

HAMPSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, 8 July 2015, 6:30 pm

Attending:

David Castle (DC)
Janine Griffis (JG)
Stuart Flude (SF)
Peter Kohl (PK)
Sowmya Parthasarathy (SP)
Councillor Tom Currie (CTC)
Fiona Reeve (FR)
Stephen Taylor (ST)
Oliver Froment (OF)
Alex Nicoll (AN)
Jeremy Wootliff (JW)
Andrew Haslam-Jones (AHJ)

Apologies:

Linda Chung
Vicki Harding
Melissa Remus Elliot
Eileen Neilson
Carissa Bub
Andrew Parkinson (AP)
Councillor Siobhan Baillie
Councillor Theo Blackwell
Councillor Stephen Stark
Bob Buhr
Ben van Bruggen

Location: The Holly Bush

1. Minutes of Last Meeting; Matters Arising

The minutes of the last Committee meeting, held on 3 June 2015, were approved without amendment.

As to matters arising, JG mentioned that West Hampstead Neighbourhood Forum was to have its referendum on 9 July 2015 (postscript: the West Hampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan was approved by 93% of those voting: 2344 for, 174 against, 4 rejected).

JG also reported that the forum had turned up to the South End Green Festival but a mix-up meant we had no table.

2. Update on Projects

On the question of opening **Oriel Place Garden**, JG reported that there had been a meeting of the Heath & Hampstead Society, Hampstead Shops (Jessica Learmond Criqui), NW3 (Andrew Lavery), Councillor Stephen Stark and the local police inspector. The inspector said the space could be opened provided safety issues (lighting, etc.) could be addressed. There were two proposals: Jessica Learmond Criqui had proposed letting the space to the Creperie so that it could look after the space and the Heath & Hampstead Society had proposed putting a bench around the tree in the centre and keeping it as an open space. The inspector was not in favour of a stall because of the crowds. AN questioned whether Gails or the Horseshoe could take over the space. The plan was for the space to be open continuously.

putting a bench around the tree in the centre and keeping it as an open space. The inspector was not in favour of a stall because of the crowds. AN questioned whether Gails or the Horseshoe could take over the space. The plan was for the space to be open continuously. ST questioned whether the space should be kept as a public open space.

On the **pub project/ACV applications**, JG reported that Roger was editing a video on the pubs and the 12 applications were being prepared by a volunteer. PK asked if "The pub is the hub" campaign championed by Prince Charles could be embraced by the forum.

On the **traffic/pollution studies**, ST reported that he was amending the options paper that he had written to take account of the desirability of a shift to electric cars. He estimated that there are 5,000 households in the forum area and at 60% car ownership that means there are approximately 3,000 cars that could be converted to electric cars. Diesel cars are particularly bad for micro-particle pollution.

On the pollution study itself, ST reported that Dartmouth Park had 20 volunteers. Not much work is needed, just diffusion tubes. Mark Hutchinson of the Heath & Hampstead Society has agreed to e-mail its 2,000 members, there is a 400 word article going into the Hampstead Village Voice and SF said he would also get involved with his members.

It was proposed that there be a base measurement for August. DC asked if younger people instead of adults could get involved. There had been a meeting at City Hall on this subject. Quiet Earth, a legal charity, might be helpful. By 2017 at the latest there needs to be a credible policy on air pollution.

Diffusion tubes would need to be used to gather evidence in various places (rat runs, near schools and construction sites and residential roads).

There was nothing to report at present on the **bat and tree surveys**.

3. Conservation Area Statement updates

DC and SP presented the progress made. SP set out the map of the Hampstead Conservation Area and the South Hill Park Conservation Area boundaries.

Descriptive character assessments would be introduced before the more detailed street by street analyses. Five different types of area have been identified: town centres; historic core; suburban residential streets; outlying areas; and large historic houses in garden settings.

The management plan in the statements will have influence but not statutory force. The statements are a level below the neighbourhood plan. The statements will not be reviewed by an inspector but could be referred to in the neighbourhood plan.

The management plan will be a new piece.

4 Overview of Draft Neighbourhood Plan

AN presented an outline of the draft plan. This will be the ultimate document to be produced and brings together all the elements. The aim is to have it ready for consultation by the end of the year. The first draft will be put together now and it needs to be clear in language, not just repeating policies that appear elsewhere, compelling and self-explanatory. There will be a unified structure with a one page summary of the larger document. There will be 5 areas and figures and graphics.

DC asked if all the evidence would be presented at the referendum or a condensed version of the plan. A shadow document with all the evidence was suggested or putting the evidence in an appendix. SP suggested the need for reference to policies and some background and evidence.

Some of the plan needed work in particular. "Amenity" was well advanced (basements, trees but gaps on green spaces). "Traffic and Transport" was being looked at by ST and Richard Price. JG was looking at "Economy". "Community" needed sharpening. We need to identify open spaces and trees and maps would be helpful.

DC suggested that before each policy there should be a couple of sentences on why each policy was required.

Interim versions will go to Camden with the final version to the examiner. The plan must be in compliance with (i.e. not in conflict with) strategic policies. The Highgate plan lists borough and London policies that are relevant to the plan. The plan should include references to the conservation area statements. Highgate sent their plan to the examiner and then there was a one day hearing at which developers could object. The Fortune Green & West Hampstead

and London policies that are relevant to the plan. The plan should include references to the conservation area statements. Highgate sent their plan to the examiner and then there was a one day hearing at which developers could object. The Fortune Green & West Hampstead plan is an example of the type of evidence that is needed.

The **Next Steps** included a review of the policies (DC, SP, AP?) and then a filling in of gaps.

A proposed schedule for completion of a first draft by the first week of August for sending to Camden and the consultants was discussed. ST said he would review the draft transport policy with Phil Jones (councillor with cabinet responsibility for transport).

JG reported that the consultants were paid up but that we would have to apply for further grants for the pollution study.

OF set out some details of the basement policy. It is not anti-basement but dealt with impact on neighbours' houses and took into account the geography and geology of Hampstead. The new policy in Kensington and Chelsea on one storey basements and Camden's willingness to follow suit were discussed.

5. AOB

FR would organise publicity at the Gayton Road Festival at the beginning of September.

An "improving access" workshop at Henderson Court was discussed. Eileen Nielsen had offered to help organise. It would deal with pedestrian safety, noise, etc.

6. Dates of future meetings

Wednesday, 9 September 2015

Wednesday, 7 October 2015

Wednesday, 4 November 2015