

Hackney Wick Fish Island | Cultural Interest Group

Minutes of the meeting on Friday 13th of September 2013
Held at: **90 Main Yard, Wallis Rd, Hackney Wick**

“Helping to establish a permanent, sustainable, creative community in Hackney Wick.”

In attendance:

Paddy Looney (Cadplan Ltd)
Isaac Marrero-Guillamón (Editor – The Wick Newspaper)
Charlotte Peel (Space Hive)
Lee Wilshire (Planning & Development joint Chair)
Jay Miller (The Yard)
William Chamberlain (chair) (London Lions Sports Foundation)
Christopher Kennedy (Wick Ward Cllr – LB Hackney)
Bean (Performance Space)
Claudia Wilmot (Get Living London)
Michael Spinks (Essex Flour & Grain)
Laura May Lewis (Hackney Wicked Festival)
Tracie Trimmer Platman (Hackney Wick Festival / Wick Award)
Theo Thomas (Thames 21)
Nancy Stevenson (University of Westminster)
Francesca Weber-Newth (University of Aberdeen)
Rebecca Feiner (Artist)
Layla Conway (LLDC)
Valli van Zijl (Land Prop)
Akim Mogasi (New Media Networks/Birkbeck Connects)
Tori Bravery (90 Main Yard)
Adriana Marques (LLDC)
Andreas Lang (Public Works)
Jacob Fairless Nicholson
Andrew MacPhee (LB Hackney)
Will Teasdale (LB Hackney)
Jo Vidler (Smokey Tails)
Douglas Thackway (Space Studios)
Laetitia Anne (Number 90)
Remi (Number 90)
Bruno (Number 90)
Yvonne Kumi (Community Link)
Simon Cole (Hackney Tours)
Paul Brickell (LLDC)

Peter Coleman (Punt Tours)
Matthieu Becker (Foxtrot)
Elsa Seignol (Foxtrot)
Vilmar Pellison (The Village)
Joe Stillion (EMBX)
Matthew (EMBX)
Seb Glover (The Colourworks)
Guillaume (Colours)
Hajni (Arbeit)

Items discussed:

The minutes of the August meeting were read out and updates given:

Wallis Road Bridge:

The bridge will be open by October.

Agenda:

Minutes of the last meeting:

1. **Adobe for Groups** - There are 100 members on creative cloud. Teachers, students and academics can access this for 15.00 per month.

Lee agreed to talk to Adobe direct to see if the HWFICIG might get group discount.
2. **Get Living London** now is to launch next month. Has 8,000 members with a resident network for the new village. The new population will be staggered. 50% is social housing.

Agenda

1. **Andreas Lang** discussed the Creating Energy project which offering bio gas and fertilizer creation workshops at the Truman Brewery 11/12/13. He is looking for a site to build an anaerobic digester.
2. **Douglas Thackway** - the White Building is now available for community use for free apart from a small cleaning fee.
3. **Paul Brickell LLDC** – Director of regeneration and community partnerships talked about the energy and positivity that he has encountered on the park. He recommended the Copper Box, BT Sport, Timber Lodge, the play park and the cafe to all. He advocated for the apprenticeship programmes that are

being developed for 60 local young people. The bridge at Wallis Road will be opened by the 1st October. He recognised the connectivity issues around the A12 and with Homerton and the fact that people need to be invited into the Wick. Tori asked if a reduction in business rates could be considered for the HWFI community and a Creative Enterprise Zone be set up with rate relief for not for profits, social enterprises, CIC's – PB agreed that this is something that could be looked at for the business community. Will Teasdale also thought that this was something that could be looked at.

PB said that Loughborough University is on site at the park which is exciting and will be expanded in 2015 and are looking to connect with HWFI.

The LLDC are talking to people about self build properties as well as work – live spaces and artist studios. They need evidence of what is available and what is needed and will be talking to this group more about this. Adriana Marques will send out a brief this afternoon for an independent study to establish evidence base and how this will work. Lee Wilshire reported that developers are happy to talk to people about what they need in terms of Work/Live which gives HWFI its unique character.

PB said that changes to HW station are ongoing.

Micheal Spinks mentioned what he called the forgotten people – his business has been severely hindered as a result of the park development and many people's health has been physically impaired by the works. Paul was not prepared to apologise for what he called 'the sins of the father' (ie LOCOG/ODA/OPLC etc) but agreed that a line needed to be drawn under what had gone before and new futures need to be created.

Fish deaths in the river Lea – Theo updated the meeting on progress. This is due to storm drains causing pollution in the river. 10,000 fish have died. Rain pollution runs into the river from the motorways. It is the most unhealthy river in the country. Eels climb out because it is so bad!! Retrofitting of sustainable drainage is a possibility and PB is happy to explore this further subject to funding. It is hoped that the park will fit similar drains.

Paul also agreed that TFL should attend a meeting so William was asked to compile a list of issues for discussion.

4. **Will Teasdale** is writing a proposal which puts together models of space/work units to new providers and contractors. Andrew McFee offers a recruitment service to employers in business. There is an evening for local residents at the Hackney Empire 18th September 5-6pm. 19 organisations are already active in recruiting apprentices and interns. Mayor match funding this project.

5. **Green Light North London** – European funding is available for a free environmental performance audit.
6. **Cultural Destinations** - the Arts Council and Visit England are looking to provide grants to consortium for 3 year projects to organisations who have previously had arts council grants since 2010. The Yard and Elevator Gallery are eligible. Stratford Rising are putting in a bid.
7. **Destination Hackney**, the Hackney wide business website aims to publicise events and cultural destinations, specially food and drink. To register contact Will Teasdale.
8. **Hackney House** are offering a programme of events to emulate what happened in Austen USA. It would be good to have a collective representation from the HWFI creative industries. **Tori** agree to take the lead on this.
9. **Simon from Hackney Tours** would like to start some official tours and would like to offer this to the HWFI groups. Tracie TP agreed to talk to Simon further about involving local residents in tours for consultation purposes.
10. **Crime and Safety in HWFI**. **Tori** suggested that we consider IP cameras which we control, community contributions, landlord engagement, security apprenticeships, crowd funding, cameras etc by way of alleviating the muggings and burglaries which have been common recently. It was agreed that there needs to be a debate with the wider community and it was suggested that everyone start talking about it. **Adriana** agreed to see who the best person to talk to about lighting on the canal would be. **Lee** agreed to get a contact at the Canal and River Trust and the SNT team will talk about it in the next meeting in October (**Will Teasdale** to invite them).
11. **Against All Odds** – **Donna Castle** introduced her launch event for special needs canal access. Launch, three course lunch and exhibition 29th September at 90 Main Yard. Contact **Donna** direct for tickets. **Peter** explained that they now have fully accessible boats which can be accessed even in a mobility scooter.
12. **Adriana Marques** – the LLDC and Arts council are funding workshops across four boroughs to which there will be an invite circulated. There is an open competition for artwork on hoardings for community engagement with CREATE. The idea is that artists and businesses come together drawing adverts for local products. There is also an open call for a

North Park programme which will be a series of low key free events. They will be working with Stour Space on a vintage Xmas fair. Interested parties should contact Adriana for further details of any of these programmes.

13. **Cedar Lewisohn - Canals Project.** WC reported that applications for 2 overseas residencies are now open!

14. **Yvonne** marketing coordinator from the Timber lodge said to watch out for a series of community engagement projects. The space is available to hire for £15 per hour.

The next CIG meeting is on Friday 11th October at 9.30am at The Yard Theatre in Hackney Wick.