

**COMMUNITY-POLICE
CONSULTATIVE GROUP
for LAMBETH**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

7 JUNE 2005

**CHRIST CHURCH
BRIXTON ROAD SW9**

PRESENT: GROUP OFFICERS Lee Jasper
Chairperson: Jim Toohill **Hon. Comptroller:**
Rev. Canon Ivelaw Bowman **AFFILIATED**
MEMBERS Nick Abengowe **Herne Hill**
Forum; Wally Channon, Peggy Tyler
Clapham Town N'hood Watch; David
Corderoy **Chamber of Commerce;** Gary
Dando **Cress Brock N'hood Watch;** Ros
Munday **Clapham Community Partnership;**
Arulini Velmurugu **Lambeth Towers and**
Lambeth Road T&R Assoc.; David Warner
Brixton Society; **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**
Lena James; Bushy Kelly; Richard Moore;
Ann Savage; Fernando Senior; Anna Tapsell;
Jane Warwick **PERMANENT MEMBERS**
Lloyd Leon **Lambeth ICV;** Marianna Tortell,
Amy Donovan **Lambeth Crime Prevention**
Trust; Very Most Reverend Dr Bancroft
McCarthy **HM Prison Brixton (Board of**
Visitors); John Roberts **MPA;** **SECTOR**
WORKING GROUPS John Wainwright
Clapham CO-OPTED MEMBERS Shane
Collins **LAMBETH COUNCIL** Cllr Daphne
Marchant, Cllr. Bernard Gentry; Cllr. Robert
S. McConnell; Cllr. Peter O'Connell; Cllr.
Darren Sanders; Cllr. Lydia Serwaa; Supt.
Andy Tarrant (Acting Head, Community
Safety Team); **METROPOLITAN POLICE**
SERVICE Supt. Stewart Low (Kennington),
Supt. David Zinzan (Brixton); Det. Supt.
Jonathan Tottman (CSUI); Ch. Insp. Suzanne
Wallace (Community Partnership); Det. Insp.
Dean Haydon; PC Jack Wilson
SECRETARIAT
Ben McKendrick

Apologies: Doye Akinlade; Paul Andell; Cllr.
Charles Anglin; Pauline Bower; Ch. Supt.
Martin Bridger; Supt. Rick Algar; Greta
Brooks; Victor Brooks; Peter Clapton; Sheila
Draper; David Hart; Marie Hennelly; Rachel
Heywood; John Horrocks; Sue Jacobs
(CPS); Tessa Jowell MP; Most Rev'd Dr
Bancroft McCarthy; Dr Brian Mantell; Cllr.
Angie Meader; Josephine Metcalfe; June
Pilgrim; John Podmore (Brixton Prison);
Mehmuda Mian Pritchard (IPCC); Paul
Reynolds; Abdul Sultan Virani; David
Tomlinson; David Viner; George Tuson;
Wesley Stephenson.

Members of public/press were also present

Introduction

1. Lee Jasper welcomed Daphne Marchant, Mayor of Lambeth, to the meeting and representatives of Brixton market traders.

Lambeth Police Report

2. Supt. Stewart Low gave a PowerPoint presentation of crime statistics for Lambeth.

3. During April 2005, 418 street crimes, i.e. robbery and theft snatch, were reported, which equated to 91 more victims compared to April 2004. The increases had largely occurred in Streatham Hill, Streatham Vale, Streatham South, Brixton Hill, Bishops and Oval wards.

4. Supt. Low said that during April Lambeth police did not possess the usual level of resources, due to competing demands elsewhere, but from May onwards there would be significant resources to assist in tackling street crime.

5. The detection rate achieved for street crime during April had been 6.2 % against a 30% target while an 8.5% detection rate for residential burglary had been achieved against a 14% target. However, Supt. Low stated that the figures represented a snapshot of the first month of the performance year and police were confident that they would be improved upon. Burglars, he added, were becoming more and more forensically aware causing police to focus more and more on intelligence and offender profiling.

6. While April 2005 had seen a reduction of motor crime offences from 470 to 420 compared to the corresponding month in 2004, Supt. Low said it was one of the more difficult crimes to detect in Lambeth since it was an opportunistic crime spread across the borough with links to theft from vehicles to support drug habits.

