

Minutes of the Moorings Neighbourhood Forum
Held on Monday, 28 April 2025 at 6pm at the Moorings Sociable Club

People present

Derek Sewell (Vice chair), Rachel Sewell, Deborah Frimpong (Chair), Lola Akinrodaye, Beatrice Anaman, Ozge Ali, Dan Wells (Peabody), Rosa Guzzetta, Dave Rugg, Sue Pollock, Pat Robinson, Choamaka Muoneke

Apologies: Faith Oimage, Cllr Olu Babatola, Con Lobo, John Hogan, Keith Jones

1. Matters arising.

Is there an update on the bridge? We are still waiting for it to be sorted; there is no update.

Is there an update on the flooded underpass? According to Fix My Street, it has been fixed. If it is still a problem, it needs to be reported again.

2. Update regarding the flooded underpass, Hedges opposite Thamesmere Leisure Centre, the steps by the A-bridge (Dan)

Dan reported; 'A bridge' - the contractor is waiting for materials. We have not been given any further info, there is still contention over who is responsible for parts of the bridge.

Hedges; there are no reports on Fix My Street. Derek will report this evening.

Voyager Close; lights are not working - this is under Bexley.

Many Peabody street lights are still out. Some are being addressed. Derek suggested putting lights on the back burner until next winter, as the evenings are lighter and it is not easy to check.

Next to Jubilee Hall there is a dead tree, there does not appear to be any way to report it. Dan agreed that there is a glitch owing to its location. He will ensure that it reaches the right people.

Dan has a document that he uses to help find ownership, so that issues can be passed to the correct people. He will share with the Forum at the next meeting.

Dan expressed that it is ideal when reporting issues, we use 'What three Words'. Dan will show how to use the app at the next meeting.

3. Update regarding the Ground Works project (Ozge/ Sue/ Deborah)

Ozge shared that the sessions have been very encouraging. She shared the feedback, which has been very positive across all sessions (Cultural food celebration, Dental, Cooking, Gardening). Those attending said that they have found them beneficial for both physical and mental health.

Ozge will share the full feedback and it will be sent to the forum.

There are still more sessions that will be held.

Ozge asked if we want to apply for the grant again, so that we can continue to run these sessions. Is everyone who is involved willing to continue to help? Derek is not able to commit to help with the photography in the future. However, Sue, Deborah and Ozge are happy to carry on again next year.

It was voted and agreed with a show of hands.

4. Presenting the constitution and noting changes. (Please read our rewritten constitution) (See appendix 1)

There are no real changes - we have just shortened it and updated it using the agreed past minutes.

Note:

- (1) Aims/Purpose Derek read from the constitution.
- (2) The limit was already agreed but never updated. Now fully updated
- (3) changes.

There is greater clarity for our members. How to join and why you should join. Open to almost anyone. We have sharpened the how-to-join section, the key thing is to attend meetings and receive the updates (Not simply sign up to the mailing list as before). As a forum, we want people to be active and engage in the community.

If there are any changes, they will be discussed and approved at a committee meeting.

A discussion was held as to what commitment is in relation to the forum. The emphasis is on attending and participating in meetings. Sharpen this section at the next committee meeting.

Are we happy to adopt the constitution? Agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

5. What areas would people like to see us working on over the next year?

Titdy Central Thamesmead? It would be good to start again, but we need someone to lead.

Do share any other areas you would like to work on over the next year and report to the meeting.

Addressing fly-tipping, especially in the Disraeli Close area. Deborah is going to try and get some photos.

Questions were raised about:

The fire in Cole Close

Stabbing on Moorings a week or two ago

E scooters in the area

All of the above need to be raised with the police

6. Next meetings

- a. 26 May Committee meeting (half term)** - Date needs to be changed as it is

on a bank holiday

b. 23 June Public Forum (Police)

AOB

Ozge has the feedback forms about the ramps - passed them to Dan. Ramp is not as good as thought it would be. There are still not enough drop curbs at the end of the ramp and you have to use the road as no drop curb.

Deborah raised her concern that while the slope is good as far as it goes, no thought has been given to the adjoining paths that are either too narrow for wheelchairs or are lacking drop-downs, forcing the user to risk their lives on the roads.

The new Water Sports Operation at Southmere Lake launches from this weekend...

<https://www.thesharks.org.uk/thamesmead> - this is the flyer on the Sharks website. If interested have a look.

<https://www.thamesmeadnow.org.uk/whats-on/nature/try-paddle-sports-at-southmere-lake/> - this is the info we have on our TMNow website

Peabody will be door-knocking to invite locals to a pop-up cafe at the Sociable Club. MNF can join if we want, it will give us an opportunity to speak to local residents.

Need to remember Sue will be stepping down as treasurer next year. We need someone to take over.

