**Loughborough Junction Action Group AGM**

**7.30pm
Wednesday 15 May 2013**

Trustees present: Anthea Masey (AM) Co-chair, Matt Goddard, Hazel Watson, John Frankland, Tim Gaymer (Co-chair) – for second half of meeting

AM (co-chair) opened the AGM and thanked Ray from SIA for hosting the meeting.

1. Cllr Lib Peck (Leader of Lambeth Council) joined us and spoke about regeneration. She spoke about Loughborough Junction and how she likes the idea of putting it on the map. Cllr Peck restated her support for LJAG and is pleased to see that the masterplan is nearing completion. She spoke about regeneration across the borough and how there is an enormous amount happening across the borough of Lambeth. There was discussion around planning powers not being sufficiently robust, with the result that large companies can get around them.
2. Q&A with Cllr Lib Peck
3. Ben Lewis asked whether Lib Peck can influence TfL to get a London Overground stop at Loughborough Junction station. LP – she is trying to exercise as much influence as possible on this issue. AM asked whether this has been put on the local plan.
4. Problems with business tenants in railway arches. Network Rail (the landlords) do not treat the tenants well. LP suggested convening a meeting with the tenants and Network Rail to try to resolve this issue. The questioner will write to LP. AM stated that LJAG has also been extremely frustrated by contacts with Network Rail. LJAG are trying to get an agreement with Network Rail, the Council, LJAG and possibly Cross River Partnership. Mark T (Lambeth planning department) – has found it difficult to deal with people all across Network Rail, high level support from Network Rail would be excellent.
5. Railway bridges are very dirty. Does Network Rail not have a legal obligation to clean them?
6. Katy Easton – problem with rubbish on Coldharbour Lane. Bin removed from outside bus stop, which leads to a lot of litter in the area. Flower boxes are now the receptacles for the rubbish. Could we get the bin back. LP to find out why it was removed. WR – could we get extra bins next to Station Avenue and opposite Express?
7. Segen Ghebrekidan – asked whether there were going to be apprenticeships and opportunities for young people to get involved in the regeneration of the area. LP assured her that she was working to make sure that local people were given jobs and apprenticeships. Ben Lewis – have Lambeth put aside money to contribute to Northern Line extension?
8. How can the Council can get more power in asserting what the community wants rather than big business? LP - Council needs to make sure it pushes its case with big companies like Network Rail however national planning powers restrict council’s power. Cllrs trying to do what they can via Local Plan. Also speaking to shadow planning minister. EG within Local Plan saying that don’t want fast food outlets within 400 metres of schools.
9. Problem with advertising – Naomi Smith – huge billboards on private land but no revenue going back into the community. Can’t see round them in the dark, not safe. How did these get planning permission in the first place?
10. What is LPs opinion on things that aren’t as good underneath as they appear to be on the surface? LP – council has to follow national planning law, people will have to object through the planning process. Can’t always turn things down if is no legal reason to be able to do so. LP – loves Lambeth because of huge amounts of local engagement. People know what they want to see in their local area. Council must make sure people know how they can make their voice heard.
11. Clara Kamau – work on Cambria Road, EDF site, huge cranes on Loughborough Road, work on Milkwood Road. How do local businesses and their needs get channeled into plans? Once Section 106 money comes in this has often been decided already.
12. How are residents supposed to find out about planning applications? Gave example of Sainsburys by Brixton Water Lane. These things should happen. LP – says that council need to get a bit better about this. AM – supermarkets have been gobbling up former pubs because they don’t need planning permission for change of use.

Formal meeting commences

**3. Apologies for absence**Carol Boucher, Val Shawcross, Gerry Evans, Victoria Warne – London CF, Fiona Law, Carolyn Ruston, Ira Campbell, Kitwana Blanc, Tessa Jowell , Cllr Jim Dickson, Maude Estwick (trustee)

1. Minutes of the last agm on 14 May 2012 - agreed
2. Matters arising - no
3. Annual report – paper version available. By Anthea Masey (AM) co-chair:
Place making is one of most important things that we’re doing as a group. We’re all here because we feel that LJ is a special place. Doesn’t always look great from the outside but has a great spirit. Have been working very hard on Masterplan, thanks to Lambeth Council and DSDHA (architects firm working on Masterplan) for support on this. Coming to end of masterplanning process, hope to develop another set of consultations on plan.
One of LJAG’s volunteers Livia Whyte is working on an engagement strategy for how to work with local businesses.
Health community engagement events have been successful. Would like to tackle health difference between the rich and the poor.
4. Treasurer’s report including draft accounts for the 2012/2013 year
Will be audited within next month. Accepted.
5. Election of trustees
Became a charity earlier in the year. Have six trustees. All re-elected.
6. Date of next AGM – mid week of May
7. Any other business - no