**Report of ‘Our Tottenham’ Conference Organising Meeting, 14.03.13

Present:** Reps and members of the following organisations: Peoples World Carnival Band, Lord Morrison Hall, Tower Gardens Residents Group, Wards Corner Community Coalition, Haringey Solidarity Group, Haringey Housing Action Group, Clyde Area Residents Association, Haringey Federation of Residents Associations, Friends of Lordship Rec, Haringey Green Party      **Apologies:** Living Under One Sun, Defend Haringey Health Services, Day-Mer

**2. Conference details
a. Venue:** Confirmed as NLCH. We need to propose a financial contribution to them: £200 was suggested.
**b. Chairing:** Dave (HFRA) and Mital (WCCC) are confirmed chairs; Philip (Lord Morrison Hall) might be out of London, in which case Marchu or Mark (also Lord Morrison Hall) would be the third chair.
**c. Basic aims and outcomes:** As previously agreed. See Our Tottenham website.
**d. Proposed Agenda & Timings:** As agreed at previous meeting. See at end of minutes...
- It was agreed there was no need to take notes of the morning's general workshops. We would propose 3 or 4 key Qs each to focus on eg.‘why are you here?’, ‘what concerns you most?’, and ‘ideally, how would you like to see Tottenham in the future?’  People would write their responses to the key questions on post-it notes. Candy (WCCC) would collect these post-its and stick them up on a board.
- Mital (WCCC) would write a short briefing note for am and pm workshop facilitators, covering their responsibilities (inc taking notes, writing on flip chart paper, collecting these at the end, etc) and basic ‘rules’ e.g. respecting others opinions, making sure all get a chance to speak, etc.
**e. Afternoon workshops:
-** There was some discussion as to whether the three roles of facilitator, note taker, and speaker should all be from the lead organisation. It was agreed that we would try to find people from other groups to act as one or several of the roles, but that if this wasn’t possible, the lead organisation would fill all roles, but ensure that their group’s issues/experience didn’t dominate the discussion.
- The lead organisations for the workshops should prepare a briefing note of their workshop, 1-2 paragraphs long. This would be to help people choose which to participate in.
- It would be important to capture the workshop discussions. It was agreed all workshops would write up their key points to report back on flip-chart paper. Sally (PWCB) would collect and type these up.
- Update on Workshops (themes and lead organisations as previously agreed):
1) COMMUNITY FACILITIES. Philip, Mark or Marchu would lead this for Lord Morrison Hall. Community facilities would be interpreted broadly ie. including community centres, but also thinking about other facilities that were valued by communities (eg local pubs and corner shops, playgrounds and parks, post offices etc).
2) HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT: Michelle (HHAG) and Jay (HDCH) would get together to sort this out, working with other local housing groups.
3) SMALL BUSINESSES: Mital (WCCC) had spoken to Moaz from Tottenham Traders Partnership, who was able to come. Myfanwy (WCC) would also be helping with this.
4) HOW TO FIGHT AND WIN LEGAL BATTLES [Renamed from ‘Legal Challenges’]: After discussion, it was agreed that it would be useful to have Matthew Bradby from Tottenham Civic Society involved in this workshop, as they regularly put in objections to planning applications locally. Friedrich (TGRG) would follow this up. Also a WCCC rep. Sally (PWCB) would also contact Paul Leslie (Welbourne Centre campaign). Several groups and individuals also had experiences to share, so this workshop would provide a space to do that.
5) COMMUNITY PLANS: This was in hand. Mital (WCCC) was asking Abi (architect helping with the WCC Community Plan) to participate. Also Dave on behalf of Friends of Lordship Rec. Bull Lane / Weir Hall Action Group could contribute their experience.
6) YOUTH VOICES, SERVICES AND FACILITIES: Sally was working with Abdi, Garnett and Berkeley on this. Young people would facilitate the workshop. There was also the possibility to involve Simeon Brown and Amigal from Haringey Young People Empowered (HYPE). All groups involved in Our Tottenham were encouraged to encourage young people from their groups to come to the conference, and to participate in the youth workshop and others.
7) QUALITY DESIGN AND HERITAGE: Tottenham Civic Society has this in hand.
8) COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT: Michelle (HSG, HHAG) had spoken to Leyla (Living Under One Sun), who was working on this, potentially with Felix (Haringey Solidarity Group). The idea is for those attending to share experiences of Council 'consultation' (briefly) and look at a number of examples of how community groups can and should actually drive the decision-making in our communities.

**f. Food:** Michelle (HAG, HSG) had spoken to Mehmet (NLCH) re: food. They could do a bean stew and salad for £3 per head, reduced from their usual price of £5 per head. There was some discussion as to how to estimate the numbers in order to give NLCH a sense of how many to cater for and to avoid wastage/cost, and also whether a soup would be an easier option if numbers weren’t confirmed until the day itself. One idea was for people to be able to purchase any unsold food to take home. Michelle would discuss this further with Mehmet, and also would be responsible for liasing about food on the day.

**g. Numbers, organisation and volunteering on the day:**-  A spreadsheet was circulated with spaces for people to sign-up to facilitate and take notes of the workshops. Dave (HFRA) would circulate this to the Our Tottenham email list after the meeting to fill remaining gaps. We aim to have all all the gaps filled in before the next meeting.
-  Sally (PWCB) will bring flip chart paper and pens for all workshops, and collect all the completed sheets at the event in order to type up the notes.

**h. Conference documentation:** As previously agreed. Dave and Jay to coordinate. In terms of the summary about each group, it was agreed it would be best to minimise burden on groups by using the reports/descriptions already provided and minuted at our first planning meeting. Michelle would follow-up with groups if there was a need for more information. In terms of the final report, Dave and Jay will discuss this.

