



Northern Line Extension Kennington Park and Newington Community Liaison Group

Thursday 14 November 2019
The Royal British Legion Club, 34 Gaza Street, London, SE17 3RD

Attendees:

Name	Organisation
CHAIR: Cllr Eleanor Kerlake (Cllr EK)	LB Southwark
Carla Arnold (CA)	FLO – NLE
Ruth Briant (RB)	Resident
Mel Cullinan (MC)	Resident
Richard Flindell (RF)	TfL
Julian Hazeldine (JH)	TfL
Linda Haddock (LH)	Resident
Troy Healey (TH)	TfL
Bob Lentell (BL)	KWNAG
Gill Lucas (GL)	Resident
Sean Maher (SM)	Resident
Joseph May (JM)	Resident
John Mealey (JMe)	Minute-taker
Michelle Stokes (MS)	Resident
Mark Thompson (MT)	TfL
Sue Vincent (SV)	Resident

Apologies:

Name	Organisation
Marietta Crichton Stuart (MCS)	Friends of Kennington Park
Gordon Johnston (GJ)	Friends of Kennington Park

Item		Action
1.0	Introductions and apologies	
1.1	Cllr Eleanor Kerslake (Cllr EK) welcomed all attendees and confirmed she would be chairing tonight's meeting. Round-the-table introductions took place.	
2.0	<p data-bbox="252 656 1230 694">Minutes of the previous meeting – accuracy and matters arising</p> <p data-bbox="252 728 1283 831">2.1 Cllr EK requested the minutes from the previous CLG are resent to residents as the version that has been circulated is password-protected. Cllr EK requested the minutes do not contain a password, when re-sent.</p> <p data-bbox="252 875 1251 913">Action 1: Richard Flindell (RF) to resend the CLG minutes to residents, dated 25 July 2019, which are not password protected.</p> <p data-bbox="252 947 1289 1010">2.2 As hard copies of the minutes from the previous CLG were not available at tonight's meeting and residents could not open the document online, Cllr EK said the minutes could not be approved. Minutes to be approved once reviewed.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1043 1102 1081">2.3 Cllr EK went through the actions from the previous meeting.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1115 1294 1413">2.4 Action 1 (2.2) – part one: RF provided an update on the programme for operational ground-borne noise monitoring during the commissioning phase of the project and explained that the NLE will be taking base noise level readings in December 2019 and in summer 2021 when testing passenger trains during the commissioning phase of the project. This will take place in properties between Kennington Station and the start/end of the new tunnels (including Cleaver Square and De Laune Street). Condition 13 states noise must not increase over existing track once operational. RF explained letters have been sent to residents in the relevant roads, asking for volunteers to allow TfL to take the necessary base noise level readings from within their properties.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1447 1278 1659">2.5 Action 1 (2.2) – part two: RF also provided an update on Condition 19, regarding the monitoring of Kennington Station. RF said the Condition 19 update will be carried out as part of TfL's normal passenger data collection regimes via route origin and destination and Oyster data. A base level will be established prior to the NLE becoming operational, so TfL can review daily usage.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1693 1294 1883">2.6 Gill Lucas (GL) asked whether a strategy was in place, if ever there was a fire inside Kennington Station. Julian Hazeldine (JH) said if the level of usage at Kennington Station exceeds the parameters of the current fire safety case, then it would be revised, with additional measures introduced as required.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1917 1273 2018">2.7 GL commented the that the current operation of the station was unsafe, which JH and Mark Thompson (MT) rejected. They advised that the operation of the station, in addition to TfL's own operational safety</p>	RF