7. In relation to domestic violence, Supt. Low said there had been 254 reported offences during April, which in comparison to same month in the previous year translated into 17 more victims. With regard to race hate crime, 37 offences had been reported, the vast majority of which were threats of a racist nature in the public order domain. One homophobic offence had been recorded.

8. In respect of gun enabled crime, 25 offences reported in April 2005 (Brixton 13, Kennington 7, Streatham 5) compared to eight offences in April 2004. Supt. Low said that many were related to robbery offences in which victims had perceived that they had been threatened with a firearm.

9. Overall, Supt. Low said that Lambeth police's current detection rate of 26.4% for total notifiable offences was the third best across the MPS.

10. Supt. Low informed the Group that on 22 May, the Ealing Sikh community had presented Ch. Supt. Martin Bridger with a historic, religious honour, the Sapora. As such, Mr Bridger received a decorative Kirpan sword, for "taking a strong stand on crime and disorder and winning the confidence of all the communities while paying great respect to the religious and cultural tradition of all the communities. The only two other recipients of the award in London were HRH Prince Charles and former MPS Commissioner, Lord Stevens. **The Group endorsed the proposal by Jane Warwick that the Group should write to Mr Bridger to congratulate him.**

11. Supt. Low further told the Group that Mr Bridger was away at a communications seminar with Lambeth police and civil staff in order that they should get to know him to be made aware of his vision for the Lambeth.

12. During the course of May, Supt Low said that the Prime Minister Tony Blair had paid a visit to the Clapham Ward Safer Neighbourhood (SN) Team, which had been put forward as a model of best practice and thought to be working very well.

13. Supt. Low reported the opening of the Community/Police shop on Coldharbour Lane to take place on Thursday, 7 July 2005. Meanwhile, the

new front office at Brixton police station was to open on 6 July to be followed by a new front office for Kennington police station four weeks later.

14. Supt. David Zinzan undertook to look into issues raised by Gary Dando regarding Tulse Hill. However, having had a recent strategic crime meeting looking at peaks and trends over the past week, he added that Tulse Hill did not stand out as a hotspot for any particular crime.

15. Anna Tapsell said that given the effort police were making around domestic violence, it was important not to give the impression something would happen when it would not. For example, she said that there did not seem to be a coordinated effort on the part of CPS out-of-hours and that police had told her that the CPS were rejecting some of their best evidence due to CPS out-of-hours lack of the understanding and training. She added that money spent on police training was a waste if the CPS was not party to the process while women would lose confidence to report domestic violence offences.

16. Supt. Low said that he understood that the issues raised around the CPS were being reviewed corporately, and he proposed to report at the next meeting on how matters had been shaped.

17. Lee Jasper commented on the "stunning lack of provision" for victims of domestic violence out of hours, which was an issue for both Lambeth Council's housing department and the CPS in terms of prosecuting domestic violence crimes. ***It was agreed that while the MPS corporate centre could attempt to deal with the problem, Mr Jasper, guided by Anna Tapsell, should write to Sue Jacobs, the CPS representative on the Group,***

to suggest that victimless prosecutions in terms of domestic violence should be part of the menu of options the CPS was using and introduced in Lambeth.

18. In response to Cllr. Bernard Gentry, Supt. Low said that he had not heard of any information to suggest that funding for SNs had been frozen. With regard to the matter of the process of attendance at Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) board meetings, Supt. Low said that he felt it would not be fair to speak on behalf of the Borough Commander and that he would pass Cllr. Gentry's concerns onto him.

19. Lee Jasper said that he was in agreement with Cllr. Gentry that the minutes of CDRP meetings should be in the public domain. As a CDRP board member, Mr Jasper said he would suggest that they were made available to the public at the next CDRP meeting.

20. In relation to Cllr. Gentry's question about the progress of warden schemes, Supt. Andy Tarrant said that there were a number of ongoing schemes across the borough and plans to roll them out further were subject to decision by the Chief Executive and both the leader and deputy leader of Lambeth Council.

21. Stating that she was an advocate for victims of domestic violence, Kelly ben Maimon complained that she had found problems accessing services for victims in Lambeth. On the other hand, she said that she found Westminster to be very helpful.

22. For information, Marianna Tortell explained that in the non-statutory sector there were at least four domestic violence service providers in Lambeth, including safe houses for victims. However, no borough accepted victims who were resident within that borough for a place of safety

for the very reason of ensuring safety. Ms Tortell added that there was also a national domestic violence freephone and national centre for domestic violence open 24 hours.

