

SHAD THAMES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION NETWORK

Core Group meeting at the Anchor Tap – Monday, 3 November 2008

Present: Jilly Frisch
Julian Griffiths
Anna Hollingsworth
Anne Lynn
Nick Napier
Michael Place
Penelope Tay

Apologies: Pat Varney

1. The Dean Swift

Owen Bevan, Manager of the Dean Swift, attended the meeting, at his request, to talk about his plans for the Dean Swift, etc. He said that the Dean Swift was now owned by Innventive Operations, and it was likely that he would become the licence holder. He said that he had increased the price of drinks in an effort to attract quieter customers, that he planned to serve food, and he had plans to do refurbishment inside and outside. He asked if STRA could agree to “no drinks outside after 9.00pm” being changed to “10.00pm”, as he said he would have control over customers if they had drinks outside, and could ask them to come back inside if they were noisy. This was subsequently agreed to for a 3-month trial period, and communicated to him by email, and asking him to another meeting with the core group on 2 February 2009. Southwark Licensing (Rosanna Keough) was also informed.

Mr Bevan agreed that his mobile number (*available from STRA*) [REDACTED], and email deanswift@innventiveoperations.com be made available to local residents, and that he would be happy to receive calls at any time if noise became an issue.

The core group said that the main interest of local residents was that the terms of the conciliation meeting held more than a year ago be adhered to – a copy of the terms were given to Mr Bevan. It was confirmed that if the terms were breached we would have no option but to call for a Review of the licence.

2. Saturation Policy for Shad Thames

JF reported on her attendance at Southwark Council’s Licensing Committee meeting on 21 October 2008. The outcome was that a Saturation Policy would be recommended for Camberwell and Peckham, but the Committee said that most recent figures meant they could not recommend a Saturation Policy to the Council Assembly for Shad Thames. They were sympathetic to our situation – of living in a densely populated area, with plenty of bars, restaurants, etc., and dispersal noise causing public nuisance, etc. The Committee hoped that STRA would use other avenues, such as making representation to the Licensing Committee whenever a new licence or variation of a licence was applied for, or holding conciliation meetings, etc. It was recalled that STRA had on numerous occasions made representations to the Licensing Committee to have a Saturation Policy in place for Shad Thames, and that it now had to express disappointment as the difficulties remain, but both STRA and the Licensing Committee would continue to monitor the situation.

To illustrate the differences between the three areas, the following is a sample of the number of cases of Violence against the Person (VAP) and Disorder/Rowdiness for Camberwell, Peckham and Shad Thames.

	May – July 2007	May – July 2008
Camberwell		
VAP (11pm – 6am)	9	16
Disorder, Rowdiness (11pm – 6am)	64	72
Peckham		
VAP (11pm – 6am)	20	9
Disorder, Rowdiness (11pm – 6am)	44	56
Shad Thames		
VAP (11pm – 6am)	1	1
Disorder, Rowdiness (11pm – 6am)	6	5

3. Application to place tables and chairs on the highway

The Street Trading Enforcement Officer had consulted STRA on an application to place tables and chairs outside one of the restaurants on Shad Thames, giving 14 days to comment (by 17 November 2008). The core group decided that it is impractical to have obstructions placed along Shad Thames as the pavement is particularly narrow, if wheel chair users, prams/pushchairs, shopping trolleys, etc. are obliged to step off the pavement it is extremely difficult to manipulate "wheels" on the cobbled area. It was therefore agreed to contest this application, and any others which might come up in the future.

Action: JG

*(On the subject of the recommended width of pavements, research by MP has reveals that the Highways Agency recommends a minimum width of **2m**; the Department for Transport states that a clear width of **2m** should be the minimum pavement width under normal circumstances, **3m** at bus stops, and **3.5m** to **4.5m** in front of shops; Harrogate Borough Council, e.g. state that a minimum of **1.8m** must be provided for safe ... pedestrian movement; Southwark Highways Department state that the legal requirement is for a minimum of **1.25m**, but preferably **1.5m**, unobstructed pavement).*

Meeting with Pont

JF and Jonathan Baldrey, Chair BWRA had met Michael Clark, the Pont Manager, and learned that he has recruited a security person to be present along the riverside between 9.00pm and 1.00am outside Pont during the 3 weeks leading up to Christmas and for New Year. In this connection, JF and JB had suggested that a further meeting be held (on 1 February 2009) to see how this had worked out, and to also invite the managers of the other riverside restaurants along Butlers Wharf to attend, and to explore the possibility of getting them to commit to funding a similar arrangement during the summer months.

Michael Clark wanted to offer Shad Thames residents a glass of champagne in the Restaurant, and shop prices for wine in the Brasserie on Sundays and Mondays. Pont would be applying for a licence to remain open until 2.00am on New Years Eve, and if local residents were interested in entering the Bar between midnight and 2.00am, they should contact him or Cedric, the Assistant Manager, for a special ticket which would allow entry. It was agreed to allow Michael Clark to speak for 5 minutes at the Open Meeting to inform local residents of these points.

5. Open Meeting – 10 November 2008

Notices had been distributed locally, and emails sent to the STRA network. It was hoped that Eliza Mann would attend in her capacity as Mayor. Michael Place, Treasurer, would present a verbal report of STRA's finances, etc.

6. Berkeley Homes development on PFP

JF reported that PFPMT are still hoping to resolve two main issues with BH – one is that BH are planning to build right up to the edge of the Park, and the other is that the Trust wants confirmation that an annual sum would be paid to the Trust for upkeep of the Park. The Trust are meeting BH on 25 November 2008 for further discussions.

Squire & Partners would make a public presentation of the proposed development fairly soon, before putting in a planning application in January 2009.

7. Queen Elizabeth Street

STRA had been approached about the possibility of supporting speed cameras on QE Street. JG recalled that about two years ago a proposal had been put to Nick Stanton asking for support to make QE Street one-way, and making the pavement wider on the corner of QE Street and Tower Bridge Road, and having no entry from TB Road. It was decided, (with one core group member against the decision), to take this up again with Southwark as the Street was becoming a white van rat run.

Action: JF

8. Next meeting of the core group – Monday, 1 December 2008 at 7.15pm at the Anchor Tap