	<p>assessment, was subject to review by external bodies such as the Office of Road & Rail and the London Fire Brigade. TfL was not in a position to share the fire safety case and operational plans, as these documents have security implications. TfL suggested that as an alternative, Cllr EK and a representative of Southwark Building Control could meet with the senior operational manager for Kennington and the safety team, for a briefing on fire and operational safety precautions at the station.</p> <p>Action 2: TfL to extend invitation for Cllr EK to meet the Kennington station senior manager and his team.</p>	TfL
2.8	<p>Bob Lentell (BL) referred to the base noise level readings to be taken in December, and presuming that readings would not be taken on the new track at the Battersea end as there are no trains running. RF said readings will be taken between the step plate junction and start of Kennington Station, which are the areas of track currently used.</p>	
2.9	<p>BL and Michelle Stokes (MS) both expressed concerns that TfL has not left enough time for improvements to be made before the NLE is operational, if the levels recorded during trial operations exceeded those permitted under TfL's undertakings. JH said that while TfL can model and simulate train movements, on-the-ground readings cannot be performed before the infrastructure is physically complete.</p>	
2.10	<p>MT attempted to alleviate BL's and MS's concerns and explained that a low vibration track form has been installed on NLE-built infrastructure, using the latest industry knowledge.</p>	
2.11	<p>BL advised that he lives on top of the step plate junction and hears engineering trains during the evening more frequently than previously. BL asked whether operational NLE trains are likely to be noisier than engineering trains. MT explained that engineering trains are only run after the close of traffic at approximately 0045.</p>	
2.12	<p>MT also said many engineering trains have been run by the NLE over the past 12 months and no complaints were received.</p>	
2.13	<p>GL said she has been experiencing an increase in disruptive vibration episodes at her home, as recent as 18.00 this evening. TfL advised that they would refer the matter to their colleagues operating the existing railway. GL repeated that the vibrations are getting progressively worse and she is concerned that the current vibration levels will be seen as the norm during base level testing readings.</p>	
2.14	<p>Cllr EK requested TfL takes the complaint away as an action to investigate. RF confirmed the issue would be investigated and asked other residents that if they have any issues, they could report to them TfL's Customer Service.</p> <p>Action 3: TfL to investigate the increase in vibration at GL's property.</p> <p>Troy Healey (TH) asked GL whether noise and vibration monitoring was</p>	TfL

2.15	recorded at her property before the NLE project commenced. GL said yes. TH said TfL can therefore use these results when investigating the recent vibration issues.	
2.16	MT said that there can be slight variations in tube noise from time to time, with causes including a train-borne fault, or a corrugated rail which is then changed. Both reactive and planned maintenance is carried out on the tube assets.	
2.17	Action 2 (2.4): RF confirmed point 4.8 in the minutes from 25 April was amended, as requested.	
2.18	Action 3 (4.2): RF confirmed the Kennington Park Headhouse consultation report is available publicly on TfL's website. Cllr EK requested a link to the report be sent to residents.	
	Action 4: RF to send a link to the Kennington Park Head House consultation report to the Kennington Park CLG mailing list.	TfL
2.19	Action 4 (4.3): Following Marietta Crichton Stuart's (MCS) request for TfL to provide a copy of the full detailed condition survey and images of the site prior to NLE works taking place, TH said TfL has looked at historical images of the site, which have been worked to. TH said reference will be made when restoring the dog-walking area. While the vast majority of the plans for the Park have already been discharged as part of the Head House application, some details still need to be resolved. TH said discussions took place to determine whether there was room to alter the scope for the tree species planted in the Park, however the species were already approved in the planning application. TH also confirmed that TfL is speaking to the individual who has stewardship of Kennington Park to ensure they are content with the plans.	
2.20	RF read a statement provided by MCS. Cllr EK said she was glad discussions are ongoing between TfL and the relevant parties regarding the park.	
2.21	Action 5 (4.11): RF said actions 3 and 5 in the previous minutes were essentially the same request, so please see above for the action update.	
2.22	Action 6 (4.15): Following a request for FLO to provide MCS with details of those who have tendered for the reinstatement of Kennington Park, RF explained that contracts will not be signed until next year, so cannot be shared yet, as this is commercially sensitive information.	
2.23	Sue Vincent (SV) asked whether it was an open tender process or was it between selected suppliers. RF said he would confirm this at the next CLG.	
	Action 5: TfL to confirm whether tendering for the reinstatement of Kennington Park was an open tender process or between selected suppliers.	TfL

<p>2.24</p> <p>2.25</p> <p>2.26</p> <p>2.27</p> <p>2.28</p>	<p>Action 7 (5.8): RF confirmed that prior to the NLE becoming operational, base noise and vibration levels will be recorded. Once operational, any complaints about the NLE or any other TfL line should be logged with TfL Customer Services and the complaint will then be investigated by the relevant department.</p> <p>SV asked that, if the noise of trains braking disturbed residents through decibel counts in excess of the permitted levels, what mitigation would be taken to alleviate the issue. RF responded that the remedy applied would differ based on the cause of the issue. Works to both trains and track were possible, once any cause had been identified.</p> <p>MT clarified that only part of the Kennington Loop has been re-railed. Re-railing is carried out as required, following recordings and assessment feedback from drivers etc. MT also said if residents can hear noise, it will more than likely be wheel/rail interface ground-borne vibration. Electric brakes are used in all situations except for actually halting a train at a station.</p> <p>Cllr EK repeated that if residents notice an increase in noise or vibration, they should contact TfL, which will then investigate and confirm whether the increase is due to the new works, the operation of the existing railway or something else.</p> <p>SV asked what TfL's timeframe is when investigating and resolving complaints. RF said Customer Services operates to a service level agreement, which can be found online. RF to also provide the answer at the next CLG.</p> <p>Action 6: RF to confirm TfL's service level agreement when investigating and responding to complaints.</p>	<p>TfL</p>
<p>3.0</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p>	<p>NLE progress update and presentation including a summary of work completed since April and a look ahead to the next three months</p> <p>Progress update – a presentation was provided by MT, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress at Kennington Park between July-October • Work scheduled to take place between November-January • A works timeline and look ahead for the site <p>Environmental monitoring update – a presentation was provided by MT, which included a monitoring update for noise and air quality levels at Kennington Park.</p> <p>SV asked whether noise monitoring can be produced for actual train movements. MT said no and explained the monitoring results displayed are just for construction. Train movements are constant, so the noise levels stay the same.</p> <p>Cllr EK asked what happens when there are noise or air quality exceedances. MT explained that the project team receives immediate</p>	

