

Minutes of the Hampstead Neighbourhood Forum committee

6.30pm 08 September 2020. Video conference.

Present: S. Taylor (chair), A. Nicoll (vice-chair), C. Whittaker (treasurer), D Castle, L. Chung, J Griffis, Sue Kon, Cllr O. Cooper, O. Froment, V. Harding, A. Haslam-Jones, G. Robinson, Cllr S. Stark, G. Wingate

Attending: C. Bub

Apologies: Cllr M. Higson, N. Sinclair, M. Gold

1. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of the meeting of 16 June 2020 were approved.

2. Planning and conservation

JG: the Council has taken several planning decisions recently in line with Forum comments. She urged members to review the Planning Watch page on the website, maintained by AN.

OF will be involved in the Abacus appeal hearing regarding its proposal for the Hampstead Police Station starting on 15 September. He does not expect a decision soon.

GW reported on efforts to enforce Sec. 106 provisions regarding opaque glazing in the Novell House development (29 New End). He said he also was building a case to object to the proposed erection of mobile masts on top of Heath Mansion.

3. CIL

£30k of Hampstead Town CIL funding had been allocated to improve cycle storage as part of the Covid transport response. Camden would need to approve and consult on all proposed locations.

OC: £9,400 of CIL has been set aside for the South End Green Streatery.

AN maintains an up-to-date list of all approved CIL projects on the website.

4. Covid transport response

A list of candidate quiet cycle routes to signpost has been sent to Camden. No progress made on cycle sales and service facilities.

ACTION: JG & Cllr Stark to compile candidate locations for cycle storage and parking facilities.

5. SEG streatery

OC: the Streatery has permission to continue through September and has proved hugely popular. Plans to close the road on a more permanent basis had proved more expensive than originally thought, presenting a financial challenge.

6. HMG White Paper on the Future of Planning

JG invited committee members to a briefing by the Camden planning strategy team. The White Paper proposed shifting policy setting to a national level, delegating local authorities and communities with drafting design codes and allocating land to one of three area uses: growth, renewal or protected.

OC: the White Paper proposed that conservation areas would be protected by default and proposed changes in the infrastructure levy could benefit Hampstead.

ACTION: JG to draft Forum response with input from committee members. Comments on the proposed changes to planning due on 1 October and those of the White Paper due on 31 October.

7. Implications of Camden's Climate Action Plan 2021-2025

ST has contacted other forums about working together with Camden on the planning implications of the plan's targets to reduce carbon emissions.

8. Air quality monitoring

ST: it has been 5 years since the Forum's last effort to monitor air quality and suggested repeating the exercise to emphasise the need for action.

OF: adequate monitoring, which includes the monitoring of dangerous particulates as well as NO₂, is complex.

ACTION: CW to research the methodology and devise a proposal. ST to confer with Camden on suggested methods.

9. Locality grant

CW: the government has allocated additional funding for neighbourhood planning; the Forum could apply to spend up to £6200 on activities associated with our Neighbourhood Plan.

ACTION: CW to draft an application

10. AOB, the High Street

AN noted changes in the High Street, with many shops closing since lockdown. While this was not cataclysmic – some new outlets had already arrived – it raised the question of how the High Street would change in the future. AN: a small group should consider the issue in broad terms with a view to future public consultation. ST asked for volunteers and the group was formed with ST, AN, CB, LC and GR as members.

Next meetings: 10 November, 2021 dates TBA