AGM

1) Chair's report (Deborah)

The Chair's report - everyone was given a copy of the report.

URGENT The Moorings Neighbourhood Forum is in need of volunteers that will engage in order for us to function more effectively.

As another year has come, this report provides an overview of the committee changes, community projects, areas of discussions, updates from Police initiatives, and decisions made by the Moorings Neighbourhood Forum (MNF) in 2024-2025. Thank you to everyone who has been attending the meetings.

As a result of the Moorings Neighbourhood Forum (MNF) not meeting the required designation there were discussions on whether to close the Forum, remain and retain the 'MNF' name or adopt a new identity. Catherine from the Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) clarified that we could maintain our designation as a Neighbourhood Forum, though we would need to apply for redesignation. There was eventually a consensus to move forward to remain Moorings Neighbourhood Forum.

Tracey Megson and Ray Woodage both stepped down from the committee. We thank them for all their contributions throughout the years. Sue later agreed to continue to serve as Treasurer until 2026.

A bid for health and well-being workshops by Ozge was successful which has been running well. Ozge is overseeing the project with support from myself and Sue covering cooking, dental health and gardening, with a photo book documenting the progress of each session created by Derek. The sessions feature trips, including a trip to the beach, and focus on key events like Eid, Black History Month, and Christmas.

Sue attended a book launch panel discussion on 31st May 2024, where the book focused on building the Sociable Club, which Sue reported was well attended.

I gave an update on the Arup Racial Equity & City Report Launch, which took place on the 13th June 2024. It looked at the possible challenges people of different races face. The report can be accessed at <https://www.arup.com/globalassets/downloads/insights/r/racial-equity-and-the-city.pdf>.

Dave Rugg agreed to spearhead the potholes reporting with some already completed. We encourage continued reporting.

A Facebook campaign has been underway to recruit more members to the Forum. Thanks to Keith for keeping the social media up to date.

The ongoing issue with street lighting at the Sky Roundabout has persisted since June 2024. Cllr Larry Ferguson escalated the matter to Bexley Council. While UK Power Networks resolved part of the issue before Christmas, a second fault requires Bexley Council's attention before final connection can be made. The problem is obsolete street furniture and asbestos. Bexley Council continues to liaise with UK Power Networks to resolve issues. The Council's contractor is not able to give any time scales as to when everything will be finished.

The Levelling-Up designers consulted the community regarding Arnott Close, focusing on accessibility improvements and aspirations for making it a playable space for young children. Feedback and further consultations took place. The project has now had the ramp by the Christian Life Centre Church installed.

Leanne Kelly from DG Cities introduced a project addressing social isolation in Thamesmead. Surveys were distributed to gather local feedback. A lack of male-focused activities and closure of play areas was highlighted. Weekly social activities are available at Thamesmere Leisure Centre.

Fly-tipping near Gallions Reach Health Centre has been addressed. Birchmere land ownership remains under review between Peabody and Greenwich. We encourage residents to report issues using the FixMyStreet platform and to document any fly-tipping incidents as criminal offences.

My Peabody app was introduced with a proposal for monthly training sessions every Thursday.

The overgrown path from the bus stop near the Health centre to the Town Centre was addressed and continues to be an ongoing issue. The suggestion was made to encourage members to focus on specific areas. The problem of youths causing disturbances near Birchmere Lake was raised with local authorities.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team reported recent initiatives, including the distribution of contact handouts, ongoing drug interventions. The police discussed Ward priorities which included a planned visit with the local MP which took place. Theft of vehicles and their content, traffic offences and youth shoplifting have been issues raised by the police. A knife search at Abbeywood station resulted in two arrests and McDonald's has been designated a "Safe Haven". Peabody continues to support gang prevention work. The community is encouraged to report incidents and submit feedback.

The Thamesmead Festival will take place this year on Saturday, 2nd August 2025, 12 pm - 7.30 pm, at Southmere Park, SE2 9XA. Flyers and banners will be distributed.

Additionally, Derek and I have worked to adapt the Constitution to be agreed at the AGM.

Finally, going forward due to health reasons, I have agreed to stand as Co-Chair for the year with the support of Derek. Derek has been a major backbone for the community and the Moorings Neighbourhood Forum for it to continue to stand.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and commitment to our community.

Mrs Deborah Frimpong

Chair - Moorings Neighbourhood Forum

(MNF)

2) Financial report (Sue)

Sue talked us through the financial statement, and explained any queries.



REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st March 2025

Legal and Administrative Information

Registration office and Operational address

C/o Peabody Office,
15 - 19A Joyce Dawson Way.
Thamesmead,
SE28 8RA

Organisational Status

Formally Designated as a Forum in 2019

Executive Committee

Mrs Deborah Frimpong, (Chair)
Mr Derek Sewell, (Vice Chair)
Mrs Sue Pollock, (Treasurer)

Bankers

PO Box 1000. BX11LT

Lloyds Bank plc, Victoria (309897) branch,

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

PURPOSE AND AIMS

The Moorings Neighbourhood Forum works to bring our local community together to improve lives. The purpose of the Forum is to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the neighbourhood area.

