



**TOTTENHAM'S FUTURE
COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP REPORT
CLG 1 – NORTH TOTTENHAM WEST (INCLUDING HIGH ROAD WEST)**

Date	Monday 09/12/2013
Time	19:00-21:00
Venue	Haringey Sixth Form Centre White Hart Lane, N17 8HR

DISCUSSION 1 – DEVELOPING A VISION FOR TOTTENHAM

Tell us your vision for Tottenham in 20 years

Employment

- More and varied job opportunities for local people
- Job centre should have more effective links with construction companies, to ensure that local people have the support and opportunities to secure jobs in the construction industry
- Contractors and apprentices that are employed on regeneration projects should be local people
- CHENEL/CONEL students are able to gain work experience on regeneration projects
- Plenty of work opportunities

Education and young people

- Better schools and better teachers, so schools have a better reputation with good discipline, good levels of attainment as well as trade and skills training
- More free nurseries to enable parents to work rather than have to stay at home as they cannot afford child care
- Youth clubs
- More activities for young people, eg: cooking and nutrition, sport, skills training for jobs
- Funding for after-school clubs,
- Funding for literacy programmes, language skills and maths
- Good programme of adult education,
- Support for parents whose first language is not English, so that they can support their children in school and increase their own chance of employment
- Schools should be inclusive of children with disabilities
- Where a child in Tottenham can be whatever they want to be. Being educated in Tottenham should not define, dictate or limit them
- Industry getting involved in the education of local children – more vocational training

Housing

- Improved housing
- Existing residents not being priced out of the community, especially in regeneration areas
- Housing that is not just aimed at the single, professional person
- Empty homes brought back into use for occupation
- Most residents to remain as council tenants
- Council to provide properties to fit for individuals' and families' needs
- Restriction of properties in multiple occupation (HMOs)
- Area should be mixed tenure
- Provide affordable housing
- Tenants in Love Lane to stay as council tenants, and not be moved out of Tottenham
- Having proper allocation policy to put the right number of people in the appropriate housing
- Properties ring fenced for local people
- Houses with gardens for every child in Tottenham

Business and retail

- Small and medium size businesses continue to thrive and have the capacity to be employers of local people
- Less bureaucracy from the Council, so that it is easier for social enterprises to get off the ground
- Market stalls and small independent shops
- Too many betting shops – Council to restrict number of licenses for betting shops in one area
- Restrict national chains, eg: Starbucks, Costa, to encourage local communities to open up catering for local people
- Encourage a good mixture of mini retail shops
- Better retail mix – too many hair dressing/barber shops and groceries shops next to each other
- Have more businesses in the local area to generate money and spending money locally

Environment

- Use empty buildings for youth activities, sport and education, eg: 500 White Hart Lane is currently a long term empty site
- Having a lower rise buildings, rather than tower blocks
- Protect the strong characteristics and historical architecture of the area
- Street cleanliness
- Well maintained roads

Safer streets

- Safer streets so people feel they can go out safely
- Better lighting
- Better relationship between police and the local community especially with youths so they do not feel they are at war

Community

- Community life
- Provisions for a variety of people, the elderly, people with disabilities, children, families etc.
- Many cultures but one community
- Funding is available for existing enterprises or organisations that are able to improve the quality of life of local people

Transport and access

- Upgrading infrastructure
- Station to be connected to oyster network
- Better transport connections to facilitate people getting from Tottenham to the rest of London and vice versa, making it easy to access local and London-wide opportunities
- Sort out lack of parking spaces for residents; each new build homes should have parking provision
- High street that makes parking easier for business customers on High Road or side streets

Health

- Improved quality of health care through GPs and hospitals
- North Mid Hospital must change / improve
- Making services accessible to all

Regeneration

- Regeneration to provide a legacy of jobs and homes

Community facilities and amenities

- More cultural activities and facilities for all from young to old

Green Space

- More open spaces
- Provision for private outside spaces for each home, eg: garden, patios, balconies used as gardens

DISCUSSION 2 - Strategies for change in your area

A. Characterising your area – what are its strengths and what issues does it face?

STRENGTHS	ISSUES
Diverse businesses	Social decay
Community groups	Gangs
Community spirit	Litter
Strong sense of community	Traffic
Character – beautiful 3 storey houses	ASB linked to football ground
Good transport links: tube stations, good bus network and good road network e.g. A10, A406, M11, M25	ASB linked to betting shops
Historical buildings and architectural heritage, eg: Bruce Castle Museum	Property developers have now 'seen the light' as to the potential of Tottenham'
Resilience	'Pit stop area' – people are passing through rather than staying
Famous people – actors, singers e.g Lamar	Tottenham has struggled to accommodate the change in diversity

