

**GARRATT BUSINESS PARK  
PUBLIC MEETING  
Wednesday 18th April 2012, 15.30pm  
held at Malcolm Ryan Studios**

*ATTENDEES*

BID BOARD - Derek Smith, Keith Stringer, Mahesh Rawal, John Ruske  
BID Coordinator- Judith Roscoe  
BID Maintenance person- Eddie Webb

*BUSINESSES*

Boldfort – Sue Houlding, Stephen Houlding  
CPS Supply Company – Mike Powell  
Maskell – Bruce Maskell  
Ryan Jayberg – Raman Patel  
TUK – Richard Hall  
DR Harris – Lee Harding and Johnny Fisher  
Wandsworth Council – Nick Smales  
Earlsfield SNT – PC Warren Dempster

*APOLOGIES RECEIVED FROM*

David Guyan- Chairman; Luke Ryan, Dave Fahey, Barbara Lascelles, Stephen Mercer, National Grid, Il Mulino, Precision Lighting ,Remote Control Lighting, Timeslice, Burke & Wills, Bramfield Garage

1 Judith Roscoe acted as Chairman & thanked those attending, noting that she had received 12 apologies which confirmed genuine interest from many other businesses which would have been represented but for other business priorities or illnesses.

2. INTRODUCTIONS, Eddie Webb, Maintenance worker at Garratt Business Park, & Nick Smales, new Economic Development Officer in Wandsworth. Members were very appreciative of the work which Eddie continues to do in clearing rubbish and keeping the estate in good order. Nick briefly introduced himself and confirmed that his office will be submitting the necessary Committee Report for the Council to approve towards supporting the expected BID renewal process (see below).

3. MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING 05.10.11 and matters arising: These were circulated and Judith confirmed that the Health & Safety audit has been carried out and also she is in ongoing discussions with the insurance company to try and clarify issues relating to BID directors' liability for issues such as roads, security gates and also employers' liability. It appears that the minutes cannot be read on the www and this will be checked out. (They are now available under BID matters - they had been posted under Estate News).

4. BUSINESS PARK RECENT IMPROVEMENTS: Recent improvements include landscaping at the entrance, (end of St Martin's Way) + car parking and road markings, updating of business signboards & also the Health & Safety survey as a result of which there are a few action points to be addressed. There was some discussion about excess or inappropriate parking within and at the entrances to the estate. It was felt that businesses could advise visitors that there is parking ( £1 per hour for maximum of 4 hours) in Maskell Road. There was some concern about parking on the public roads approaching the estate and Judith has been in contact with the Council & will pursue this.

5. CCTV update – Judith confirmed that whilst the system is generally operating efficiently there have been some problems due mainly to cameras not always communicating with each other. Regular meetings are being held with the providers, LINK. LINK's MD is now involved as are staff from both the Camera and the Network companies; the most recent meeting was 16 April 2012.

6. BROADBAND: Many businesses have ongoing difficulties with slow download and upload speeds especially the latter. Some others have their own broadband with good service. It is understood that there are 2 BT hubs; 1 at the Texaco garage which provides good service and one in Garratt Lane at the entrance to the estate which is less satisfactory. The BID board investigated obtaining new broadband onto the estate but considered that it would be inappropriate to use BID levy funds to pay for this as only a few bigger businesses would reap the benefit whilst such an upgrade would in effect be funded by all. Some of the bigger businesses are still involved with the possibility of installing faster Broadband collectively, funded between themselves.