23. In response to Kelly ben Maimon's comment about there having been 18,600 robberies in Lambeth between 1999 and 2003 with only a 7% clear up, Supt. Low said that there could be a danger in interpreting chunks of figures and that what he saw in relation to street crime in Lambeth was a year on year reduction. However, he added that there was still much work to do with the community to bring the number of offences down.

24. John Gordon, secretary of Brixton Market Traders Federation said that he was interested in the way in which Lambeth was divided into policing areas and suggested that Brixton market area should be a policing area in its own right.

25. In response, Supt Zinzan said the market was part of Brixton town centre where there was a team of officers consisting of an inspector, three sergeants, 17 constables and nine PCSOs. He added there was a meeting planned for 22 June with the local authority, which was keen to improve matters with better CCTV to make crime less easy.

26. John Howard asked the reasons for, and the outcomes of, a raid on the Jolly Gardners public house, Vauxhall. Supt. Low said the raid was result of public complaint, police observation and intelligence. The result was the arrest of a number of persons on the premises and the seizure of a small amount of drugs.

27. John Howard raised the issue of open drug dealing at all hours in stairwells, alley ways and open spaces in Vauxhall Gardens, Spring Gardens and China Walk Estates, saying that

he could not understand how police could not see what was going on and therefore develop a cohesive, proactive strategy to eradicate the problem.

28. Supt. Low said that he would research Mr Howard's allegations and report back on how much intelligence police had on the problem at the next meeting. Mr Howard gave assurances that if police found only little intelligence on the issue he would encourage people to start reporting incidents to the police in order that it could be placed on police systems.

29. Replying to Shane Collins about gun crime detection query, Supt. Low said police were not receiving the level of information they desired. As an example of community inaction, Supt. Low referred to a recent shooting incident in the vicinity of Myatt's Field, where local CCTV showed the involvement of up to 17 people, four with firearms. Police did not receive one phone call from the area. Supt. Low added that it was the kind of difficulty that community and police had to cut through.

30. Lee Jasper said that he would like to see the gun crime figures broken down further to distinguish between murder and other gun enabled crime, which included crimes in which victims perceived the perpetrator had a gun even if not seen. He added that statistics that showed how successfully the police were clearing up murders committed with guns was very important.

31. In respect of Mr Collin's query about stop and search figures, Ch. Insp. Suzanne Wallace said that Mr Collins was correct to say that the ratio of arrests to stops had gone down. Ch. Insp. Wallace added that there were issues with the new style stop and search forms which did not explicitly show arrest. As such, the forms were being redesigned, which could

see statistics rise. On the point of stop and account, Supt. Tarrant said that it came into effect on 1 October 2004 London-wide.

32. Jim Toohill urged the police to open up access to SN's. Making observations on his own SN ward (Ferndale) he suggested that (1) Residents should not be directed to contact the panel through housing office. (2) Introductory material would do well not to focus too narrowly on intelligence gathering (3) Every means should be used to inform residents and businesses of priorities set, progress achieved and opportunities for input. These could include Lambeth Police's website (which still lists only three SN's in Lambeth), community noticeboards and quarterly public events.

33. Lee Jasper said he was concerned that the Group had waited a long time to get some feedback about SNs and suggested that the Group needed a definitive list about SN areas and panels, where they met and what they did. Mr Jasper said that, originally, the Group had hoped that SN panels would attend Group meetings and feedback in terms of the police report and it was urgent that the matter was resolved.

34. John Roberts (MPA) suggested that the Chairs of the SN panels should be invited to Group Meetings. To the response that the Group would do, if only they knew who they were, Mr Roberts suggested that this information could be supplied by the MPA.

35. Lee Jasper raised the issue of Cllr. Gentry's letter published in the South London Press regarding alleged sexual propositioning at the toilets on Clapham Common. Mr Jasper said that while he agreed with Cllr. Gentry's points regarding the crime and disorder issue, he found the letter distasteful in its

characterisation of gay and lesbian communities as deviants and criminals. He added that he found the letter to be unfortunate in its tone, which could be read as being deeply insulting to the gay and lesbian community.

36. Cllr. Gentry said it would have been courteous to have been informed that the matter was going to be raised by Mr Jasper. However, he said that he had been shown the toilets on Clapham Common next to the children's playground following his attendance at a meeting organised by the Friends of Clapham Common. As a result, Cllr. Gentry said he had submitted a Council member's enquiry into the poor conditions of the toilets. Subsequently, Cllr. John Whelan inspected the toilets whereupon he was allegedly propositioned regarding a sexual matter, which he rebuffed.

