Hackney Wick Cultural Interest Group

Minutes of the meeting on Friday 12th October 2012

Held at: The White Building, Queens Yard, WPL, E9

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

**In attendance:**

(MR) Martin Richman – artist

(TS) Tom Seaton – Counter Café/Crate

(TT) Tracie Trimmer – Hackney Wick Festival/Wick Award

(DE) Daren Ellis – See Studios

(WC) William Chamberlain (Chair) – Forman’s Smokehouse Gallery/Skill Town

(RB) Richard Brown – Wick Newspaper

(JP) Jim Previtt - Space

(IM-G) Isaac Marrero-Guillamón – Wick Newspaper

(FC) The Foxtrot Collective (Elsa and Matthieu)

(BB) Byron Biroli – Cre8 Lifestyle Centre

(EW) Elisha Williams – secretary/local resident

(HC) Henry Cruichshank – 1000Heads

(MW) Marek Wasniewski – Boater

(MC) Matthew Carter – Live Space Theatre Company

(LF) Liza Fior – muf

(B) Bean – Performance Space

(LH) Leon Herbert – Cre8 Lifestyle Centre

**Authorities:**

(HL) Hannah Lambert – LLDC

(AM) Adrianna Marquez – LLDC

(TE) Tim Eastop – Canal & River Trust

(CL) Cedar Lewisohn – LLDC/Canal & River Trust

**Apologies:**

(JH) Joanna Hughes – Hackney Wicked CIC

**Introductions and update**

There was an update on recent local events. **TT** reported that the Hackney Wick Festival had been a real success. **JP** reported that the Open House at the White Building was really busy and **LH** reported that the recent 70’s and 80’s night at the Cre8 centre was a success and **WC** reported that the launch of Skill Town at the Cre8 Lifestyle Centre had been very well attended. No one was present from Hackney Wicked CIC to report on the open studios but **JP** thought that it would be a good idea in future to have signposts at the White Building directing visitors to the studio buildings throughout Hackney Wick and Fish Island. **WC** asked **HL** if LLDC now had planning power for the wall under the railway bridge to install a sign there but **HL** replied that Network Rail still have jurisdiction.

**Floating Events/Mooring**

**MW** and **TS** told us that **MW**’s boats were available for use. They have been thinking about a series of moorings (A12 Undercroft, White Building, Fish Island, Land Prop, Olympic Park) on the local waterways that could host a number of rotating floating offerings – Floating Cinema, stage, performance space, market. **TS** wants to keep the boats on the water to create more activities for everyone to join. **TE** was broadly in favour of the idea. **WC** said that Water City CIC would be interested in finding out more. **MW** reported that the boats are owned by Micheal Spinks of Essex Flower & Grain (020 8985 9000) and so anyone interested in talking about this should get in contact with him. **WC** suggested that Floating Cinema could be introduced to Cre8 Lifestyle Centre who have a film specialism and might be able to provide content for local screenings.

**Hackney Wick and Fish Island Loyalty Card**

**TS** reported that he was in favour of the introduction of a discount scheme for local residents to encourage them to support local businesses (bars, cafes, restaurants, shops etc) in light of recent unavoidable price increases. There was a discussion about what level of discount should be given and how it would work. **TT** said that Wick Award might be able to support such a scheme. **TS** agreed to talk to other businesses in the area with regard to them jointly funding a possible Loyalty Card and at what level the discount should be.

**Website**

**MR** and **JP** reported on the progress of the Website development sub-committee. The domain name HackneyWick.org has been reserved. 3 possible web developers have been identified and a basic brief has been sent out. This includes 3 initial strands – a directory based on the Made In research, a what’s on of local events and an online archive of all academic work written about Hackney Wick over the last years as well as the Wick newspaper. **LF** suggested that we contact the Hackney Museum for material. The next step is to invite the 3 developers to cost and present their ideas to the group. **WC** proposed that the website is owned by the CIG. **TT** confirmed that Wick Award would pay for a part time website administrator and LH confirmed that the website could have offices at the Cre8 Lifestyle Centre. **HL** said that she would confirm the process as far as LLDC development funding is concerned. **EW** pointed out that not everyone in Hackney Wick had access to the internet and that printed materials and door to door engagement was also necessary to engage the local community. **EW** offered to go around door to door trying to get more local residents in the Hackney Wick community to take part in activities.

**TT** said that she is arranging for a door to door survey across the Wick and this can be incorporated.

**EW** also spoke about getting the community together and getting new people involved. EW said that she had lived in Hackney Wick for ten years and had never been to Queen’s Yard before. **LH** agreed that all organisations should make more of an effort to engage the local residential community. **TT** explained that that was what she was doing through the Wick Award and Hackney Wick Festival and **JP** confirmed that the White Building was also designed to help with this. Everyone agreed that these things start with small steps.

**Canal Park**

**LF** from muf said that they had been engaged by LLDC to develop a canal side park to encourage interim uses and activity along the Hackney Wick canal banks. **WC** asked if this was in addition to or instead of the interim use of buildings in the Olympic Park that Eleanor Fawcett and Esther Everett had brought up in previous meetings. **LF** said that she would like to make a more detailed presentation at a future meeting.

**Canal & River Trust**

**TE** said that the project being delivered by **CL** is coming along. **CL** confirmed that he is already working with the Cre8 Lifestyle Centre and that he wants to do a consultation to ask people what else they want to do. **MR** suggested that **CL** speak to Andy Willis at Front Side Gardens about facilitating some street art there. **WC** confirmed that he had already put **CL** in touch with Andy Willis.

**Funding Workshop**

**AM** confirmed that the workshop would take place on 7th November at the White Building between 18:00 and 20:00.

**Development Trust**

WC asked who wanted to sit on a sub-committee to look into the formation of a Hackney Wick and Fish Island Community Development Trust. **RB, TT, LH, DE, and MR** all volunteered and **TT** said that she could get a representative of the church to take part and the group agreed that either Jessica Webb or Chris Kennedy should be invited as well as their counterpart from Tower Hamlets.

**AOB**

**TT** asked if there were any materials/resources available from the Olympic Park that could be used by the HW/FI community. **HL** and **AM** said that Neil Walker at LOCOG was the person to speak to. Neil Walker’s contact details are:

Neil Walker

Community Relations Manager

Communications & Public Affairs

Direct line:  +44 (0)20 3 2012 110

Neil.Walker@london2012.com>;

**WC** proposed the formation of a 3rd Wednesday evening version of the CIG that would visit one of the local bars each month to provide networking and social benefits. The first one could be 19th December for Christmas drinks.

**Date of next meeting: Friday 9th November 9.30am, Stour Space, Fish Island.**