Premier football club	Perception and stigma – Tottenham has a bad reputation, outsiders ask if it is safe
Gina Shoes	Area is not looked after by the Council
Diverse community that is rich in culture	Decisions made by the Council are not for the good of the local people – not enough transparency
People feel safe, apart from some areas	Houses in Multiple Occupation
Location is great	Business rates are too high
Generous, charitable people	Charities need to have lower rates and support
Great support from local business and people	Existing community centres and facilities are closing
	Language barrier for people who have English as a second language
	Tottenham used as a dumping ground for problem families
	Empty homes broken in to and squatted or used as drug dens
	Difficult and expensive to get insurance with this postcode
	Many dilapidated buildings, but these should be repaired, not demolished
	High density area – too many tower blocks
	Neglect of heritage buildings
	Poor relationships with the police
	Too many betting shops, not enough business diversity

B. Transformative strategy - Supporting a strong community.

What actions can be taken locally to achieve this?

Tottenham Hotspurs

- Encourage Spurs to invest more in the local community, recreation, social activities
- Spurs labour force strategies need to include using a percentage of local workforce in regeneration contracts
- Spurs should charge lower rent – their high rents affects businesses supported by Spurs

Community facilities and amenities

- More support for centres such as Selby Centre – should be used for language training

Education and young people

- Investment in cookery and nutrition courses

Businesses and retail

- Financial support available for businesses locally to take on young people
- Local businesses to stay, not just shops but also factories and manufacturing businesses to remain local
- Improving support for local businesses and not kill them off
- More control of business types and mixes
- Reducing business rates to encourage local businesses
- Better parking facilities to encourage trade – getting the balance right between Red Route, pay & display etc; more flexible parking options

Jobs and employment

- Schools should introduce local apprenticeship or practical training opportunities for school children (especially 14 and 15 year olds) who are not so academic
- Encourage local businesses to take on young people to get basic experience, and support local employment
- Provide long term apprenticeships (eg: 3 years) that give real work skills and a qualification
- Training local people to take on local jobs in local trades
- Strong focus on jobs for local people – factories and high volume jobs

Community

- Support the existing community – think of incentives as to how to retain community and businesses to prevent closures or leaving the area. Investment and not decay

Council

- Make the council really accountable for their decisions
- Allow people to decide where money should be spent, eg: by voting or referenda

Pride in place

- Teach people to be proud of Tottenham, celebrating the community, making it welcoming and advertising it to outsiders.

Health care

- Keeping the health care for elderly in house and not out-sourcing; council should check the number of agencies set up to look after the elderly – there should be regular, proper checks
- Take the mental health care back to the council

C. Transformative strategy - Creating a great place. What actions can be taken locally to achieve this?

Business and retail

- Revitalise the high street
- Allowable free parking on high street for 20 minutes

- Encourage small, independent shops to stay in the area and not be intimidated by the openings of national chains
- Licensing control of number of similar shops in the area; a good example is in Stoke Newington Church Street, which has a good villagey feel, or Brentwood, which has a good balance of national chains, independent shops and parking facilities.
- Protect independent and family businesses
- Create shops where you can buy what you want without having to travel too far e.g. haberdashery, M&S with parking facilities
- Tottenham should be a place where small and big businesses grow together
- LBH must support local businesses
- Affordable rents for local businesses that have been established here a long time

Safety

- Police presence on the street to deter ASB/criminal activity
- Improve lighting to create/improve sense of safety
- Alcohol free zones during set times on streets where drinking is a problem to reduce ASB

Environment

- High Road shop fronts need improving
- More public space, but not at the expense of existing buildings i.e. they should not be demolished in the process

Transport and access

- Bring back the 'Green bus' that used to travel from Tottenham to Southend
- Better access to leisure/outdoor space, eg: Lea Valley

Community facilities and amenities

- Community centres available for local organisations to use at low cost

Housing

- Make the new houses more attractive, not overcrowded, with separate rooms for each child
- Affordable to stay both in terms of rents and property prices

Reputation

- Massive PR campaign to improve Tottenham's reputation

Community empowerment

- Delegation of local budgets

Young people

- Inspire young people to find a future in any field – science, engineering, think bigger than just dance, sports and music.

General comments

A Q&A session at the beginning of the Community Liaison Group meeting and comments made throughout the evening highlighted the anger felt by local businesses that could be affected by future development in the High Road West area. This included businesses on Tottenham High Road opposite the site of the proposed new stadium, and on White Hart Lane, including Peacock Industrial Estate. These businesses felt that their views had not been taken into account during the High Road West consultation, and were therefore sceptical about the Tottenham's Future consultation and whether their opinions would be listened to. Some business representatives were hoping for further information about High Road West development, despite the fact that this was not the forum where this was going to be available, and could not see the value in discussing 20 years of Tottenham's future if they were to be closed within a few years.

However, some residents, businesses and representatives of community groups were more supportive of future redevelopment in the High Road West area and felt that the Community Liaison Groups were a useful way of gathering feedback on Tottenham's long term future.