37. Considering its location next to the children's playground, Cllr. Gentry argued that it was not a suitable place for that kind of activity to be going on, regardless of the sex of the persons involved. Cllr. Gentry concluded by giving an assurance that the letter was absolutely not intended to be an attack or smear on gays, lesbians or anyone else, but that something had to be done to ensure that sexual material could not be picked up by children.

38. David Wilson-Carr said that Cllr. Gentry's claim that he did not wish to cause offence to the gay and lesbian community was either disingenuous or a lie, and that his deliberate attempt to link gay men, in particular, to child sex offenders, was indeed offensive.

39. John Howard asked why persons who raised issues, such as Cllr. Gentry had, were labeled as being homophobic. He added that the Group had once asked the police to remove a sign on a toilet in Brockwell Park that read

'closed due to unnatural practices', and to stop the practices and re-open the toilet.

40. Lee Jasper concurred that any sexual activity near a children's playground had to be tackled and supported Cllr. Gentry's right to complain. However, the issue was the content of his letter which gave an entirely different conclusion and different inference to his explanation. He added that he welcomed Cllr. Gentry's clarification, which is what he sought when offering him the opportunity to explain.

41. Richard Moore commented on the fact that it was cheaper and better to have toilets that had attendants rather than the more recent 'super loos', and that it was a local authority and not a police issue.

42. PC Graham Alldus, Lambeth's full-time Lesbian, Gay, bisexual Transgender (LGBT) police officer/co-ordinator, said that he only been in post for three weeks but he had been in contact with Lambeth Council about Cllr. Gentry's issue. He added that wherever there were public toilets there would be issues of anti-social behaviour.

43. PC Alldus continued to say that the Association of Chief Police Officers had released a directive on how police should respond to such matters as raised by Cllr. Gentry in a graded manner in conjunction with strategic crime and disorder partners. Therefore, police would be following situations as they became formally reported to them. To date, police had had no formal reports about the toilets in question.

44. More generally, PC Alldus said that next week he would be attending a meeting with the Council to look at public toilets at a strategic level. In Haringey, for example, PC Alldus said that his personal recommendation on

behalf of the police was to install super loos, which did not attract the whole range of criminal and anti-social activities associated with toilets.

45. Finally, PC Alldus said that when police were consulted in Lambeth for the re-opening of toilets at Vauxhall Cross, the toilets were designed to cut out criminal activity across the board. Where toilets had been opened without consulting police problems had re-surfaced.

46. Bushy Kelly said that there were very few public toilets in which she would feel safe. However, she said that she objected to the way Cllr. Gentry had characterised one behaviour as deviant and the other behaviour as not. As someone living on an estate with activity around drugs and prostitution, with children growing up around it as if it was the norm, she said that she felt her estate was treated like a public toilet.

47. Ms Kelly said that, in a sense, the issue was not at all to do with the actual public toilet but the behaviour that was associated with aspects of criminal activity. She therefore said it was despicable and outrageous to characterise one group, for which there were historical reasons for their behaviour in that environment.

48. Concluding the discussion, Amy Donovan, Lambeth LGBT Co-ordinator, said that it was necessary for the Group to be careful about what messages it put out, and that we all had to be careful that they could not be misinterpreted.

49. **Lee Jasper recommended that the police monitor any homophobic attacks around Clapham Common and report back.** He said he was concerned that the story could attract certain violent types seeking to attack people they believed to be gay or lesbian in the area.

Information from Group Officers and Members

50. Group Officers tabled a briefing paper for June 2005. Jim Toohill explained the main elements of the paper, which were:

MPA and Borough level Community Engagement

51. MPA officials have been working to develop policy options in respect of community-police engagement at borough level. After holding discussions with a number of CPCGs, a policy paper has been prepared for the MPA Community Engagement Committee on June 16. The report recommends further consultation over the summer with decisions at the Committee's September meeting. The report contains two options:

(1) To devolve the choice of what form of community engagement to implement to borough Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, with an associated transfer of ring-fenced funding from MPA to the CDRP's

(2) To retain funding direct from MPA into borough engagement vehicles, but with formal consultation with CDRP partners. There is likely to be a levelling of funding between boroughs.