	notification when levels are breached and investigate, modifying their construction methodology if required.	
3.5	Complaints and enquiries update – a presentation was given by Carla Arnold (CA), which provided a summary for Kennington Park for the period between 25 July-14 November.	
3.6	Community engagement and NLE skills and employment update – a presentation was given by CA, which provided an update on FLO’s community engagement effort, as well as the project’s skills and employment initiatives.	
3.7	SV asked whether TfL/FLO keeps records of local employment, as it would be good to see a breakdown. MT confirmed this could be provided at the next CLG.	
	Action 7: TfL/FLO to provide a breakdown of local employment figures across the project.	TfL/FLO
3.8	BL requested that tonight’s presentation be circulated with the minutes.	
	Action 8: TfL to circulate the progress update presentation, when sending the meeting minutes.	TfL
3.9	BL thanked CA for letting residents know in advance what is happening on site. BL said residents really appreciate the great proactive approach which helps people prepare for what work is taking place. CA thanked BL for his comments and said FLO will always try to provide warnings about upcoming work, where possible.	
4.0	Kennington Park Head House and Park reinstatement	
4.1	GL said that, against her expectations, she liked the unclad head house but asked whether any elements of the structure have been determined by the community. MT advised that an exercise had previously taken place, offering up the different brick options that could be incorporated into the cladding and the brick most favoured by the community had been selected. The brick selected was a Smeed Dean Islington yellow rustic brick (favoured by 27% of respondents) and has been approved by LB Lambeth. This brick was also chosen for the head house at the Kennington Green site.	
4.2	TH said the bottom two courses of brick will more than likely be engineering bricks, to ensure their longevity.	
4.3	SV said it would be good to see artist impressions or CGIs of the Head House. TfL said this was included in the consultation documents previously referred-to.	
5.0	Kennington Station	
5.1	GL commented on the current status of Kennington Station. MT underlined that tonight’s CLG was to talk about the NLE. The scope of the project was to build the Extension, which at Kennington Station	

5.2	included construction of four new cross passages only.	
5.3	Cllr EK requested an action for TfL to confirm when the cross passages will be opened and the blue hoarding be removed. MT confirmed the blue hoarding will come down in a few weeks.	
	<p>Action 9: TfL to confirm when the four cross passages at Kennington Station will be opened.</p>	
5.4	JH said the team will have to take questions away that are relating to Kennington Station. EK said the community has been asking the same questions for such a long time and they are not being answered. Cllr EK said the community does not believe Kennington Station is safe.	TfL
5.5	MT said the fire safety plan for Kennington Station is to evacuate people where possible by trains and to make the station non-entry. Smoke doors were not part of the scope for the NLE, but TfL has added them. They will be installed at some point in 2020, but a date has not yet been set. TH added that TfL has submitted the application for listed building consent for the installation of smoke doors at Kennington Station.	
5.6	SV asked whether TfL has a master plan to redevelop Kennington Station because once the NLE is operational, overcrowding at the station will become even worse. SV hoped TfL was forward planning so that the station can be greatly improved over the next 10 years.	
5.7	MT pointed out that the new developments SV referred to only received planning permission on the basis that the NLE was being built, so were accommodate usage projections for the extension. When it comes to stations rebuilds and redevelopment, TfL prioritises the most urgent projects in light of anticipated passenger figures and the available budgets.	
5.8	SV asked whether the overrunning of Crossrail is having an impact on other TfL master plans. MT said he did not know the answer to this question, but logic would say if Crossrail is being funded by TfL and it overspends, then it would have an impact on other projects.	
5.9	Cllr EK asked again whether there is a long-term plan for Kennington Station and whether something could be provided in writing, to make the community feel like the station is safe.	
5.10	<p>BL said Cllr EK's request was very reasonable and TfL's mantra normally used to deflect discussion is 'safety is the first priority'. However, BL said when it came to a choice between extending the underground or making the existing underground safe, TfL chose to extend. TfL again maintained that the current station operation approach was safe, having been verified as such by independent bodies.</p> <p>BL explained that the community wanted any works at Kennington to be completed in one go, rather that spread across 10, 20 or 30 years. BL also said TfL's planning figures only go up to 2031.</p>	