**3.  Pre-conference statement of the OT network.**   As previously agreed. See website.

**4. ‘Our Tottenham’ Charter:** Dave to draft a couple of introductory paragraphs based on the agreed OT Statement. The action points coming out of the workshops will then be added, subject to agreement of the conference.

**5. 'Our Tottenham' Demonstration - Saturday 11th May:** The date was confirmed as Saturday 11th May - assemble 12 noon at Seven Sisters to march up to near the Spurs Ground. Groups could assemble at their various key sites at 11am to then walk down to Seven Sisters if they wished. The police would need to be informed 7 days beforehand. There was some discussion of whether to call it a demonstration, or a ‘march of solidarity’ or a ‘demonstration of solidarity’. The focus would be on the ‘Our Tottenham’ statements and charter, linking up different campaigns, groups and issues. As publicity for the demonstration wouldn’t begin until after the 6 April conference, there would be time at the post-conference follow-up meeting to discuss the details of the name, focus and activities for the demonstration.

**6. Leaflets and publicity:
-** Mital and James (WCCC) had designed a leaflet for the conference, which everyone was very happy with. Dave (HFRA) had got 1000 colour copies printed at a reduced price of £80. Groups were asked to distribute these amongst their networks. It was also agreed to print another run of 1000 colour copies, and to meet 12 noon on Saturday 30 March outside the fruit and veg shop next to Santander in Bruce Grove to hand these out to the public then. Sally would also find out which local councilors held surgeries on that Saturday, so that those who wished could also leaflet there. Myfanwy (WCCC) would take leaflets round to local shops. Sally, Michelle and Myfanwy would print colour copies of the front page of the leaflet as posters. Mital would send round the pdf of both the leaflet, and just the front page.
-   Mital wanted to send out the press release asap; Dave (re FLR) and Mark (re Lord Morrison House) would send their quotes to her asap.

**7. Conference finances:**- Sally is our treasurer.
- Contributions received so far were: £50 - Haringey Green Party; £50 - Haringey Solidarity Group; £20 - Haringey Defend Council Housing.
- Contributions promised were: £50 - Lord Morrison Hall; amount TBC - WCCC; £20 - Tower Gardens Residents Group; £50 TBC - Peoples World Carnival Band.
- This totaled £240 confirmed so far.
- Known costs so far were £160 (for 2 runs of 1000 colour leaflets) and at least £200 (room hire). Also at least £200-300 would be needed to publicise the May 11th demonstration.
- We would also have a collection and raffle on April 6th.
- It was hoped that all supporting groups (finances permitting) would donate - cheques can be written to 'Haringey Federation of Residents Associations', who will then forward to OT.
- Note: £17 collected at this meeting - paid to NLCH for room hire.

**8. Fundraising raffle:** Felicia had offered to run the raffle (Dave would get in contact with her). All were reminded to bring along some suitable prizes on April 6th.

**9. OT Communications:** Michelle reminded people that everyone on the 'OT organising' email list could send emails to that list so we can keep each other informed; she would send an email explaining. Anyone on the 'OT news' list who is or wished to be actively involved in helping organise things could also subscribe to the 'organising' list.

**10. AOB.
a)  Creative Citizens workshop - Sun 24 March 2-6pm Tottenham Chances:** Mital reported that WCCC were working with ‘Creative Citizens’ who had offered to produce for free an online and interactive map of local assets, that would be really useful in demonstrating the positive skills and resources and facilities in the area. The workshop on 24 March would gather information from people to feed into this, so all were encouraged to attend if possible.
**b)  Lord Morrison Hall legal challenge:** Philip reported that this was now underway. A meeting was being held on 20 March 7-9pm, to which all community centres under threat or which might be under threat had been invited, in order to share experiences. As agreed at the last meeting we had sent out to all Haringey Cllrs an OT letter supportive of LMH and all the community-run centres. The only responses were from Tottenham Hale Councillors which had been rather negative, but contained a positive suggestion regarding future community activities at the LMH.
**c)  Haringey Regeneration Board:** Mital reported that James had learnt that Haringey Council were putting together a new regeneration board for Tottenham which would be publicized soon.
**d)  Our Tottenham communications:** Michelle reported a comment from Leyla (Living Under One Sun) regarding the Community-run Centres letter sent out by Our Tottenham. This had been agreed by the Organising Group and signed by those at the last meeting, but went out under the Our Tottenham Network heading. Not all members of the network had seen it beforehand. There was no disagreement with the letter, but it was felt the group should be careful not to speak on behalf of the whole network unless this had been agreed – for example, any such future urgent letters could be sent by the Our Tottenham Organising Group.
**e) Next Meeting:** This was arranged for Wednesday 27 March at 7pm.

**Conference Agenda & Timings:
10am:** Registration / get info packs, check out stalls, wall displays and maps. Networking
**10.30am:** Welcome and introduction. Brief presentations from the key affected groups/campaigns. Summary/thoughts.
**11.15am.** First workshop / 'breakout' session.  Each workshop to discuss the campaigns and issues, and standing up for ourselves
**12.noon:** Lunch ----------------
**1pm:** Back together. Then second workshop / 'breakout' session -split into 8 Action Workshops. Each workshop to discuss a specific key issue, to share experiences and how to take action together.
**2.15pm:** Brief report-backs [eg 3 bullet points for action] from each workshop of the previous session
**3pm:** Final plenary to discuss community-led regeneration Charter,proposed demonstration, follow-up meeting etc
**3.45pm:** Final remarks and any announcements
**4pm.** End / clear up together