Group Officers have favoured option 2.

CPCG for Lambeth's Constitutional Development

52. Jim Toohill reminded Group members that, in December 2004, they had agreed that the Group Officers should proceed to investigate registering as a limited company and as a charity. The key objectives were to limit the Group's liabilities but also to facilitate the Group's development by giving it access to voluntary sector funding.

53. The timetable for the proposal was:

June, consult on detail with key stakeholders

5 July, Group meeting to include a workshop to set out proposal and debate proposal with legal advisor present

26 July. The AGM postpones the AGM until September. Final draft of Memorandum and Articles presented. Members instruct Group Officers to register as a limited company

September AGM. Group Officers stand down and new Board elected by membership. New company applies for registration as a charity

Minutes of the Meeting 3 May 2005

54. Minutes of the meeting 3 May 2005 were accepted with the following amendments:

26. Last sentence to read: Mr Tarrant added that he understood that Insp. Sutherland, the Lambeth lead in this area, had already taken note of Ms Tortell's views regarding policy.

32. First sentence to read: With regard to target setting for crime reduction, Mr Bridger said that certain targets were imposed upon him from the centre, even though the community may argue about how to concentrate resources.

37. Add after last sentence: "Ch. Insp. Cook added that Safer Neighbourhood were subject to funding

38. To read: By 2008, it was expected that every ward London would have a SN in situ, i.e. 628 teams, consisting of a Police Sergeant, two Police Constables and three Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

42. Second sentence to read: Ch. Insp. Cook said any new programme brought with it challenges, in the case of SNs this was addressing the selection of wards and the issue of corporacy across the command structure in the borough;

49. To read: Marianna Tortell raised the point of the police seeking funding through a charitable trust to supply services that they were otherwise legally required to provide...

60. To read: Mr Bridger said in pushing through SNs, a concept he fully supported the concept, nobody had thought through the impact....

73. To read: Mr Bridger notified the Group that he would not be in attendance at the next Group meeting as he would be out of the country...

Matters Arising from the Minutes 3 May 2005.

55. Mr Bridger would be invited to report back on his gun crime hotline when he was able to do so. [Minute 15, 03/05/05]

56. In relation to Mr Bridger's promise for a report on the Angel public house, Coldharbour Lane [Minute 19, 03/05/05], Supt. Zinzan said that following intelligence received and observation of the pub he took the view that there was sufficient information to apply for a search warrant, which was executed on 23 March. As a result, eleven persons, including three women, were arrested; five for immigration offences, four for possession of cannabis, one for intent to supply cannabis and one wanted on a warrant.

57. Furthermore, a drugs dog used during the raid located cocaine in the toilet and evidence of its persistent use. As for the use handcuffs on arrest, Supt. Zinzan said that until police knew with whom they were dealing, all suspects arrested were handcuffed. Supt. Zinzan added that all the facts about the pub were made known to the brewery, which having at first deciding to close it down, later reversed its decision.

58. Lloyd Leon made a number of adverse points concerning the raid, which were that: five persons arrested for immigration offences were the Immigration Service's business not the police's; innocent people were caught up in it; better communication and more dialogue with the landlord could have averted the need for a raid; the necessity for the type of police action used; damage to property including the CCTV camera; the treatment of the licensee compared to other licensees.

59. Mr Leon suggested that whatever the official account of the raid, there was still suspicion

and rumours based on hearsay in the community which, combined with the Council's encouragement of gentrification in Brixton, could lead to the kind of situation that he did his best to defuse. He added that at one time, if police had problem with a pub they used to work with the landlord via the licensing officer to sort matters out.

60. *Mr Jasper said that the issues raised by Mr Leon, i.e. proportionality of police action, police activity during the raid, and disparity of liaison and treatment of the licensee against others, needed more detailed answers. He therefore asked Supt. Zinzan he if could prepare a written response.*

61. *Lloyd Leon said that he had been asked to attend a meeting with the landlord, police and a Council official. Mr Jasper asked Mr Leon to report back the outcomes at a future meeting.*

62. *The Group still awaited an invitation to take part in the Safer Neighbourhood ward selection process. [Minute 44, 03/05/05]*

63. *In relation to whether the Council's had paid its contribution to the Smart Water [Minute 61, 05/04/05], Cllr. Darren Sanders said that he would look into the matter.*

64. In relation to establishing whether the emergency clinics at the Maudsley and Lambeth hospitals were closing. [Minute 82, 03/05/05], Jim Toohill said that he had been informed that there was a review of the clinics taking place to establish the level of service being given, but that no decision to close them had been taken.