In June 2019 we became formally “designated” as a Neighbourhood Forum by the Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) and in the future be involved in neighbourhood planning processes in the area.

The Moorings Neighbourhood Forum Aims

1. Improve Lighting
2. Spreading local information
3. Working towards a safer and cleaner neighbourhood by helping to report issues to the relevant authorities to bring about change
4. Engaging with new building developments
5. Helping support and promote local enterprises/projects

Ensuring Our Work Delivers our Aims

We review our aims and objectives yearly. We consider what we have achieved and the outcomes of our work. We consider the success and benefit brought to the community against each aim, which helps us to remain focused on our stated purpose and future.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS REPORT April 1st 2024 - to March 31st 2025**Income**

Opening Balance from 1 st April 2024	£1,242.50
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Source of Funding

31/05/2024 Groundworks- Round 3 - Remainder of Travel expenses	
from Woodlands Farm visit	£72.00
16/09/2024 NHS Greenwich - Groundwork London - (Part 1)	£11,045.18
31/10/2024 - GAVS/METRO Training - Monitoring & Evaluation	£80.00
21/11/2024 - GAVS/METRO Training – Communication	£120.00
07/02/2025 - Winners - From Resident's conference in October 2024	£200.00
17/03/2025 NHS Greenwich - Groundwork London - (Part 2)	£5,522.59
Total Income	£18,282.27

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DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT	BALANCE
10/04/2024	Garden session 3	£119.49	£1,123.01
01/05/2024	Garden session 4	£116.99	£1,006.02
24/05/2024	Travel expenses for families to Woodlands Farm	£130.00	£876.02
03/06/2024	Garden session 5	£140.00	£808.02
06/06/2024	Cooking session 6	£126.25	£681.77
06/06/2024	Travel costs to Mudchute and Woodland Farm, Food, P/M @7 x35hrs	£288.05	£393.72
02/07/2024	Photography and book print	£350.00	£43.72
25/09/2024	Food for cooking sessions	£145.00	£10,943.90
30/09/2024	P/Manage@35.5hrs@£40/hr	£1,420.00	£9,523.90
30/09/2024	Cooking session 4hrs@£40	£160.00	£9,363.90
08/10/2024	DBS Check	£18.00	£9,343.90
09/10/2024	Cultural Food Event	£425.00	£8,920.90
23/10/2024	Dental goody bags	£234.60	£8,686.30
23/10/2024	Policy Bee Insurance	£89.60	£8,596.70
08/11/2024	Dental sessions asst	£75.00	£8,601.70
13/11/2024	Project Management 24 x £40	£960.00	£7,641.70
13/11/2024	Cooking Session x 4hrs	£160.00	£7,481.70
13/11/2024	Cooking Session asst	£30.00	£7,451.70
14/11/2024	Photography	£59.50	£7,392.20
18/11/2024	Dental sessions x 5	£400.00	£6,992.20
27/11/2024	Tump 53 meeting	£80.00	£7,032.20
27/11/2024	T. Megson gift & Food for MNF Mtg	£84.14	£6,948.06
28/11/2024	Cooking session x 4hr@£40/hr	£160.00	£6,788.06
06/12/2025	Project Management 21hrs@£40	£840.00	£5,948.06

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DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT	BALANCE
06/01/2025	Project Management 22hr @£40/hr	£880.00	£5,068.06
08/01/2025	Christmas Event for 19th December	£475.00	£4,593.06
09/01/2025	Christmas Event 4hrs @£40/hr	£160.00	£4,433.06
03/02/2025	Chinese New Year - Catering event	£500.00	£3,933.06
05/02/2025	Cooking session/Project mang 11@£40	£600.00	£3,333.06
06/02/2025	Support- Christmas Event: £15 x 3hrs	£45.00	£3,288.06
11/02/2025	Photography -£17x2hrs+£17x1.5hrs	£59.50	£3,428.56
11/02/2025	Web Domain and support	£87.45	£3,341.11
13/02/2025	Photography- £17x2hrs+£17x1.5hrs	£59.50	£3,281.61
14/02/2025	Gardening tools	£10.50	£3,271.11
03/03/2025	Seed Pots and Plant ties	£10.25	£3,260.86
03/03/2025	Butterfly Packs x 2	£24.97	£3,235.89
05/03/2025	Project management Feb - 13hrs x £40	£520.00	£2,715.89
05/03/2025	Cooking session 22/2 - 4hrs @£40/hr	£160.00	£2,555.89
05/03/2025	Dental sessions x 2asst	£105.00	£2,450.89
05/03/2025	Dental sessions x 5 x2hrs@£40	£400.00	£2,050.89
06/03/2025	Gardening - Seeds for sowing	£23.64	£2,027.25
07/03/2025	Dental items for Dental sessions	£53.28	£1,973.97
10/03/2025	Stationery: Laminate pouches x 2 pcks	£10.69	£1,963.28
17/03/2025	Clay pots, soil, seeds Herbs, Large plastic plant boxes	£133.74	£7,352.13
18/03/2025	Service charges	£5.75	£7,346.38
20/03/2025	Garden items	£8.20	£7,338.18
20/03/2025	Greenhouse	£31.24	£7,306.94
24/03/2024	Garden sessions craft items	£8.25	£7,298.69
26/03/2025	Garden sessions craft items	£9.00	£7,289.69
27/03/2025	Photography	£51.00	£7,238.69

