



Minutes of the meeting on Friday 10th February 2017

Held at: Stour Space, Fish Island, Hackney Wick

**“Working together to establish a permanent, sustainable, creative economy in Hackney Wick and Fish Island”**

**In attendance:**

Neil McDonald (Stour Space)  
Lance Forman (H Forman & Son)  
Juliet Can – Chair (Stour Space)  
William Chamberlain (Creative Wick)  
Cllr. Chris Kennedy (LB Hackney)  
Cllr. Nick Sharman (LB Hackney)  
Katherine Igoe-Ewer (The Yard Theatre)  
Lorna Blake (Developer and Business Engagement Manager, Hackney Wick and Fish Island)  
Gill Wildman (Plot London)  
Abbas Nokhasteh (Openvizor)  
Mel Allison (East Wick and Sweetwater)  
Tony Westbrook (LLDC)  
Katie Sheasby (Howling Hops)  
Rebecca Edwards (Arebyte Gallery)  
Yolanda Antonopoulou (Gaia Pulses)  
Stuart Duncan (Echo)  
Heather Barnett (Arebyte Gallery)  
Graeme Evans (Middlesex University)  
Philippe Castaing (Make Shift)  
Kim Townsend (UCL)  
Carmen Nasr (Hackney Pirates)  
Rebecca Cowell (Faust PR)  
Kate Turner (Faust PR)  
Rose Cooper-Thorne (L&Q)  
Conrad Viviers (Manifesto Digital)  
Tom Chapmen (Manifesto Digital)  
Al Hutchison (Manifesto Digital)  
Karenjit Clare (Sheffield University)  
Maya Francis (Mama Youth Project)  
Laurence Mohammed (Pro Bike Service)  
Francesca Colloca (LLDC)  
Kirsty Tinkler (BIB)

Mathieu Rogers (LB Hackney)  
Nima Tehranchi (Save Hackney Wick)

## Agenda

### 1. Hackney Pirates (Carmen Nasr)

- The Hackney Pirates is an educational charity working to develop literacy skills and confidence of young people aged 9-12 from schools cross Hackney.
- They work with children that are falling behind with literacy skills, often coming from disadvantaged backgrounds. Barriers include English as a second language and low family income (50% less opportunities are available to young people on low incomes). Studies have proven that only half of young people receiving free school meals receive GCSEs levels above a D.
- Partnered with 16 schools and students are nominated by teachers. Volunteers provide 1:1 adult support, focussing on reading and writing activities. The students go on to create a product showcasing their work, which could be anything from a book, film, game etc. These are then sold to the public in the shop.
- There are currently 280 volunteers and more volunteers are needed to commit to 1 afternoon a month, sessions on weekdays 3:45-6:45pm.
- Inside of their building looks like a pirate ship, with a secret passage and themed spaces including shop / café / community space. All encouraged to come and visit!

ACTION: Go and volunteer!

Contact Carmen on: [carmen@hackneypirates.org](mailto:carmen@hackneypirates.org)

### 2. MAMA Youth Digital Media Training (Maya Francis)

- MAMA Youth Project (MYP) aims to equip young people from 18-25 years of age with the skills and experience to secure long-term employment in the TV and media industry.
- Training programmes are on offer to those living in the Boroughs of Islington, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Newham, Greenwich and Lewisham. There are 5 programmes per year and the participants receive intensive training in branding, social media, cameras and editing software and will work on a programme called What's Up TV that has an online channel and shown on Sky 1.
- The final week of the training will be a 1 week work experience with one of their industry partners, such as Warner Bros, Endemol Shine Group, Viacom, Fremantle Media, Sunset & Vine, Betty and Hat Trick Productions.
- Participants receive support with CV tailoring, interview techniques and career mentorship. Talent pool website will be launched for careers. Production companies will have access to search for skills for future job opportunities.

- Nick Sharman noted that it would be good for MYP to get in touch with Luke at Hackney Quest – as they are doing a project for the Wick Award and hosting an event to engage with young people in the area.

ACTION: Spread the word about the project to young people in the area that may be interested.

Maya can be contacted at: [maya@mamayouthproject.org.uk](mailto:maya@mamayouthproject.org.uk)

### 3. Crowd Control, Arebyte Gallery (Heather Barnett)

- A 'Crowd Control Centre' will be housed at Arebyte to undertake a series of interdisciplinary social experiments examining human communication, cooperation and collective intelligence in Hackney Wick.

- Will be in-situ the whole of July and looking for potential groups to get involved. At the end of the residency there will be an exhibition / festival.

ACTION: Get in touch if you are interested in taking part. Further info will be circulated (see attached).

Heather can be contacted on: [h.barnett@csm.arts.ac.uk](mailto:h.barnett@csm.arts.ac.uk)

### 4. Clarnico Quay Feasibility Study (Philippe Castaing)

- Make Shift are starting a feasibility study for Clarnico Quays, an interim use area that has been identified on the East Wick site, between the Copper Box and canal.

- Make Shift started in Brixton working with Lambeth Council on Pop Brixton, bringing immediate animation and community benefits to an area of empty land. It is considered as a community space that is open to the public and there is no need to buy anything when visiting.

- Pop Brixton is made mostly out of shipping containers; was originally supposed to be there 3 years and likely to be extended to 5 years, depending on the local masterplan. Economic impact of £12-15m. 70% members from the borough, 86% workers live in Lambeth, high percentage (approx. 84%) employed are on London living wage (would like it to be 100% but trickier to enforce with smaller member businesses). 425 jobs created in 14 months in only 1500 sqm2.

