

HAMPSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, 3 June 2015, 6:30 pm

Attending:

David Castle (DC)
Janine Griffis (JG)
Andrew Haslam-Jones (AHJ)
Vicki Harding (VH)
Alex Nicoll (AN)
Melissa Remus Elliot (MRE)
Fiona Reeve (FR)
Stephen Taylor (ST)

Apologies:

Linda Chung
Stuart Flude
Peter Kohl
Eileen Neilson
Sowmya Parthasarathy
Councillor Siobhan Baillie
Councillor Theo Blackwell
Councillor Tom Currie
Councillor Stephen Stark
Bob Buhr
Ben Vanbruggen
Jeremy Wootliff

Location: Upstairs at the Holly Bush

1. Minutes of Last Meeting; Matters Arising

The minutes of the last Committee meeting, held on 6 May 2015, were approved without amendment.

As to matters arising, JG reported that she had heard the Examiner who had examined West Hampstead Neighbourhood Forum's plan at a Neighbourhood Planning event. He said that when examining a proposed plan, he only looks at how it conforms to existing borough plans, not those in the process of being approved. Also, his one major criticism of most neighbourhood plans was that they were not "bold enough" and, instead, were merely a rewriting of the local borough plan. In the case of the West Hampstead plan, "where reasonable" or "where possible" had been inserted because not enough evidence had been provided. Evidence is required but not of the same level as the borough plan.

Discussion then centred around what could be done to encourage and promote small start-up shops in empty or temporarily empty shops and the promotion of mixed use (e.g. "desk for rent") and also emerging artists.

JG reported that Councillor Stark had arranged a meeting to open Oriel Court on Friday with Camden officers, Jessica Learmond-Criqui, NW3 and others being invited.

2. Conservation Area Statement Review

JG reported that the review of the conservation area statements was continuing. In the Hampstead statement, the current idea was to keep the street by street audit section

JG reported that the review of the conservation area statements was continuing. In the Hampstead statement, the current idea was to keep the street-by-street audit section, perhaps as an appendix, but to include: 1) new character assessments of the each area (perhaps 20 or so) and 2) a management plan. The character assessment would be mainly pictorial with examples of what was good and bad. SP along with help from JG and VH would be working on the character assessments over the summer.

3. Meeting of the Plan subgroup

JG reported on the last meeting of the Plan subgroup. She presented a proposed layout of the forum plan. It was thought that, broadly speaking, it should follow the local plan layout: Transport, Local Community, Local Economy, Housing, Design and Character, and Protecting Amenity.

4 Update on Projects

- A. Protect our Pubs Campaign – ST gave an update on the Forum's "protect our pubs" campaign. He reported that the pages are up on the forum website, arguments from members for Asset of Community Value status were on there too and all pubs were covered. Roger, John and Graham were liaising with the pubs. Roger and Jeremy are preparing films on each pub: The King William IV is being edited and the Holly Bush is next. There was a sense that the applications need to be put in all together now given what has happened to the Black Cap in Camden Town, closed without warning because of the prospect of an ACV listing. Guy Wingate had already got Article 4 and ACV listings on the White Bear and SEGA had obtained ACV status for the Magdala.
- B. Pollution/Traffic Study – ST gave an update on the traffic study project. As a result of excessive pollution, life expectancy is 11 years shorter in London than the national average and 4,000 premature deaths each year. Pollution in London is the worst in Europe and twice the legal limit. The EU has threatened the UK government with fines of £300m. The Supreme Court has ordered the UK to draw up a credible plan. Half of carbon dioxide and 80% of PM10 come from motor vehicles. Transport policy should target diesel engines and idling engines and a massive modal shift away from motor transport. The EU says the GLA's Air Quality Strategy is too timid with changes planned by 2031. Camden has planned for a 5% reduction in motor traffic from 2006 to 2031. Actions taken are not even meeting those aims.

The Transport Policy must plan for reduced traffic and a modal shift. Since 1997 car ownership is falling in London. 39% of households in Camden have cars, 60% in Hampstead. Solutions include: encouraging walking and cycling and bollards to reduce the permeability of streets; shared surface area; segregated cycle paths on Rosslyn Hill and Fitzjohn's Avenue; small continuous shuttle buses; Whitestone Pond as a drop off point for the school run; rentable secure bicycle stores; electric car charging points; and car clubs. Camden also has said there will be no new parking spaces for new developments.

DC noted that Camden's draft local plan has no new parking but the GLA may contradict this which would lead to an increase of 20%. The draft plan prohibits new parking in front gardens. There is much pollution from construction. Construction management plans should deal with pollution. Section 106 agreements could require a reduction in polluting lorries. MRE suggested crushing could take place on site. ST suggested that development could be refused if the developer cannot show that they will be within pollution limits.

5. SEG Festival, 28 June

It was suggested that the forum could have a "Pubs and Pollution" theme and perhaps the London Air Quality Network could be contacted. JG said that she could man a stall and MRE said she could help.

6 AOB

JG said that it was possible to apply for a further grant of up to £8000. There was also in-kind assistance available.

7. Dates of future meetings

Wednesday, 8 July 2015

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Wednesday, 9 September 2015

Wednesday, 7 October 2015

Wednesday, 4 November 2015