

**GM Minutes**  
**10 September 2019 from 7.30 to 9.00pm**  
**Barleymow TRA Hall**  
**Brewster House**  
**Three Colt Street**  
**E14 8HU**



Present:

Helen Kenney	Vice Chair and Events Lead
Lee Carr	Treasurer and NPF Lead
Sue Stollery	Youth Ward Panel Lead
Cllr James King	Limehouse Ward Councillor: Items 1-4
Charlie Hughes	Digital Team Lead
Catherin Gilson	Member
Geoff Sumnall	Member
Therese (Terry) Patterson	Member
Derek Cutler	Member
Keith Ashden	Member
Caroline Terry	Member

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**1. Chair's opening remarks and apologies**

The Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from:

- Mark Slankard: Chair
- Lorraine Slankard: Member
- Lesley Balding: Vice Chair
- George Korchinsky: Digital Team
- Kemi Bello-Basibooduro: Antisocial Behavior Team Leader

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2019 were proposed, seconded and approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**3. Police Ward Panel update from Conor McDonnell or Sgt Andy Holdsworth**

No report

**4. Update from Cllr James King**

Councillor King provided a written statement to the meeting, which is now posted on the Members Page alongside these minutes: <https://www.limehouse.info/members-page.html>

Updates on THC PLanning requests have been posted to the relevant planning page on the web site <https://www.limehouse.info/neighbourhood-planning.html>

**De Paul House** will not be coming to the Planning Committee for a few months yet.

**Ropemakers Field** signage request to slow down cyclists, escalated to Mayor a couple of months ago as this has been outstanding for almost one year. Budget has been allocated. James is hopeful that action will be taken in the next month.

Further to the written update on Duke Shore Wharf, for which the environment agency and THC have acknowledged the failures of communication.

Terry P: Two mature trees have been lost. The Developer has agreed that two new trees for each old tree removed will be replanted in due course. Terry also asked if the local residents could get something in return for the loss of this communal space.

James reported that THC have admitted to not consulting properly.

HK has requested adequate signage on the site and a Green wall

JK is continuing to work with THC to see what other mitigations can be made, such as other greening of areas around the estate and other estate improvements.

Derek C reported that he had raised this issue with the Mayor at the site.

Terry P stated that the developer should pick up the cost of maintaining and managing the new saplings.

JK reported that there is a proposal that the old portakabin on the St Vincent's Estate could be replaced by a mosque and community space on the ground floor and two stores of social housing. This is a first draft and feedback is being sought from local residents and people who run activities on this site. THC are leading this initiative i.e. the Regeneration Department. Current activities of current portakabin will move to the new development and it is hoped that green space will replace the current portakabin.

**Malting and Brewster Houses** are not up to safety standards and structural repairs will be needed. Meetings have been held with tenants and leaseholders. Further structural tests have also been done. The Mayor will make a decision on what work needs to be done and how leaseholders will be charged. Tenants will also be compensated.

Derek C: LBTH are now classing this work as repair rather than improvement. There are many concerns and unresolved issues.

HK requested a more detailed report for the next LCF in December.

Sue S: Leaseholders and Tenants should take legal advice.

HK suggested that we ask LCF subscribers with Property Law experience for help. CH will action this via the LCF site, given suitable content.

5. **Update from Chair Mark Slankard**  
HK read out a written update from MS.

“Dear LCF Members,

Sorry that I am unable to attend tonight due to a clash of dates .  
I would like to make you aware of some future plans for the LCF and some issues we will be concentrating on in the next few months:

As you are aware the **Constitutional Working Group** has completed its works allowing the Officers and Executive Membership by convention to finalise recommendations to amend our Constitution. In due course these will be disseminated .

We continue to take an active role in the evolution of our **Limehouse Marina Basin**. Insuring that the new owners continue to appreciate the value of both long term berth holders as well as their desired leisure visitors. Long term berth holders are only protected by consumer law, and things like liability for council tax and VAT on rent need to be addressed if these Limehouse residents are to be fully protected and active members of our community.

