board Structure Chart at Appendix 1.

Membership

5.1 The Crystal Palace Management Board shall include appointed representatives from the public, private, third **and community sectors** who will contribute towards delivering the pre-established purpose and aims, as set out in paragraphs 2 and 3.

5.2 Members must have sufficient authority to speak for their organisations/sectors/partnerships and to provide worthwhile contribution to the work of the Crystal Palace Park Management Board.

5.3 Members must ensure that feedback is given to their nominating organisation and it is sufficiently reflected upon with action taken as appropriate and relevant feedback provided in a timely fashion and to the appropriate structure members.

13. Membership – Community Stakeholder Group

13.1 The membership of the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group shall be by appointment only. Up to 11 membership opportunities will be advertised in the local and national press and members appointed after a formal interview process. **Three of these membership opportunities will be ring-fenced for representatives from existing local community groups.**

9. Extract from Crystal Palace Park Management Board structure chart

[Box] 3.Existing Community Stakeholders

Friends of Crystal Palace Park
Crystal Palace Working Party
Crystal Palace Triangle Planning Group
Crystal Palace Foundation
Crystal Palace Community Association
Crystal Palace Campaign
Crystal Palace Museum Trust
Norwood Society
Sydenham Society
Dulwich Society
Chamber of Commerce
Lambethans' Society
West Beckenham Residents Association
Friends of Penge Parks

[Box] 4.Crystal Palace Park Stakeholder Group - COMMUNITY

Chairman: TBC

New group to be formed

3 members to be from existing community stakeholders group [note: modified from the original]

Ward Councillor

LBB R&R Officer (Louisa Allen)

10. Extracts from Community Links-Bromley Briefing Note

With reference to the Committee report which has been approved in full by the Council's Executive Committee on 19th October 2011, the London Borough of Bromley are seeking involvement from Community Links in the recruitment of the Community Stakeholder Group to provide their expertise in engaging volunteers and to ensure a transparent and fair recruitment process.

Specification

3. To receive applications from potential community stakeholder group members by email and post
4. To shortlist candidates based on their suitability, including those for 3 membership opportunities ring-fenced for existing community groups affiliated with the park.

From: Allen, Louisa (ESD)
To: 'cpca@onetel.com'
Cc: 'colinm@communitylinksbromley.org.uk'; Brand, Colin
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2012 4:55 PM
Subject: FW: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group

John,

Colin has asked me to respond.

The terms of reference have been drawn up for the Crystal Palace Park Management Board (Development Phase). **No** Trust has been established. One of the aims of the board is to examine different governance options for Crystal Palace Park. A type of 'non profit' organisation is one of those options to be further examined.

As you know, we have created a number of stakeholder groups to create the Management Board, one of which is the Community Stakeholder Group (Box 4).

We have recruited **individuals** to this group and as suggested at the Executive on the 19th October, ring fenced 3 of these positions for individuals who have been involved in local community activities associated with Crystal Palace Park and the local area. This was to acknowledge the existing local knowledge and involvement.

The majority of the group appear to take part in a number of local activities in relation to Crystal Palace and the Park. Ray Sachs, Victoria Papworth, Martin Tempia, Sylvia Gurr, Timothy Bellenger, Keith Adams, Mehul Damani and Annabel Sidney all have been and are involved in local activities associated with Crystal Palace Park and the surrounding area.

If an individual resigns from their existing activities or group we do not see this as a problem. The motivation for recruiting a new community group was to draw in new people and local involvement with the required expertise to help make a difference.

Once established the group will decide how best to arrange it's activities in relationship to the Crystal Palace Park Management Board, terms of reference and action plan. The group will report it's activities to the Executive. The new Community Group will also consult with all existing groups and local residents to try and engage people in delivering activities, events, fundraising and raise awareness generally.

If you require any further information please give me a call to discuss.

Best wishes, Louisa

Louisa Allen
Community Development Manager

From: cpcpa <cpcpa@onetel.com>
Date: 27 February 2012 11:41:58 GMT
To: Colin Maclean <colinm@communitylinksbromley.org.uk>
Cc: "Allen, Louisa (ESD)" <Louisa.Allen@bromley.gov.uk>, "Brand, Colin" <Colin.Brand@bromley.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group
Reply-To: cpcpa <cpcpa@onetel.com>

Dear Colin

Following our meeting and my reading of the recently received Trust's 'Terms of Reference', I find myself somewhat confused over the three appointments to the 'Community Stakeholders Group' board. Can you please confirm whether an individual is appointed, who may be a member of a body or organisation, or whether a body or organisation is identified and a member of it appointed.

Although this may seem to be something of a contradiction could you please confirm if a person who was appointed as a member of an organisation, who then ceased to be a member of that organisation, would their appointment then be invalidated?

