

**HAMPSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Tuesday, 15 July 2014, 6.30 pm.**

**Attending:** Councillor Siohbhan Baillie (CSB)  
Carissa Bub (CB)  
Stuart Flude (SF)  
Janine Griffis (JG)  
Vicki Harding (VH)  
Alex Nicoll (AN)  
Fiona Reeve (FR)  
Kimry Schlacter (KS)  
Stephen Taylor (ST)  
Ben van Bruggen (BvB)  
Sebastian Wocker (SW)

**Also Attending:** Sowmya Pathasarathy  
Andrew Haslam-Jones (Adviser)

**Apologies:** Bob Buhr  
David Castle  
Linda Chung  
Councillor Tom Currie  
Peter Kohl  
Andrew Parkinson  
Melissa Remus Elliot  
Ellen Solomons  
Councillor Stephen Stark  
Laura White  
Jeremy Wootliff

**Location:** Magdala Pub, South Hill Park

**1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING; MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the meeting of 18 June 2014 were approved without amendment.

JG reported that following the Forum stalls at the South End Green and Hampstead Festivals, the membership was now 565.

Contact has also been made with New End and St. Anthony's Schools and follow up will take place in the autumn.

Jeremy Wootliff has reported the concerns of the NW3 Business Group, which we are adding to our evidence base.

Nicola Tully of Camden has advised that there is no need to chase any additional comments (only one mildly negative comment had been received that the Forum should include Belsize Park).

KS reminded the meeting that also, on 17 July, there would be an informal get-together near Waterloo Station of people involved in planning to exchange ideas.

JG also reminded the meeting that the Royal Free had published plans on its website of its planned development.

CSB informed the meeting that Tesco in Hampstead has applied for permission to extend its loading bay to provide for articulated lorries that apparently, in its original planning application, it had said it would not use.

## **2. UPDATE FROM THE VISION SUBGROUP**

BB and SP reported on the Vision document that the Vision subgroup had produced. The document has been based on the previous six months of consultation and more detail will be added would developed after consultation. They asked for e-mail comments no later than Saturday, 19 July. The aim was to ensure that all issues were present in the document so that people could comment. Camden was asking for planning and non-planning issues to be clearly separated but this may not be possible at this early stage.

SP mentioned the most contentious issues (e.g. heritage and housing, regulating basement and roof developments) but stressed the need to gather evidence to support a case. The Localism Act was about providing planning guidance on how communities should grow rather than on preventing change per se.

SW raised the question of to what extent the Forum should engage in opposing particularly large or important developments which might appear not to fit with the Forum's vision.

ST and BB underlined the importance of the Forum plan sitting with London- and borough-wide development plans and setting out policies with precision to address the developmental requirements of the Forum area.

The process by which the Vision document could be reviewed and commented on was discussed.

CSB pointed out that Camden is conducting a planning policy review of its own starting in September. This should be monitored for incompatibility with the Forum plan.

The role of the Forum in reviewing substantial developments was discussed but it was pointed out that the Forum plan rather than the Forum itself would have standing and the need for precision in the plan was further underlined.

## **3. UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUBGROUP**

Engagement at the summer festivals to date had been reported in matters arising.

KS underlined the need for the committee and its members to set out some "rules of engagement" for volunteers. The aim was to ensure that the provision of views by and involvement of as many people as possible were encouraged.

The goal of having as many members as possible to the Forum was discussed.

CB and ST were meeting tomorrow to discuss how to engage with the South End Green traders, possibly by a public meeting and presentation.

School engagement had been reported in matters arising. Engagement with Heathside was also mentioned and CSB undertook to talk with Fitzjohn's primary and junior school of which she is a governor.

CB mentioned the possibility of making short videos for the Forum website.

4. **LOCAL ISSUES**

BB underlined the importance of the Forum remaining “objective”, rather than “neutral”. On Sainsbury’s plan to set up shop in South End Green, it was agreed that the Forum would not at this stage engage with Sainsbury’s but would provide objective information that it had gathered to anyone involved in a local campaign against the new shop.

ST reported on his e-mail contact with the new owners of the Magdala pub. Concerns were raised about the intentions of the new owners in the medium to long term of making the pub unviable. There will be a meeting with the new owners in the next two to three weeks and the Forum would await the outcome of that meeting.

At this stage, it was important for the Magdala to be listed as asset of community value.

Pubs and pub closures (including the Roslyn Arms) were discussed and the relation with house prices.

It was reported that 29 New End is in appeal in the planning process and individuals can make their representations.

CSB undertook to find out at what stage the Tesco application to extend its loading bays is.

5. **FINANCE**

There have been no further developments on finance.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS**

FR, ST and AN reported that the rebranding of the Forum would be carried out. A new system, “Nationbuilder”, would be used and work had already commenced on the transferring data.

SF and SW undertook to send out e-mails to their e-mail databases for volunteers and people to join the Forum with wording to be supplied by FR.

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

VH had engaged with the Branch Road Allotments Association.

JG had met an ecumenical group (the Rev. Tucker, Imam Al Hussein and Msgr. Rowland) to discuss the forum.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Committee meeting will be scheduled for mid-September by doodlepole and JG will confirm that it can be held at the Holly Bush Pub.