5.11	<p>MT said the team cannot answer questions on TfL's funding for projects but explained it has priorities of areas for work. Kennington Station has been flagged, as have other stations such as Elephant and Castle. MT stressed TfL's plans are not static.</p>	
5.12	<p>MT underlined his disagreement with the statement that Kennington Station is unsafe. MT said the safety aptitude of TfL and FLO is first class.</p>	
5.13	<p>BL disagreed with MT and said if there was a need for smoke protection at Kennington station, it should have been in the proposal for the public enquiry and should have been subjected to the panel. BL appreciated it is not MT's or FLO's fault, but it was previously denied that there was a problem with the station, which is incorrect.</p>	
5.14	<p>MT said smoke doors are not being added due to the NLE. MT also said the cross passages have made the station safer, with operation of the same going through stringent review processes.</p>	
5.15	<p>Cllr EK stressed there is concern from the public regarding Kennington Station. Cllr EK also said there have been safety disagreements between TfL and London Fire Brigade.</p>	
5.16	<p>MS asked if Kennington Station is safe, why is there a need for smoke doors. MT explained that smoke doors were not in the original scope but were considered due to fire and escape plans assessments; an example of TfL's responding to operational need.</p>	
5.17	<p>Cllr EK stated that there were concerns that Kennington Station would be unsafe in the event of a fire. Cllr EK requested it is noted that Kennington Station is an ongoing concern for the community and people want more information on the smoke doors.</p>	
5.18	<p>JH confirmed TfL will take away the requested actions and said he is probably the best person to answer questions about TfL's long-term plans for Kennington Station. JH understood the concerns about the station but said tonight's CLG is to talk about the NLE. Concerns about the current Tube system belonged outside of the project team, but that those present would consult their colleagues and respond.</p>	
5.19	<p>BL said an expert attended the public inquiry, so he may be available to attend the meeting. Cllr EK said that there was not a clear picture at the public inquiry as London Fire Brigade has not always agreed with TfL and the addition of smoke doors was not anticipated. TH pointed out that the Fire Brigade was able to instruct TfL to suspend its services if it deemed operations to be unsafe, but instead approved the current operating processes.</p>	
5.20	<p>Joseph May (JM) said for the past 10 years he has requested that the side doors at Kennington Station be opened for public use to relieve stress on the main entrance. TH said this was an action at a previous CLG and the reasons why they cannot be opened were addressed.</p>	

5.21	Mel Cullinan (MC) said many local residents feel like they turn up to the CLGs and hear about shiny new train stations nearby, but TfL is being parsimonious when it comes to providing money for Kennington Station. MC said the community feels a poor relation.	
5.22	MC queried the smell on some of the platforms at Kennington. MT said the track drainage in the loop needs to be fixed, which is scheduled to take place in the first quarter of 2020. As a stopgap measure, disinfectant is being sprayed in the loop on two or three nights per week.	
5.23		
6.0	Future agenda items	
6.1	None raised.	
7.0	Dates of future meetings	
7.1	Date TBC.	
8.0	AOB	
8.1	Cllr EK asked when the NLE is opening. JH said the autumn of 2021.	
8.2	Cllr EK advised RF that LB of Southwark found money to repair the pavement on Braganza Street but has now been told someone at TfL does not like this idea. Cllr EK said the pavement requires work, so this decision is frustrating. RF asked Cllr EK to send him the details and he will investigate.	
8.3	Ruth Briant (RB) asked whether Kennington Station will be Zone 1 or 2 when the NLE opens. Cllr EK believes it will be both Zone 1 and 2 but requested written confirmation. Action 10: TfL to provide confirm when the re-zoning of Kennington Station will occur.	TfL
8.4	JM asked whether notices will be provided to advise about the Bank closure. RF confirmed there will be a significant amount of publicity to confirm this. JH said TfL is aware of the extent of the communication required, but the date of the closure was still being planned.	
8.5	JM asked whether Bank closure will be from Kennington. MT believes the closure would be in one direction and require a change in frequency, with a hybrid timetable.	

Meeting started at 18:35 and finished at 20:02.
Minutes drafted by JMe.