



Clissold Park User Group ordinary meeting minutes September 2026

Attendees (that signed in)

Officers/Reps: Alexandra Hamit (Chair), John Hudson (Co-Vice Chair and Treasurer), Paul Brennells (Over 60s Rep), Daphne Steele (Dogs Rep), Lucy Carter (Runners Rep), Dikla Cohen (Fundraising Rep) and Amir Dotan (History Rep).

Park users: Cyndi Diamond, Betty Manning, Yvonne Hill, Kezia Tobin, Joe Hauke, Cllr Rachel Maguire, Cllr George Sheldon-Grün, Penny Crick and Ann O'Callahan.

Dialed in: Theresa Boden (Co-Vice chair)

Apologies: Richard Crawford (Biodiversity Rep) and Hilde Oord.

Minutes of previous meeting July 2026: Available online

Representative Nominations

Amir Dotan – Website Rep
Dikla Cohen – Fundraising Rep
Ellie Haliday – Secretary

Thanks extended to new Reps, to previous Fundraising Reps Hilde Oord and Yvonne Hill and to Amir Dotan for his work on the CPUG website.

Chairs Report

Cafe access

Suggestion to add contact number for disabled access to planned map signage for Clissold House. Group re-discussed handrail for House steps, the request for which was recently rejected by the Council due to the buildings listed status. Group concluded many listed buildings have handrails.

Action: Accessibility and Disabilities Rep Ruth, and Over 60s Rep Paul, to liaise with Clissold councillors on next steps.

E-bike Campaign/Crossing Consultation

Group discussed progress made on disputing the crossing plans, issued faced with electric and pedal bikes in the park, previous CPUG efforts to have the Council introduce calming measures, and map apps showing cut through across Parks as the quickest route, increasing the number of delivery drivers through the Park. Group agreed the aim is to make roads surrounding Parks safer for cyclist, rather than diverting cycles through Parks, pedestrians. Dedicated pedestrian

group suggested. Some user groups in the Hackney Parks Forum, have collectively discussed cycling issues in the green spaces they care for, with a view to take those issues to the Council as a group. Suggestion for temporary Enforcement Officer to be appointed. Hackney Cycling Campaign to hold a Cyclist Breakfast in the Park on 19th September.

Action: Alexandra to look into Enforcement Officer and discuss next steps with Hackney Parks Forum groups.

Biodiversity

Group informed the LFB only have 2 bowsters which take a long time to fill, so they cannot use them to top up the New River, as it would leave them short in the event of an emergency. Sluice quote received and Council to set a date for repairs. Group discussed newly planted water lilies and postponement of birdbox purchase until Spring. Chair and group extended thanks to Paul for his donation to purchase the lillies.

Action: Alexandra to pass on information when date is set or repairs completed.

Self-Closing Gates

After the failure of the last trial mechanism, the group were informed that the issue is now with the Council's Project Management Team.

Action: Alexandra to keep updated.

Playground Renovations

Group discussed issues with the playground over the years the and the ongoing consultation process. Group informed that the final online and on-site consultations, are likely to take place at the end of September.

Action: Children and Young Persons Reps Emily and Eleanor to keep updated.

Prohibited action signs

Council liased with supplier, who suggested double seams for future signage, to prevent tears.

No further action.

Paddling Pool/Splash Pad

CPUG Paddling Pool Statement attached to railings. Ideas for use of the area and questions about the space are being gathered, to submit to the Council before a consultation is published. Group urged to submit questions and concerns when individually responding to the planned consultation. Concerns raised on unsafe fencing around paddling pool. Questions asked on maintenance and management of the Splash Pad, as well as cleaning and opening times of the toilets.

CPUG has asked the Council to be more forthcoming with information and signage, when the Splash Pad is faulty and not in operation.

Action: Hilde to look into survey. Alexandra to put questions raised to the Council.

Park Keepers Lodge

Group discussed current situation with the Lodge being used by park staff while the depot is refurbished, and a possible public tour of the space. Questions on conservation status of the building.