27/03/2025	Food for cooking & DBS Check	£50.00	£7,188.69
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Accounts Summary

Income: £18,282.27

Expenditure: £11,093.58

Amount in Bank at years end 31st March 2025: £7,188.69

On examination of the accounts, no matter has come to my attention. An external auditor is required for this examination, as the income does not exceed our requirement of £20,000 for an independent external examiner.

Mrs. Sue Pollock

DATE: 23rd April 2025

Treasurer of The Moorings Neighbourhood Forum

4) Electing committee members and officers

Elect two scrutineers - Dan and Rachel were chosen as scrutineers

Note that Con is failing due to ill health, but we have felt it wise to allow him to stand even though we are not expecting him to take the weight of a committee member.

Everyone was re-elected to continue on the committee by a clear majority.

Appendix 1

The constitution of the Moorings' Neighbourhood Forum

1. About

The Moorings Neighbourhood Forum was formed in Winter 2017 by local residents and partners. In April 2024, we agreed to continue our work even without formal council designation.

Our area of primary focus:



2. Purposes

To improve the social, economic, and environmental well-being of the Moorings area and enhance local lives.

3. Objectives

- Raise awareness of local issues and empower residents to act.
- Work towards a safer and cleaner neighbourhood.
- Collaborate with the local police and authorities.
- Support local businesses and community projects.
- Promote healthy lifestyles.
- Share local news to encourage community involvement.

4. Membership

Open to anyone who supports our aims and who meets one or more of the following criteria:

- A resident or worker in the Moorings area.
- Representing a local group, business, school or faith group.
- An elected ward representative (Ex-Officio).
- Genuinely interested in the area.

How to Join:

Attend meetings and sign up for updates. No fees (voluntary donations welcome).

Revoking Membership:

The committee can revoke membership if someone goes against the Forum aims (with right to appeal at a general meeting).

5. Management Committee and Executives

The committee consists of up to 12 members, elected annually at the AGM. It includes:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Additional members as needed

Committee Roles Include:

- Shaping the Forum's agenda and strategic direction.
- Managing finances and administrative matters.
- Representing the Forum at local events and initiatives.
- Organising public events and meetings.

The executive committee is made up of elected officers.

Current Officers (As of April 2024)

- [REDACTED]

6. Annual General Meeting:

Held annually in April. Members will receive at least 14 days' notice. A record of each AGM shall be produced and made publicly available.

AGM includes:

- Reports from Chair and Treasurer
- Approval of finances
- Election of committee members for the following year.
- Discussion of other matters
- Urgent items may be added to the agenda by a two-thirds vote.

Conflict of Interest:

Must be declared. Affected members don't vote or take part in related decisions.

Elections

- Nominees must:
 - Live, work, or have a demonstrable interest in the Moorings.
 - Have attended recent public meetings (with apologies given if absent).
 - Be willing to serve the community and attend most committee meetings.
- Nominations must be submitted 3 days before AGM and be recommended by two others
- Voting is by ballot. Appointed scrutineers to oversee the process.
- Proxy votes allowed with 24 hours' notice.

7. Other Meetings:

- At least 3 public forum meetings per year.
- Committee meets at least twice annually.
- Voting by show of hands (except elections).
- Meeting minutes will be shared.
- Any conflicts of interest must be declared.

8. Finances:

- Financial year: 1 April – 31 March
- Records kept for 6 years
- Open to inspection with 10 days' notice
- The Forum holds a bank account requiring two signatories.
- Independent examination of the accounts is needed if annual turnover exceeds £20,000.
- Funding through donations, grants, etc.

9. Amendments:

Changes to the Constitution require a two-thirds vote at a general meeting.

10. Dissolution:

If dissolved, remaining funds go to a similar community group, ideally in or near the Moorings.

11. Signatures:

This version was adopted at the April 2025 AGM by:

- Chair: [Name]
- Secretary: [Name]
- Treasurer: [Name]
- Other Committee Members: [Names]