

Caledonian Ward Partnership meeting – 9th November 2020, 6pm-7:30pm – Minutes

In attendance:

- Cllr Sara Hyde (chair)
- Cllr Paul Convery
- Cllr Una O'Halloran

LBI officers:

- Alice Robson
- Barry Winchester
- Katie Roxburgh
- Nadine Knight
- Baljinder Heer-Matiana

18 residents

Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Hyde thanked everyone for joining and outlined Zoom etiquette and asked for no recording or photographs be taken. Because it was a small group a round of introductions was done.

What is happening in Cally

Cllr Convery gave an update on what has been happening in the borough in the last year. He outlined that there had been a mix of small scale and larger projects going on.

Some highlights included:

- The Regent's Wharf development – this will generate several £100,000 of section 106 money
- Road safety - it is busy ward with lots of traffic, action has been taken to reduce traffic including a new zebra crossing of Westbourne road
- Starting to put in a road narrowing feature on corner of Lofting Road and Hemingford Road to slow down traffic in that area, specifically to protect children
- HGV ban implemented on Copenhagen street
- Closed some streets – including Freeling street
- Cycle parking on Cally estate
- Money has been put into children's services, including playgrounds, on Cally estate for e.g.
- Money put into Thornhill square to improve football playing
- Money into Lumpy Hill
- Money into crumbles castle
- Money into Cally Festival - last year was 9th Cally Festival, Cally Festival will be funded for sure for next 4-5 years

Some of the bigger projects included work in Bingfield Park, West Library, and removal of Kings Cross Gyrotory. There are also now council officers dedicated to delivering the Cally Plan.

Introduction to the We Are Cally plan

Clr Hyde gave a short introduction to the We Are Cally Plan:

The We Are Cally Community Plan will lay out shared ambitions for Cally by 2023 and the actions that will be taken to get there, across five thematic areas:

- Better opportunities for children, young people and families
- A thriving, connected local economy that benefits everyone
- Attractive, well-used public spaces
- Improved health and wellbeing
- A strong community with a sense of belonging

Development and delivery of the plan involves collaboration between the council, statutory sector partners (e.g. NHS), voluntary and community sector organisations and residents: sharing local knowledge and insight, practical partnership work aimed at improving outcomes, and working together to make best use of resources.

Breakout sessions

The group divided into three breakout sessions to discuss the We Are Cally plan themes in more detail.

Breakout room 1

Feedback from residents:

- Cally doesn't have much of an identity apart from maybe once a year for the Cally festival but this is not sustained.
- Pavements are narrow in Cally, unlike upper street – it would be nice if money was put into the area for restaurants; would like money to go into the pavement on the east side of Cally road...simple things like that would attract companies to take a chance on the area.
- One resident asked the question on how the council is being mindful about bits of development - for e.g. Orkney house is supposed to go into development and they want to know what's happening with the community spaces at the bottom of them, it was noted that it would be a big shame if they lost those skills areas. The resident stated that they would love for the street to be filled with independent shops
- Clr Hyde noted that they didn't like to use the word 'regeneration', they are keen to focus on how they can keep Cally attractive without losing its soul.
- It was noted that LBI don't own any commercial property on Cally Road and wouldn't be handing out buildings to big chains
- Mercedes from MER-IT - a local organisation who are donating computers to schools and local orgs and people in need – stated that their organisation are currently based at peel institute but looking for a new premises.

Breakout room 2

- Health and Wellbeing. Participants were concerned about isolation especially now with Covid.
- Digital poverty was discussed. Some could access support through their laptops but many in the community do not have or do not want to use ICT.
- Phoenix Pottery was seen as a viable project to support people with disabilities and to breakdown barriers with regard to class. It has a good location.
- People felt parks were an important resource and safe spaces should be within them for youth activities.
- There was a discussion about Social Prescribing and its positive impacts on health. Some mentioned local sports facilities.
- Pollution was cited as a concern.
- Cycle lanes are welcome. There was a suggestion of having a 'Boris Bike' Station near Caledonian Road Overground station.

Breakout room 3

- Idea of a food co-op was interesting within group; could co-op model be extended to other things e.g. energy saving measures in homes
- Free food and vegetables important, encouraging healthier eating, growing own food and allotments was interesting to group
- People coming to Cally to eat/buy food – not something that happens at the moment. People go to Upper Street or other areas – class discrimination element to this
- Children's diets – work to be done – Global Generations doing work in this area
- Recent session at CYP on nutrition – interesting for young people
- Community Allotments project – CRT land – Funding to plant things, but need for maintenance support for projects like this
- Involving young people in growing
- Killick Street Surgery – positivity expressed by other residents – reflects other's experience – seeing the same doctor is important
- Pottery sessions really important for mental health
- Fitness and wellbeing activities – could the offer be mapped? E.g. of Hackney – cheap fitness classes in community centres etc.
- Conditions on estate is determinant of health

Q&A about what is happening in Cally

One resident who is an attendee of Phoenix Pottery asked what it is happening there; there was a further question from another Phoenix Pottery attendee asking if there is an update on the plans for regeneration under Orkney House.

Cllr O'Halloran replied stating that the development is in very early stages, it has not gone to planning or pre- planning. It will probably go to planning early next year, then there will be a year of getting contractors

A residents asked for an update on gyratory.

Cllr Convery replied that with regard to the gyratory, LBI had a plan with Camden and TFL which has slowed down. TFL was nervous about any changes on inner ring road because of other changes in roads in the area; at the time it was decided not to go into further discussions with TFL at that moment. It was also noted that TFL have made some changes to the Euston road recently – substantial.

Cllr Convery stated he thought the time is now right to discuss with TFL about the gyratory; TFL have said they will put 20 mile an hour restriction around the area.

A resident stated that they have been enjoying the new cycle way on York Way and wondered if there are any plans to do another one on Cally Road, and any chance to have a Boris bike station further down Cally road.

Cllr Convery stated that TFL have specific guidelines about where they put bike stands; Cllr Convery has been requesting that they put in another one further north, but noted that every single borough is asking for the same thing.

Cllr Convery noted that they do not have any plans to put a cycle lane on Cally road - Cally road is quite narrow and there are some obstacles; he is trying to encourage cycling off the main roads rather than putting them on the main road.

A resident asked a question about what is happening with the building of the Cally Resource Centre.

Cllrs responded that there is not much new happening with it right now, it might be an interim use presently.

Question about what are the timings on the Bingfield Park changes and the Cultivating Cally projects.

Bingfield: Looking at 2022 – it will be done it incrementally with some changes being done quite quickly, including priority bits of the park.

Cultivating Cally - will be filling the empty area with green area, some allotments, community growing etc.

Public Health presentation and Q&A on Covid-19

For a copy of the presentation please email katie.roxburgh@islington.gov.uk

AOB

For updates on the We Are Cally plan please visit the [webpage](#) and you can register your emails. If you would like to be invited to future Ward Partnership Meetings please email katie.roxburgh@islington.gov.uk

Katie Roxburgh to share the Public Health slides with everyone, using the email you signed up with.