Recently some very poor results of **air monitoring** have necessitated that the Forum bring this issue to the attention of not just our Local Authority, but to the Secretary of State and the Environmental Agency. We will be formally writing to our Member of Parliament and the Mayor of London to demand that additional steps be taken.

We are launching a programme called **CARS - Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition Scheme**. Which allows our community to publicly recognizes individuals who have gone "above and beyond" in their actions to promote and protect Limehouse. Full details will be on the website shortly. The first recipient will be "Richard", a Tower Hamlets street sweeper, -  
"Who on or about 0800 hrs on Saturday 10 August was executing his duties and observed that five cars parked along Three Colt Street, had had their windows broken for reasons of thief.

Richard called the police and kept guard over the open vehicles until the police arrived and were able to notify the owners of the cars . Richard's keen observation, respect for others and prompt action prevented further possible loss to the residents and allowed the police to properly and quickly assess the crime scene."  
I'm sure you'll agree that he is worthy first recipient.

In closing I would like to assure members that no matter how soon the next General Election will be the **LCF will organise and host a hustings event for our very important parliamentary seat, currently held by Jim Fitzpatrick**, who will be standing down  
Mark Slankard

Geoff S requested that the updated LCF Constitution document be circulated well before the next LCF meeting in order that members can have the opportunity to comment. Helen K said of course.

## 6. **Digital Working Group update from Charlie Hughes**

Charlie Hughes gave an overview of the [www.limehouse.info](http://www.limehouse.info) website. The key recent changes are:

An enhanced subscriber registration form to enable a broader range of interests and concerns

to be registered. The form also invites people to list their skills. Visitors to the homepage are invited to complete the form, whether they are existing subscribers. The form will also be promoted by email to existing LCF subscribers and via local social media. The hope is that this will both grow the overall size of the Subscriber base and enrich what we know about people's interests and concerns.

Catherine G asked how we are planning to grow the subscriber base and a discussion followed. Geoff S suggested that the LCF be promoted on the web sites of local developments. Charlie agreed and stated that he has featured LCF on the imminent Victory Place website. Geoff offered to do likewise on the Limehouse West website. Social media is the obvious method for reaching out to Limehouse residents who are not subscribed to the LCF, but it is not the only method. Flyers in local shops and in the Reception Rooms of local developments will also be considered.

Charlie went on to briefly summarise the changes to the LCF Groups, Events and Planning pages.

Catherine G posed a question about how, for example, she could get access to the LCF's subscribers who had expressed an interest in gardening. Charlie replied that all requests for mailing lists for specific communications and approaches should be requested from the Digital Team.

## **7. Neighbourhood Planning Forum update from Lee Carr**

Lee talked about the status of the Limehouse Triangle, which had fallen into disrepair. Now THC are planning to develop on it. Whilst slightly outside our boundary, this is of concern to the Planning Forum as a precedent for green space disappearing.

Terry P commented on the West Ferry station site development plans for a 30 storey tower block and urged people to get on the THC web site and object to it.

BWML are still trying to put more births into the marina and the objections to this are well documented. The planning application is in the appeal process with the secretary of state, so the onus is back on us to fight it again. You must register new objections to the appeal document. LCF Planning Forum is orchestrating an objection campaign. The objection is being argued on technical grounds e.g. incorrect claims about how much space is needed to turn a particular length of boat. Emotional arguments are also valid especially if the appeal document makes false claims about the quality of life impact on local residents.

LC in reply to TP: We are awaiting a planning proposal from THC about the Branch Road site regardless of how unsuitable the site is for residential purposes. Apparently modular homes are being considered.

## **8. LIMEgreen update**

Keith gave an update about the clean-up in Rectory Gardens, stating around 20 people were there. The expectation is that groundsmen will finish off the fence. The future of the benches is being considered.

