

| <b>Minutes</b><br><b>NKForum Meeting</b><br><b>Wednesday 12th March 2025</b><br><b>4pm - Zoom</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |          |  |
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| Item                                                                                              | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Actioned |  |
| 1                                                                                                 | <b>Apologies:</b> were received from Howard Sheppard                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |          |  |
| 2                                                                                                 | <b>Matters Arising:</b><br>The January 2025 minutes were approved and signed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |          |  |
| 3                                                                                                 | <b>Gala Bingo update:</b><br>Kevin Davis very kindly attended our meeting and updated us on the Gala Bingo Hall. He said the project has almost ground to a halt as the building condition has worsened and the projected build costs had doubled, a problem affecting the entire construction industry. Some €10mn has been invested by the site owner so far, the numbers no longer make sense anymore with the owner being considerably out of pocket. There is now an offer on the table from a buyer with hotel experience. Amenity groups like the Cinema Theatre Trust need to be informed and updated.<br>Kevin shared some internal images with us, and a hotel model still seems to be the preferred option. The hotel market remains buoyant but the cost of restoration will be considerable.<br>Retaining the dance studio is still part of the discussion but there is much damage due to the illegal 'Cannabis farm' and may need a significant overhaul.<br>Kevin explained the Planning difficulties of knocking down the building and starting afresh.<br>Kevin also briefed us on yet another difficult security issue, it appears there has been a social media challenge to climb to the top of the building, people are coming from all over to attempt the challenge. The fire brigade had to be called to help someone down who was stuck on top of the building late at night!<br>Another site visit will be arranged when there is more clarity on the way ahead. The hotel provider will be a more upmarket investor - possibly the Accor group TBC. |          |  |

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|   | <p><b>Note added before going to print:</b> We are deeply saddened that a fire was reported at the Gala Bingo site on Sunday 16th March 2025. The fire was eventually brought under control but the extent of damage to this Grade II listed building is currently unknown.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c201q7in7w0o">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c201q7in7w0o</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |
| 4 | <p><b>NKNPlan update:</b></p> <p>Di updated the meeting on the current difficulties associated with the maps. There have been a number of formatting changes to the document to produce a smarter 'look' alongside those additional minor policy changes recommended by the Spatial Planning team. Di has written to the council outlining the difficulties she has experienced with the ARCGIS map system. She took us through the formatting changes made and some suggested minor changes for the committee's consideration.</p> <p>The Committee thanked her for all her work so far.</p>                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 5 | <p><b>Design Review:</b></p> <p>The council has invited NKF to have a Design Review on the NKNPlan on <b>April 2nd 2025</b>. This will be a high-level design review carried out by D:SE and will be 'free of charge'. Members of the committee will be in discussion with the review team and Council officers will be present in an observation capacity.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 6 | <p><b>AGM:</b></p> <p>Jonathan is due to talk to the Doubletree Hotel to confirm availability. John's contact is Lucy Tipou.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |
| 7 | <p><b>Boat in the Children's playground - Canbury Gardens:</b></p> <p>Refurbishment proposed with Community Grant application by NKForum. The children's boat needs to be refurbished, a well-loved amenity. The weather, aided by little fingers means that the boat now needs to be stripped and professionally repainted to guarantee a further 2-5 years of 'tiddlies' fun. The move to an application was agreed <b>if needed</b>. Conversations with the CGWP will be ongoing.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 8 | <p><b>AOB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The H&amp;PNF will not be redesignating this year.</li> <li>• <b>Saphina delivered a Folar update:</b> They are applying to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) this will endow greater funding opportunities and more favourable tax concessions. Facilities have expanded to include table tennis, a defibrillator, outdoor gym equipment and a Petanque pitch. A Changing Places toilet is expected by the summer.</li> <li>• <b>John delivered a Canbury Gardens update:</b> The Changing Places Toilet will hopefully be installed at the southern gateway by the summer, The Bandstand concerts will be in full swing again over the summer.</li> </ul> |  |  |

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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jonathan:</b> updated the committee on the Police Panel and the Cybercrime presentation by the Met.</li> <li>• <b>Saphina:</b> asked about the changes to council powers to determine planning applications post NPPF changes and the proposed Planning Infrastructure Bill.</li> <li>• <b>David Cockle:</b> will be delivering a talk on Trams and a Transport History Journey around Kingston at the <a href="#">Kingston Society</a> on 19th March 2025.</li> </ul> |  |  |
| 9  | <b>Date of next Meeting:</b> To be determined and agreed, but ideally before the AGM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| 10 | Attendees<br>Jonathan Rollason<br>John Parrish<br>Diane Watling<br>David Cockle<br>Malcolm Porter<br>Saphina Sharif                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
| 11 | Sign off signature:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |