

HAMPSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, 1 April 2015, 6:30 pm

Attending: David Castle (DC)
Stephen Taylor (ST)
Bob Buhr (BB)
Janine Griffis (JG)
Vicki Harding (VH)
Eileen Nielson (EN)
Ben van Bruggen (BVB)
Councillor Tom Currie (CTC)
Linda Chung (LC)
Andrew Haslam-Jones (AHJ)

Apologies: Alex Nicol
Councillor Siobhan Baillie
Councillor Theo Blackwell
Councillor Simon Marcus
Councillor Stephen Stark
Fiona Reeve
Stuart Flude
Sowmya Parthasarathy (SP)
Richard Price (RP)
Jeremy Wootliff (JW)

Location: 19 South Hill Park Gardens NW3 2TD

1. Minutes of Last Meeting; Matters Arising

The revised draft of minutes of the last Committee meeting, held on 4 February 2014, which had been circulated to the Committee in advance, were approved without further amendments.

The Mayor's Grant Programme was discussed. It was based on popular support demonstrated by a crowd-funding idea. Any application would have required much work and the deadline for application was 1 June 2015. Also, ST reported that the programme was intended for areas in more need of regeneration. JG and LC to discuss if a volunteer could be found to make the application.

2. Election of officers

All existing officers stood were willing to stand again. All were nominated by LC, seconded by BB. The officers are: Janine Griffis, chair; David Castle, vice chair; Stephen Taylor, secretary; Stuart Flude, treasurer; Alex Nicoll, communications.

3. Comments on Camden's Draft Plan and guidance

JG had sent out comments earlier taking the Heath and Hampstead Society's comments as a basis. She also had added comments. BVB would look at it. VH was also working on it. JG proposed adding photo evidence to the comments. Meetings to present the draft local plan had been attended by JG and DC. The deadline for comments is 23 April.

DC reported that Brian O'Donnell of Camden Council was leading. The Heath and Hampstead Society want a separate meeting with Mr. O'Donnell to discuss the plan and

would like to have a forum committee member there too. Once the Council has reviewed the plan, it will go to an Inspector. Submissions can be made to the Inspector but will have more weight if a submission has been made previously. BVB will attend if he is available.

Camden Council wants the next draft of the plan to be out in the autumn, for it to be wrapped up by the end of the year.

DC proposed a joint statement of the forum and the Heath and Hampstead Society. BVB suggested it was better for the forum to have its own statement procedurally, perhaps highlighting any differences or similarities with the Heath and Hampstead Society submission. The local plan would need to be reviewed but also the guidance.

4. Plan Development

JG reported that there had been one meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Group so far. Different sections of the plan were headed by DC, BVB (Homes & Heritage) and JG (Local Economy), RP and ST (Traffic and Transport), VH (Open Spaces), SP and AN (Demographics) and FR (Consolidation of the Sections). No one had yet been appointed for Building Community.

After reviewing existing policies, the added value of the forum plan needs to be identified and evidence for that added value needs to be supplied.

The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Group would take place on 15 April 2015. The aim is to put together the different sections by the end of the summer. CTC was thanked for highlighting the final version of the West Hampstead Neighbourhood Forum plan. BVB noted that it was good to see the amendments and what had been rejected or changed by the Inspector, e.g. height restrictions on buildings. It was also noted that amendments had been made because of lack of evidence.

5. Conservation Area Statement - progress review

DC reported that different volunteers were reviewing different sections. The Statement had been prepared nearly 15 years ago and what was wanted now was something punchier - an emphasis on management and character assessments with more detailed descriptions in an appendix at the back.

DC, BVB and SP would be drafting the character assessments. SP had completed the Willoughby Road and surrounding streets section in a short time. VH was doing part of Froggnal and the trees. BB was reviewing the section on Downshire Hill.

The timeline for review of the Conservation Area Statement was that it would be completed at the same time as the plan, i.e. by the summer.

DC noted that the Neighbourhood Plan should endorse the Conservation Area Statement. The Neighbourhood Plan would expire in 15 years. The Conservation Area Statement should be reviewed "from time to time".

6. Projects

Pub project – CTC reported that as a result of new government legislation, if a pub were identified as an Asset of Community Value (ACV), then permitted development rights would be removed from it and any changes would require full planning permission. ST, JG, CTC together with volunteers John Graham and Roger Bream were trying to list all the pubs in the forum as ACVs. The White Bear and the Magdala are already listed. The only pub that has not assented is the Duke of Hamilton.

ST suggested using the website to get different people to support the application. There would be a web page to nominate the pubs and to invite people to contribute comments.

This would also be publicised by the CNJ and the Ham & High. LC would also give CTC a contact at CAMRA that might be useful.

Pollution Study – ST was working on this.

Bat and Tree Surveys – Linda Robson was involved with this. ST would put her in touch with Dr. Greg Carson. Penny Davies of RedFrog and the Heath and Hampstead Society sub-committee would help with identifying veteran trees. VH would do the rest.

7. AOB

There was no other business.

8. Dates of future meetings

Wednesday, 6 May 2015
Wednesday, 3 June 2015
Wednesday, 8 July 2015
Wednesday, 9 September 2015
Wednesday, 7 October 2015
Wednesday, 4 November 2015