Finally, would please confirm the names of the 3 individuals that have been selected from the 'Existing Community Stakeholders' group. Would you please also confirm and the names of the organisations that they represent.

I would appreciate your most urgent reply,

Regards, John

John Payne, Chair
Crystal Palace Community Association

From: Colin Maclean
To: Colin Maclean ; cpc
Cc: Brand, Colin ; Allen, Louisa (ESD)
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2012 9:56 AM
Subject: RE: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group

Dear John,

Thank you for coming to Community House yesterday and for the time you spent with me. I hope that I was able to answer some of your questions relating to the recruitment process and, more specifically, on your own interview.

I also wanted to get back to you to confirm a few actions which I agreed to take forward. On the brief for the recruitment, I said that I would have to speak to the lead officer in LB Bromley and today have spoken to Colin Brand who has kindly agreed to send you the brief. I am copying this email to Colin for this action.

You also raised a point about how the Community Stakeholder Group will communicate with other groups (such as CPCA) and I said that that I would feed this point into the meeting of the new Group which I will be attending next week. I re-iterated that communications from this Group with all other existing groups, stakeholders and the wider community is a major priority.

Finally, I would like to wish you and the all the organizations involved with this exciting new initiative the very best for the future. I mentioned my personal view which was that this was a very early stage in new chapter for the Park and, like all new ventures, it needs some time to get going as well as to be able to review what is working and what needs refining. I look forward to hearing more about progress over coming months.

With kind regards,
Colin

Colin Maclean
Director
Community Links Bromley

From: cpc [mailto:cpc@onetel.com]
Sent: 08 February 2012 18:07
To: Colin Maclean
Subject: Re: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group

Dear Colin,

I remain concerned at the manner in which the selection of Community Stakeholders Group members was agreed.

I have revisited the recruitment pack, to which you refer, and note that in the first paragraph under 'Role description' a requirement is, "***...to represent local community interest***" and under 'Person Specification', 3rd bullet point down it states, "***Experience of working in and for the community***".

It remains unclear what is meant by the term 'Community Stakeholder' and it would therefore be helpful if you would clarify the role and explain how the selected appointees, of both individuals and societies, meet the above requirements.

Finally, I would like to take up your kind offer of providing me with 'personal feedback' on my interview with you.

Regards, John

John Payne, Chair

Crystal Palace Community Association
c/o 10 Jasper Road, London SE19 1SJ
tel/fax: 020 8670 4395
www.cpc.org.uk

From: Colin Maclean
To: John Payne
Cc: Susan Southon ; Frances McAuley
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 6:22 PM
Subject: RE: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group

Dear John,

Thank you for your email.

I would like to reassure you that the same questions were asked of all candidates and were scored by all three interviewers independently of each other.

We are not sure when the LBB will release the list of successful applicants and it has not been released to those appointed yet. I am sure that you will not have long to wait.

On 'community' qualifications, I would refer you back to the original recruitment pack which contained the role outline and the person specification requirements. The questions referred to above were specifically related to these and to enable candidates to provide as much information as possible in their answers. The information provided is then the basis for the scoring. I would be happy to provide you with personal feedback on your interview.

I hope this answers your queries.

With kind regards,

Colin

Colin Maclean

Director

Community Links Bromley

From: John Payne [mailto:johnpayne@onetel.com]
Sent: 27 January 2012 15:12
To: Colin Maclean
Subject: Re: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group

Thank you Colin

I must say that I'm not surprised that I was not successful in my application for a position on the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group, as a requirement of the post appears to require unequivocal support for the LDA Masterplan - in its entirety. Indeed one of the first questions I was asked by you was my views on the Park masterplan and its "*direction of travel*".

My somewhat cynical view is reinforced by comments made by officers and members at the 19 October 2011 Bromley Executive Committee meeting.

I would be most interested to know who was selected for the position and what their 'community' qualifications are. Perhaps you would kindly confirm?

With regards,

John

John Payne

From: Colin Maclean
To: johnpayne@onetel.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 5:58 PM
Subject: Crystal Palace Park - Community Stakeholder Group

Dear John,

Thank you for attending the interview for becoming a member of the Crystal Palace Park Community Stakeholder Group yesterday.

I regret to say that you were not successful on this occasion but would like to extend the gratitude of the panel for the efforts that you have taken to express an interest in this exciting initiative.

As you will appreciate, there was a very large response and the fact that you were shortlisted is, in itself, an achievement. I will be ensuring that the Bromley Council lead officer (Louisa Allen) is aware both of your interest and the specific knowledge and skills that you would be able to offer.

With very best wishes,

Colin Maclean
Director
Community Links Bromley
Direct Line: 0208 315 1903
Email: colinm@communitylinksbromley.org.uk
Fax: 020 8315 1924
Address: Community House, South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH
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