

SHAD THAMES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION NETWORK

Core Group meeting at Pont de la Tour - Monday, 2 February 2009

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

Guest: Owen Bevan, Manager, Dean Swift

1. The Dean Swift

Since the meeting with Owen Bevan three months ago, there have been instances of late night noise caused by people drinking outside the Dean Swift. OB said these were isolated incidents and the staff who had not monitored and dealt with the situation would be reprimanded. OB was reminded about the previous agreement that windows would be closed if music is played, in response, he said that the Dean Swift now has a "noise meter" which is used to check the outside noise levels at regular intervals during opening hours. OB was also reminded that disturbances were being monitored which could lead to local residents calling for a review of the licence, but it was hoped this would not be necessary.

2. Street Trading on Shad Thames

Southwark's Environment and Housing Department has informed Divine News and Igloo Flowers that their shop front licences would not be renewed after 31 March 2009. A long discussion ensued, particularly related to Igloo Flowers – on the one hand, it was felt that the displays of flowers in front of Igloo Flowers enhanced the area but, on the other hand, one had to acknowledge that the displays blocked the pavement, and actually were not permitted. The consensus eventually was that we had to accept Southwark's ruling, since it could not be denied that both businesses were contravening regulations by blocking the pavement. Nonetheless, it was hoped that Igloo Flowers would find a way of displaying flowers, possibly in window boxes fixed to the front of the shop, as we did not wish to see them closing down as a result of the ruling.

3. Lovage signage

On 12 January 2009 Lovage's red neon sign was not approved. The sign can remain in-situ, but it cannot be illuminated.

4. Closure of Tower Bridge

On the occasions when Tower Bridge is closed TFL have agreed that a diversion route will be provided inside the Congestion Charge zone, most likely over London Bridge, therefore, drivers who remain on the signed diversion route will not incur a penalty charge for driving within the zone.

TFL have discussed the possibility of providing a free ferry between St Katherine Docks and Butlers Wharf with Roy Tyler, at the City of London, but the City do not feel a free ferry is necessary for the initial short closure. They believe pedestrians should use buses which would be diverted across London Bridge. TFL did say, however, that TFL and London River Services, would facilitate a ferry service if this is required through their contacts with boat operators and pier owners.

It was decided to take this up with Roy Tyler, who is due to attend the April STRA core group meeting, as we would like to have a commitment for a free ferry, at least, for the envisaged longer closures.

One further issue to take up with Roy Tyler is the apparent lack of liaison between the City of London and TFL regarding the painting of the handrails/crash barriers – these are not part of the Peyeroy contract, as this is the responsibility of TFL. In spite of requests to the City of London to liaise with TFL to make sure this work is undertaken at the same time as the Peyeroy work, this will not be done, which is likely to mean further closures of the Bridge, and therefore further disruption.

5. STRA's Cleaner, Greener, Safer proposals

STRA and BWRA had met Michael Clark of Pont again, and he will obtain letters from the Managers of the Butlers Wharf bars/restaurants to support the warden arrangement which Pont had pioneered over Xmas/New Year. However, after discussion, it was agreed that STRA did not have the resources to administrate a warden scheme for the area, even if we did manage to secure CGS funding. We would therefore request funds for Community Support Officers to patrol the area between 11.00pm and 1.00am from Thursdays to Saturdays, or Sundays.

Note: Since the discussion it has been discovered that CGS funding will not support salaries, therefore, funding for this proposal will not be forthcoming from CGS. It will now be pursued direct with the Riverside Ward Community Support Officers.

The other CGS proposal is to make Queen Elizabeth Street one-way – this has been “on the table” for several years, and the recent Open Meeting drew attention to the many accidents, and precarious crossings experienced by mothers with push-chairs and young children. The increased traffic as a result of QE St being used as a rat-run to avoid the traffic lights on the corner of Tower Bridge Road and Tooley Street means the problems previously experienced have become much worse.

6. Berkeley Homes Development

JF reported that the most recent proposal related to the development and Potters Fields Park, which Gross Max had been involved in, was that there would be only one larger entrance into the Park from the development, and that a series of fountains would “block” pedestrians from walking N/S across the park, pedestrians would have to enter and exit the development from E or W. The recent drawings shown to PFPMT had not included the boundary line, and JF had said this was the most important missing element as far as STRA is concerned, and this should be provided ASAP.

7. Hanging flower baskets

STRA expressed thanks to Team London Bid for providing the hanging flower baskets on Queen Elizabeth Street, Gainsford Street and Horseley Down Lane.

8. Diabetes UK Appeal by Eliza Mann, Mayor of Southwark

It was agreed that STRA would donate £100 to Diabetes UK, the charity supported by Eliza Mann during her term as Mayor of Southwark.

9. www.shadthames.org and www.shadthames.com

JG said that now that he has more time he intends to develop the www.shadthames.com site to become a directory of local services, and he would also solicit advertising, etc. for the site. It was agreed that two sites have to be completely separate, but that it was preferable that JG would control the [.com](http://www.shadthames.com) site, rather than someone else who could well impinge on the STRA [.org](http://www.shadthames.org) area.

10. Open meeting – Monday, 6 April 2009

Nadia Broccardo, Director, Team London Bridge BID has agreed to give a presentation, also Nick Stanton will speak about the latest Berkeley Homes developments.

Next meeting – Monday, 2 March 2009 at 7.15pm at the Anchor Tap