Mental Health Working Group

65. Anna Tapsell informed the Group that the Mental Health Working Group (MHWG) consisting of Bushy Kelly, Rev.

Canon Ivelaw Bowman, Rev. Rosemarie Mallett, Gill Kenealy, Cllr. Angie Meader, Ch. Inspector Suzanne Wallace, Ben McKendrick and herself had been established to initially provide response on behalf of the Group to the MPA's Joint Review into mental health and policing. The response had to be submitted by 30 June 2005.

66. Ms Tapsell said the MHWG had discussed many serious issues amongst themselves and others, such as service users, carers and people working in the mental health field. Generally speaking, Ms Tapsell said that a feeling had emerged that the police should have nothing to do with the mentally ill. Particularly so, she added, young men with mental health problems who could perceive the police as the enemy, possibly as a result of mental health services using the police inappropriately and too often.

67. Since the MHWG could not cover everything that it wanted to, it had decided to examine the sharp end of police and service user interaction in relation to Sections 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act.

68. In response to Gary Dando's query as why DASL had not been consulted, Bushy Kelly said that the MHWG did not have the time or resources to contact every interested group but assured the Group that the experience and understanding of mental health issues in the MHWG was vast.

69. Lee Jasper thanked the MHWG for its report to the meeting and said that the Group continued to support its work and looked forward to receiving its recommendations to be discussed at a future date.

Community Safety Strategy

70. Supt. Andy Tarrant gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Lambeth Community Safety Strategy of which copies were

tabled. The strategy was to be formally launched on 9 June 2005 [nb. Copies of the Community Safety Strategy can be obtained via the Lambeth website www.lambeth.gov.uk under Community & Living/ Crime Prevention / Community safety, or in booklet/cd format from Deborah Waterman at DWaterman@lambeth.gov.uk or 020 7926 2733.

71. Arulini Velmurugu said she felt insulted by the absence of any mention or consultation with the disabled. However, Ronald Holder said that during the Community Safety Audit he had held a focus group with young wheelchair users, although they had said it was the first time they had been consulted on policing.

72. Mr Jasper said the needs of disabled people needed to be met. He suggested that Lambeth police and the people leading on disabled issues at the MPA get together to look at best practice, with a view to informing a strategy, in an inclusive way, of actions to tackle disabled hate crime and crimes against the disabled, as consistently raised by Ms Velmurugu.

73. In response to Fernando Senior, Supt. Tarrant agreed that the Strategy was a very expensive programme to implement and money had come from the government, Building Safer Communities and new Safer Communities funding from the 1 April 2006.

74. Lee Jasper said that while Lambeth had produced a good audit, he felt the strategy was weaker for not reflecting the issues highlighted in the audit, particularly in relation to disproportionality. And although he was aware that an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) had been made, Mr Jasper questioned the focus on race at the expense of other areas such as domestic violence and homophobia. He said, therefore, that there was more to do in

terms of refining the EIA to meet the needs of Lambeth's diverse residents, and that he would be putting it to the CDRP.

75. Mr Jasper said that the Strategy was also weak on youth and youth provision matters. Despite massive problems of disproportionality and youth crime, he said that there had been no priority given to tackling the issues surrounding the lack of youth service provision. He added that he would put these points and others in writing to the CDRP board co-chairs.

Any Other Business

76. In response to Fernando Senior, Lee Jasper said that the Mayor of London continued to lobby for the return of statutory youth services and would keep doing so.

77. Mr Jasper said that such was the issue of crime in the centre of Brixton that he would wish to receive a quarterly feedback from the market traders.

78. Jim Toohill informed the Group that Brixton Cycles were facing a steep rent rise. He said that when they had moved to premises on Stockwell Road from Coldharbour Lane, the deal was that part of their rent would go to fund a youth worker on Stockwell Park Estate. Also, the business had a paternal attitude towards the skateboard park and provided security by its presence. ***Mr Toohill proposed that the Group write to the Council, stating that for the benefit of the estate that they find a resolution enabling Brixton Cycles to stay put.*** The Group agreed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**6.00 p.m. Tuesday
5 July 2005
Lambeth Accord
336 Brixton Road SW9**

* Minutes shown in ***bold italic*** indicate action points