- They have a Community Investment Scheme (CIS) for members (tenants) through which they give back time, space and resources to the community. Businesses are selected using a transparent criteria, all judged from 0-5 on locality, business plan, ethos, pledge to the CIS (social contract).

- The next Make Shift project is a multi-storey carpark in Peckham, 7 floors. Workspace, studios, co-workspace. Focussed around design and makers. There will be 2x public floors.

- Make Shift are looking to speak to HWFI residents and businesses about the local area, issues, what currently works and what doesn't work - collecting as much information as possible for the feasibility study.

ACTION: Attend consultation events or get in touch with Philippe directly [philippe@makeshift.org](mailto:philippe@makeshift.org)

## 5. Hackney Wick Station Update (Tony Westbrook)

- Closures of station will be starting 19 Feb- 9 April, station closed Sundays. Easter weekend, 14 - 17 April, there will be a major closure of the line for the installation of underpass.

- Temporary ticket office is currently being constructed. Skate park site will be used for construction. There will be a closure of road section on White Post Lane for the upgrade.

Q: Concerns over closures of the stations on Sundays, will there be bus replacements?

- Don't think there are any bus replacements but will check.

Q: Will the HW mural be painted over?

- This doesn't belong to LLDC. Someone noted that they think it will remain and the owner plans to put shop fronts on the ground level.

Q: Will those on White Post Lane need to make alternative delivery arrangements with the road closures?

- Will provide any communication and signage as needed.

Q: Where has the funding come from? Concerned that this money is CIL

- Nick Sharman noted too early for CIL. LLDC will provide an update at the next meeting.

**ACTION:** Update at next meeting

**Tony Westbrook** has since sent additional information:

Hackney Wick Station Closures

With regard to the question of whether there will be rail replacement buses when Hackney Wick Station is closed, the answer is yes.

On the Sunday closures, I am told they will run to/from Homerton. Over Easter they will run along the section of line that will be closed. Further details will be available on the TFL website.

There will be posters up in the station too if they are not there already.

**Francesca Colloca and Bakker Soolagh** have also since followed up with additional information:

Comms with businesses affected by road and station closure in HW. **The road closure will have had a letter sent to the locals including Queens Yard. There has also been informal communications with some of the local business. Station closure is managed by TFL and they have updated their information system accordingly. Attached is an email indicating the information being provided by TFL on the station closure. All who have registered for updates from TFL will receive this email. Furthermore, there are posters on the station regarding the upcoming closure (photo attached).**

- Alternative delivery route options – comms with businesses. **The closure will not be blocking access to any of the local business. So far, we have not come across any issues with delivery access to local business.**

- Sunday trading issue – potential additional rail replacement services? **The bus replacement service is assessed and provided by TFL to accommodate demand levels.**

- Signage/pedestrian wayfinding during works. **There will be signage to inform of the road closure and diversion route. TFL are also looking at further signage, for the local business but I'm waiting for details at this stage.**

## 6. Business Rate Petition (Lorna Blake)

- Concerns over proposed business rate raise, Hackney is opposing this increase – it has one of the highest rate increases in the country, taking up a legal case against it.
- Joint petition between Hackney and East End Trades Guild. Petition will be circulated
- Come to the emergency meeting about business rates 24th February , 10am at Hackney House, 25-27 Curtain Road, Hackney, London, EC2A 3LT

<https://www.change.org/p/theresa-may-mp-protect-businesses-from-the-rates-hike-which-will-tear-the-heart-out-of-our-communities-1596433d-75ec-4e65-b78a-ec2582571f6e>

ACTION: Petition info to be circulated to group.

## 7. Vevčani visit (Neil McDonald)

- Vevčani is a small town in Macedonia running as an independent state, wanting to achieve financial independence and looking to spark tourism.
- Seeking to make connections with the HWFI artist community. Artists could be involved in residencies to generate activity and tourism. Potential to construct new buildings for artist and community use.
- Vevčani embassy setup in Stour and great opportunity for people to take part in this exchange programme.

ACTION: Want to get involved? See Neil or email him on: [neil@stourspace.co.uk](mailto:neil@stourspace.co.uk)

## 8. Save Hackney Wick (Nima Tehranchi)

- Campaign started on the back of the construction of 2x new bridges in the area. One affects Vittoria Wharf which hosts a range of artists, on the rise to success. Many artists under one roof, great for collaboration.
- A community model has been developed with others in the area - including Stour Space, involved locals in conversations. Ideas taken to the GLA, report produced of detail how to develop a creative land trust. Involved with Outset/Studiomakers, Vittoria Wharf could be the pioneering case.
- Planning Committee meeting for the bridges is 28 Feb. 800 objections made through Save Hackney Wick website. Save Hackney Wick says that 99% local people oppose plans. Ex- ODA advisor has said that the position was only temporary measure and thinks it is a waste money.
- The plans for the concrete plant have been withdrawn however application for an asphalt factory has been submitted.

## 9. AOB

- UCL networking event community organisations and UCL / UAL staff. Creating Connections East 8th March
- Hub67 hosting a children's book swap, 250 free books on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb. Families invited to come along or donate books.
- There compassionate coat rack is still outside Hub 67. Coats or hanger donations required.
- Forman's London Cure Smoked Salmon hoping for PGI (protected geographical indication) status, other examples champagne, Melton Mowbray pork pies. First PGI in London and important for growing food tourism in the area and helping to put HW on the foodie map. Forman's in support of the bridges, at the moment struggle with accessibility from the Park. The bridges have been in plans since 2005. Accessibility holding people back from visiting Formans. Understanding losing artist space but it's quite a small unit to lose and would improve connectivity.

**The next CIG meeting is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March at Crate Brewery,  
Queens Yard, Hackney Wick, E9 5EN at 9.30am**