Action: To be kept on agenda while depot renovations are completed and once staff vacate the lodge, questions on planned future use, will be put to the Council. History Rep Amir to arrange tour. Alexandra to ask questions on conservation.

Quote for Noticeboard

Group informed that backboard and locks funded by CPUG have been installed, and discussions on what should be displayed are in progress.

Action: Alexandra to print and hang CPUG notices.

Hackney Mosaic

Contact with HM has been established. Group discussed possible design ideas, and the possibility of asking local schools for input. Risk of theft discussed and it was decided a cemented in installation would be the best option, possibly on the Splash Pad building or laid into the floor on the Parks central hard standing.

Action: Alexandra to look into gathering ideas and to liaise with HM for a quote.

CPUG Representative Openings

Advert for all openings published. We are now only seeking a Cycling Rep.

Action: Alexandra to advertise position.

Fountains and Drains

Group informed that individual cut-off switches have been installed on each tap, so that faulty taps can be turned off while still allowing water flow to the rest of the fountain.

No further action

Clissold Councillors

Group discussed the Hackney Council to User Group Protocol being looked at by the Hackney Parks Forum and the Council, with a view to have it updated, and reduce the requirement for Hackney Council Park Reps to attend 3 User Group meetings per year, instead extending the invite to local councillors.

Action: Alexandra to keep the group updated.

Duck Ramps

Additional ramps have been requested and are awaiting approval from the Council. If they are approved, they will be constructed by staff and installed when the boat is in the park.

Action: Biodiversity Rep Richard to keep updated.

One O'Clock Club

No update on new registration or booking process.

Action: Children and Young Persons reps Emily and Eleanor to chase.

CPUG and Hackney Council Liaison Board Meetings

After a meeting with Head of Leisure and Green Spaces at Hackney Council, Ian Holland, it was agreed that tri-monthly meetings between the two organisations would be reinstated, in the hopes it will bring about deeper discussion and more transparency on both sides.

Clissold Park User Group, Stoke Newington, London. www.clissoldpark.com

No further action.

Fundraising and Merchandise

Group discussed updating CPUG maps, and issues with selling our teatowels anywhere else but Know and Love, as they order stock and get commission from sales.

Group reached out to Anna Hymas for a quote to update and redesign the maps. Suggestion to get quotes from alternative local artists. Suggestion to have merchandise available for sale at meetings and to have stalls at Park and other events, such as the Free Wheelin' Festival, St Mary's Church Christmas event, and the Hackney History Festival. Suggestion to ask Church Street Post Office to sell our postcards. Stock take taking place, with a view to sell merchandise in bulk. Suggestion to set up an online ordering form on the CPUG website.

Action: Caroline to complete stock take, and update group once quote has been received from Anna.

Alexandra to pass on quote previously received from local artist. Alexandra to connect Fundraising Rep Dikla and Theresa, to go over what was discussed at the meeting and future steps for updating, creating and selling CPUG merchandise in local shops, and at local events.

Police Stop and Advise Cycling Events

Two events took place in August and September, and CPUG has asked Clissold Policing Team for event statistics, on number of cycles stopped etc

Action: Alexandra to feedback to group once information has been received.

Growing Communities Update

Update on volunteering and other GC activities given to group.

No further action.

Defibrillator

"Thank you" cards printed for all businesses that donated to the CPUG Quiz Night, to raise funds for the defib. Request for GP and CPUG Runners Rep Lucy Carter, to host session to run-through defib use in case of an emergency.

Action: Yvonne to deliver cards. Alexandra and Lucy to liaise on defib run-through.

Key dates for CPUG

World Cleanup Day

Sunday 20th September 10am-1pm
Meet at Clissold House toilets

Final CPUG Meeting of 2026

Saturday 14th November

Hackney Council Parks Department

parks@hackney.gov.uk

Café Management

info@finks.co.uk

Clissold House Venues and Events Officer

venuehire@hackney.gov.uk or call 020 8356 5505

Hackney Council Cabinet Member for Parks

jacob.cable@hackney.gov.uk

Clissold Safer Neighbourhood Team

07879 603 106 (please call 999 in an emergency)

Clissold@contact.metengage.co.uk

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