#### 7. BID RENEWAL

Derek introduced this and highlighted the achievements which had been achieved through the BID levy (supported by some Council grants). The achievements include security gates, CCTV, drains, signage, road makings & regular maintenance. The board considers that the BID should be renewed and in due course will be recommending this. Some attendees spoke positively of the achievements and affirmed their support for a renewal. Derek said the board would need to maintain the levy in order to build up a fund to maintain or resurface the roads, possibly replace the gates and the drains which could be very expensive. Maintaining good quality roads in particular could be very expensive. The board feels that they should at least keep the levy at the same rates as during the current BID period, it has not put in the RPI and furthermore there is no likelihood of future grants from either the Council or other bodies. The board will have to approach the Council by June 2012 to ask for support in the renewal process. If it goes ahead a ballot would be held late 2013 with the renewal if approved going forward from 01/04/2014.

Judith is communicating with D Fahey of Cappagh to establish a ball park figure for repairing and resurfacing the roads

On a positive note there are no vacancies on the estate, an estate agent who visited Mike Powell (& which Estate Agent has recently sold a property on the Estate) said that freehold business property was scarce; this was confirmed by Bruce Maskell. The same estate agent also said that the fact that the Estate was well maintained was also an asset.

8. 2012/ THE OLYMPICS - A leaflet on transport issues relating to the Olympics and affecting both Wandsworth specifically and travel more widely in London was distributed and has also been emailed out to all businesses with an email address. Mike Powell acknowledged that it would affect his business and many others. Apart from the Olympics generally there will be some local issues affecting Wandsworth traffic such as the cycle race (Putney 28+29/7) the Torch Relay (Garratt Lane 23/7) + tennis at Wimbledon (25/7 to 5/8). Businesses can check how roads and public transport will be affected by visiting: [GetAheadof the Games.com](http://GetAheadoftheGames.com) or Twitter @GAOTG or calling 0843 222 1234. There is expected to be more tolerance of night time deliveries.

9. APPRENTICESHIPS: Businesses taking on an apprentice can gain a grant

of £1,500. In this regard Judith distributed some "Wandsworth Wise" (part of the Council's Lifelong Learning service) leaflets, and businesses can get more information by calling 020 8871 8478/8630. John Ruske mentioned the **LONDON APPRENTISHIP COMPANY** which will directly employ an Apprentice on behalf of the 'host' company, removing HR, Payroll and other hassles. <http://www.londonapprenticeship.co.uk/about-us> . Further information can be found through the following link, [http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/info/200013/business\\_support\\_and\\_advice/394/employment\\_and\\_training/3](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/info/200013/business_support_and_advice/394/employment_and_training/3)

#### 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a) NATIONAL GRID update: National Grid has completed the first phase of the tunnelling work, the construction of a 35m shaft, in February. There will be a significant period of respite before work recommences in late 2013 and the site has been secured and de-mobilised. Members agreed that there had been little disruption so far. National Grid wishes to attend future meetings to keep the Business Park updated on project developments, as and when appropriate.

b) PARKING: Some work to be done externally & internally. Judith to return to the Council re the parking regulations in Maskell Road and to request a review of installing yellow lines on St Martins Way (it is dangerous) & also reinforce Summerstown risk and yellow lines. It was also suggested that the board prints parking vouchers for all businesses and ask them to stick them on their cars, in order to identify those cars parked which don't have vouchers, then we can leaflet them and ask them to reconsider parking here. The board had suggested an approach to Wimbledon Stadium about parking but no one took this up. No one wants clamping for lots of reasons.

c) UPDATE FROM PC WARREN DEMPSTER: In Earlsfield Ward he is supported by 1 PCSO. Earlsfield ward is linked to Wandsworth Common ward which has a Sgt; + 2 PCs & 2 PCSOs. There is a 24 hour emergency response team based in Garratt Lane.

d) STEEL FENCING ALONG THE WANDLE PROPOSAL It was suggested that the board consider steel fencing along the Wandle as all businesses on the estate are vulnerable to miscreants who cross the river and not just businesses backing on to it.

e) CLEANING THE WANDLE It was also suggested that an approach be made to the Wandle Trust about clearing detritus from the river.

11. DATE OF NEXT OPEN MEETING: Provisionally, 3rd October 2012.  
jruske/jroscoe 24.04.12