

GARRATT BUSINESS PARK PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY 23 MAY 2013 AT 15.30PM

held at Malcolm Ryan Studios

MEETING NOTES

ATTENDEES

BID BOARD

David Guyan (Mr Carpet)
Derek Smith (Holman & Williams)
Keith Stringer (M & S Supplies)
Mahesh Rawal (Essential Sales Products Ltd)
John Ruske (Wandsworth Council)

Barbara Lascelles (Lascelles Antiques)

BID Co-ordinator – Judith Roscoe

BUSINESSES

CPS Supply Company – Mike Powell
TUK Ltd - Stephen Mercer
Ryan Jayberg Ltd – Raman Patel
Cappagh - Peter Freaney
Maskold Ltd – Bruce Maskell
D R Harris – Lee Harding
The Ludo Press – Nicholas Moll
AETD/Gavin Pengilly Interiors Ltd - Kevin Pengilly
Atlantic Enterprise – Shannon Tooley

APOLOGIES

GM Developments Ltd– Sue Brown
Livra UK – Sue Livramento
Edward Sinclair – Edward Sinclair
London Plastercraft – Mark McKeever
19 & 21 Swan Estate landlord – Brian Lester
Malcolm Ryan Studios – Amanda Ryan
Bramfield Garage – Peter Schwartz
National Grid – Gareth Burden
TSS – Terry Sneath
RCL – Joe Rushton
TFF - Barry Meech
Tool Services Ltd - Neil Marshall

NOTES OF THE MEETING

1. David Guyan welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked Luke & Amanda from MR Studios for hosting the meeting.
2. **BID RENEWAL**
It is proposed that the BID will be renewed for 5 years, this has been agreed by the BID Board and Wandsworth Council. A programme for the Renewal

process has been agreed and the BID Board is working with the Council. A new band will be inserted to cover those businesses whose rateable value is between £12,000 and £18,000 so that their levy will be £510; this will reduce the levy for 10 of the smaller businesses; although it will also decrease the overall potential annual levy income. The general level of the Levy will remain as it has been in the first BID period. There has not been any inflation increases which were planned for, so, in effect the Levy has not increased by the anticipated 16% over the last 5 years. Once the BID proposal has been voted for, there can be no increase other than for inflation and the BID Board prefers that this will not be necessary in the second term as in the first.

There was substantial discussion on the level of the proposed BID Levy. The budget was circulated. It was pointed out that there are unlikely to be any external funding/grants available due to substantially reduced budgets for the local authorities and the GLA, which is where most of the additional external funding came from in the past. The budget needs to allow for total resurfacing of the roads for which there was a quote, a year ago for £112,000. Otherwise much of the costs will be for overall maintenance and replacement of the Estates infrastructure. The need for expenditure will continue to be scrutinized on an annual basis to see if there is any possibility of a refundable surplus towards the end of the second BID period.

3. GARRATT BUSINESS PARK WEBSITE

The Board have proposed to revamp the website. The first website was replaced by a Wordpress one but that did not quite meet the required needs. A Website designer has been appointed at the cost of approximately £1,000 to prepare a new website. This company will host the website, but Judith will be able to make more amendments on her own & there will be a 'SEARCH' facility.

4. BURGLARIES AND CRIME PREVENTION

Further to the increased incidence of burglaries which have taken place in the businesses backing on to the Wandle between January & April 2013, several meetings & discussions have taken place between the BID Board, the businesses concerned, the Police, Crime Prevention officers, & fencing contractors. It was concluded that fencing could not be installed along the Wandle bank due to the need for 'too many' fire escapes. A proposal was made to the businesses for 2 levels of payments to the businesses involved; £50 for improved signage & simple measures, and following significant tidying up of all 'risky' material outside the back of the units a further £500 to each business to provide additional measures such as shutters & local CCTV. It is generally thought that well maintained, clean and neatly presented buildings tend to deter burglars. The Board has agreed a maximum payment for all work of £6,000.

Kirsty Payne has been appointed as the new local sergeant from January 2013. However Kirsty will cover 2 wards (Earlsfield and Wandsworth Common) and in general the number of Police Officers and PCSOs will be reduced in line with policing all over London. Further changes are likely to take place within the next 6 months. Judith does now receive regular detailed information of all crimes committed in the Tooting area, which can be tracked down to streets or areas such as the Business Park.

5. PARKING

Further parking issues have been experienced along Maskell Road on the outside of the Park including the entrance to Atlantic Enterprises. These include questionable complaints from a car driver resident on the Burtop Estate, and also redrawing of the yellow lines along the road in front of Atlantic Enterprises' entrance by the Council with no consultation. Judith and David said they would follow up both of these issues with the police and the Council respectively.

Changes to the parking permission along Summerstown have been agreed by the Council but the yellow lining cannot be applied until it stops raining!

6. FASTER BROADBAND

The Broadband speed on the western side of the Estate is still unacceptably slow. Those who have enquired of either BT or other private suppliers have received no satisfactory helpful response from BT, and the quotes from private suppliers are too expensive. This is the second time that this matter arisen as a priority but there is still no obvious way forward to resolve it.

7. REDEVELOPMENT OF WIMBLEDON STADIUM

David Guyan & John Ruske from the BID Board and Judith attended an open meeting with a potential developer, in conjunction with Merton Council for the Stadium site, at the end of February. (Whereas the Business Park is in the borough of Wandsworth, the Stadium is in Merton; but there would be inter Borough planning considerations and agreements if a new development was proposed). The ideas from the developer included an 'Ascot' level greyhound racing track, a multi storey car park, an Olympic level squash centre, housing & a supermarket. The Garratt Business Park representatives registered their interest with the developer and their architects and emailed their contact details. The next key date is that planning applications will need to be made to Merton Council by Christmas 2013.

8. UPDATE from NATIONAL GRID

National Grid have courteously kept the Estate up to date with their proposed activities. They said in early March, updated two days ago, that their

tunnel boring machine was due to arrive on their site on the Estate this Summer. They hoped to have a better idea regarding the extent and plans for their future works by early 2014.

9. DATE & TIME of NEXT MEETING

It was proposed that the time of the next meeting should be in the morning and not the afternoon as in the past. The date is likely to be October, and Judith will check this with the Board and let the businesses know through the monthly NEWS.