Catherine G met with Head of Trees from LBTH. In October LBTH will cut down all dead branches on site opposite the Grapes . Other funding options are being looked at to further save our trees (e.g. deep fertilisation) in Ropemakers and elsewhere.

Keith gave an update on the Planters project. They have been painted and the next step is to move them to the Youth Centre, get them filled with soil and plants to be set in place. Tim K will communicate on this matter shortly. Helen reported that her husband Richard has been here and watering the plants whilst she was in hospital and they are in good shape!

#### **9. Events Update from Helen Kenney**

HK thanked everyone who had helped make Limefest 2019 a success and advised that Limefest 2020 will be on July 5th.

#### **10. Youth Ward Panel update from Sue Stollery**

The focus over the last few months has been a pilot project to enable the Youth Centre members to work with the children in their last year of primary school in order to induct them into the Youth Centre when they reach age 12. Around 30 children signed up for the YC activities.

The mayor has been providing free school meals to school kids during the holidays when the school is closed. This is also helping raise children's awareness of the activities of the YC.

#### **11. Any other business**

##### **11.1 London City Airport Expansion plans**

Terry P gave an overview of the LCA expansion plans and explained that Limehouse was directly affected as we are in the flight path. The plans include more flights and longer hours of flight operations. Significantly increased noise and air pollution are the main concerns. The problem is serious as Limehouse already has double the legal limit of nitrous oxide in the air. Terry urged everyone to email London City Airport.  
“Act now! You can email London City Airport at [consultation@londoncityairport.com](mailto:consultation@londoncityairport.com)  
Consultation ends 18th October.

Other local Boroughs share our concerns. LBTH have not informed residents of the impact of these plans.

Full details of the consultation and airport privacy policy can be found at [www.LondonCityAirport.com/consultation](http://www.LondonCityAirport.com/consultation)”

Terry also urged all present to support the protest against the expansion by joining [hacaneast.org.uk](http://hacaneast.org.uk).

Terry agreed to draft some content on this topic for the Limehouse.info website.

##### **11.2 Limefest Environmental impact study.**

Terry presented the highlights of her report on the environmental impact of LimeFest 2019. The key concerns being single use plastic and diesel generators to produce electricity for stall holders, musicians and the children's bouncy castle. 5 of the diesel generators were single use

and some stalls did not need the level of power provided by one of these machines. Overall she thought the event was very good .

Charlie and others stated that LCF had an ambition to substantially reduce the environmental impact of LimeFest 2020.

### 11.3 Air Quality

Lee reported on the initial stages of the AQ action project. James K is involved in helping engagement with TH Planning Department. This will include installation of AQ monitoring devices and reporting processes to warn people with chest and breathing conditions when AQ is worse than usual; and so be advised not to go out if possible.

Geoff reported that Limehouse is twice the legal limit and 30% worse than anywhere else in Tower Hamlets. It is very serious. He wanted to engage TFL traffic modelers to measure what's happening and take actions. This could include changing traffic flows and greening up Limehouse.

Terry P also commented that the Silverton Tunnel could have a significant impact on AQ in Tower Hamlets due to increased lorry traffic.

## 12. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting 4th December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Barleymow TRA Hall.  
AGM 29th January 2020 at the cruising association.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.00pm.

### LCF Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
Police Ward Panel	19/11/2019	19.30 - 21.00	Barleymow TRA Hall, Brewster House, Three Colt Street, E14 8HU
LCF General Meeting	04/12/2019	19.30 - 21.00	Barleymow TRA Hall, Brewster House, Three Colt Street, E14 8HU
Tower Hamlets Hustings	09/12/2019	19.30 - 21.00	Cruising Association, 1 Northey St, Poplar, London E14 8BT
LCF AGM	29/01/2020	19.30 - 21.00	Barleymow TRA Hall, Brewster House, Three Colt Street, E14 8HU
Limefest 2020	05/07/2020	TBA	Ropmakers Field, Narrow Street, London, E14 8BP