

## **This board believes that the Liaison Meetings between the WDCO executive and the development partners should be discontinued.**

There is widespread agreement that the proceedings of the WDCO board need to be made both more efficient and more effective.

It is my view that the Liaison Meeting should be discontinued altogether, because:

- 1) as it stands it is both ineffective and inefficient,
  - a) and occupies a disproportionate amount of WDCO time
  - b) , and occupies a disproportionate amount of partner time
- 2) many of the topics it covers are not properly the concern of WDCO
- 3) it brings forth little or no new information
- 4) we are at a midpoint of a regeneration which has 17 years to run, it is unlikely that significant new information will emerge in the two weeks between a board meeting and a Liaison Meeting to justify the time devoted to it
- 5) alternative measures are now in place to deal with the escalation of the detailed operational matters which form much of the liaison agenda, notable the role of the Vice Chair assigned to this area

I reach this conclusion not in haste, but after a full year of my attendance at such meetings, and a careful analysis of the meetings of July 2nd and October 8th.

### **In respect of October 8th.**

The partners all gave verbal reports which added nothing to our knowledge, essentially being a repetition of what was stated at the board.

Only when Simon, Geoff and Oonagh asked questions did any new information come forth.

Berkeley Homes – Provided a date for the removal of scaffolding, which is not a WDCO issue, it should be part of a comms programme between Berkeley and residents. Simon could have either waited for this date or emailed Trevor.

London Borough of Hackney - The date of occupation of Block D is important and was not included in the verbal update. When Oonagh asked for this date an off-the-cuff estimate was provided. We can ask till we're blue in the face. It will happen when it happens.

London Borough of Hackney – In response to Geoff’s question on the newly added Woodberry Grove North houses Hackney were slightly surprised that WDCO wants to know, and offered a vague reassurance.

I very strongly believe that WDCO and the partners would be better off without this meeting and that emails from responsible VCs would be a more effective and efficient form of communication.

These proceedings also highlight how many routine , daily operational proceedings have been escalated to WDCO with little appreciable benefit.

These matters should be the concern of RAs and TRAs . It should be the role of WDCO to ensure that the RAs are sufficiently well formed to pursue these issues, while WDCO pursues regeneration issues. We now have a Vice Chair tasked with strengthening the role of Residents’ Associations.

If the RAs are not capable, then ITLA should be the main recourse for such issues. If ITLA is insufficiently resourced to deal with the problems then this question of resourcing needs to be addressed. If ITLA were less occupied running WDCO meetings and business then the resource shortfall in other areas would be less marked.

This paper has been produced to support the confidential session of the WDCO board to be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> 2024, a meeting with an agenda proposed by a group of board members and unanimously agreed at the Executive Board meeting of November 13<sup>th</sup>.