



No.	Minutes of NK Forum 71st committee meeting via zoom 8 June 2022	Action
1.00	<p><b>Those present via zoom :</b> <i>Via video + audio:</i> Diane Watling (Chair); Howard Sheppard; Trevor Willis; David Cockle; Jonathan Rollason; Malcolm Porter; Saphina Sharif (audio only);</p> <p><b>Apologies were received from:</b> John Parrish and Jonathan Rollason</p>	
2.00	<b>Minutes Previous Meeting</b>	
2.01	There were no objections received to the previous meeting minutes and these were signed off by DW as agreed.	Note
3.00	<b>Treasurer</b>	
3.01	<p>DW reported Michael Pearson has stepped down owing to other commitments and a vacancy now exists for treasurer. At present Jonathan and Diane can provide the double signature required for issuing cheque payments with payments above £500 (such as to the planning consultant) requiring the committee quorate to authorise.</p> <p>DW requested enquiries be made of neighbours or those who may be interested in joining the committee to serve as treasurer. The work is not onerous with only a few transactions each year.</p>	Keep under review
4.00	<b>NPlan and Design Code progress:</b>	
4.01	MP expressed his concerns over the loss of character of existing buildings in our area that may propose to have brick detailing covered by external insulation and render. MP exampled 91 Shortlands Road application and his email and stressed the importance of maintaining the character of the neighbourhood to street facing elevations and that internal insulation is perhaps more appropriate to such parts of a property undergoing alterations. Whilst agreeing with HS conservation areas and local areas of special interest could be used to justify protection against loss of character the street elevations of other parts of the NK neighbourhood needed more careful consideration and guidance. HS will prepare a paragraph for insert into the design guidance regarding concerns over external insulation.	Note
4.02	MP has drafted in his guidance notes some thoughts for householders that they should have when it comes to demolition for alterations and extensions so that they and contractors might consider appropriate salvage of materials for reuse so as to assist sustainability.	MP
4.03	MP will forward his drafted guidance in progress to DW based upon example photos taken locally of good and bad design. It was recognised that identifying particular addresses may be unpalatable for those house owners where classified as poor or bad design and the committee thought wherever possible the shots should be generic in nature. MP accepted but thought the educational value of local photos was essential for setting minds thinking about design and character.	MP
4.04	DC advised energy conservation must be adequately included in the guidance particularly for large extensions as there were ever more stringent regulations for compliance as to electrical power provision, plumbing and insulation that compliance with new regulations could have repercussions for appearance.	All to note
4.05	A building in Lower Ham Road conservation area has had photovoltaic panels refused consent. DC suggested PV panels should be more widely accepted without regulation. MP disagreed and had concerns that inappropriate use on street elevations could damage character particularly on red tile roofs. To slate roofs then heritage slate style panels should be encouraged as used corner of Cross Road and Elm Road. MP has less concern where panels are not visible to the public from the	DW



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	street but questioned whether efficiency and durability was adequate with present day affordable technology. DW will consult with Steve Ransome for his input.	
4.06	DW will check with RBK whether the design guidance as an appendix can be separately revised and updated more frequently than every 5 years, the duration of the N Plan before it needs to be reviewed. HS expressed concern this may not be possible as the design code was so integral to support policy.	DW
4.07	Asa is to be contacted to meet up and take up her offer of assistance reference the site policies.	DW/HS
4.08	DW is drafting a response to Caroline Shah's FOI request. This is expected to repeat that the NK Forum have previously answered her request and that as an organisation NKF do not fall under the FOI obligations to provide. RBK have separately responded to CS who has now delivered 116 FOI requests and demanded an internal review by RBK.	DW
<b>5.00</b>	<b>Statutory designation renewal</b>	
5.01	DW advised the renewal of NKForum's statutory designation has been received by Callum at Kingston Council and published for statutory public consultation on <a href="#">Kingston let's talk website</a> . The consultation is 6 weeks and ends 22 <sup>nd</sup> July with final decision 25 August 2022. DW will send link and asked the details be distributed to neighbourhood Whatsapp groups and the word spread to all in the NK area.	All
5.02	DW advised one of the maps has had the area outline colour changed from blue to red. HS advised that Blue had a specific denote under old GLC days that could mislead readers of the map they were looking at a demolition area! This was not the case and red now appeared on the Kingston map for demarcation.	All to note
5.03	It was agreed Barry Lomax should be contacted to endeavour to find out what was happening with the CNM sites Gala Bingo Hall and Cowleaze Road also developments to the Kingsgate Car Park site and 16-18 Richmond Road surrounding Wheelan's Public House. DC expressed concern whether TFL closure of bus routes had been taken into consideration. DW advised RBK is minded to refuse permission for <a href="#">Kingsgate</a> , but the developer may look towards enhancing the affordable homes offer which could result in the application being fast tracked. At the present time the GLA have advised RBK to determine the application themselves.	DW
5.04	DC advised the 16-18 Richmond Road site was an empty demolition site, halted as to progress with rubble and timbers piled up <i>in situ</i> behind hoardings. MP wondered if the halt in construction was due to the more stringent fire safety rules emerging since the Grenfell tragedy that had likely prompted a design rethink of fire escape and sprinkler facilities necessitated by such a tall narrow single staircase building.	All to note
5.05	MP suggested perhaps a joint meeting with Kingston Society and NKF might be better use of Barry Lomax's time. This to be discussed by DW at tomorrow's meeting re the Urban Room with KS and others	DW
<b>6.00</b>	<b>Urban Room</b>	
6.01	DW has visited Watford Urban Room with Peter Karpinsky of The Kingston Society. The location works well in a ground floor shopping mall unit that is provided rent free, the space providing a meeting place for various groups and mix of activities as well as briefing as to planned changes in Watford. A similar venture is being discussed with RBK who will be launching their Local Plan consultation later in the year. The objective of the Urban Room will be to disseminate planning information and impart interest in planning for the public to participate in local decision making as well as providing a space for other groups to meet up and function.	All to note
6.02	DW and MP will be attending a meeting at the Guildhall tomorrow 9 June with KS and RBK in attempt to launch the Urban Room project and will report back further	DW/MP



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6.03	DC advised the Thomas Cook shop and O2 shop in the Market Place are both vacant. DW reported the ancient Market Place building seems an ideal location but is leased to Kingston University for 6 months and therefore is potentially not available until late end this year. RBK have said they are keen that Council building assets are not used to house the Urban Room to demonstrate the impartiality of the Urban Room environment and content.	All to note
<b>6.00</b>	<b>Energy conservation</b>	
6.01	DC is keen for residents to consider energy masts and photovoltaic electricity generation as well as increased insulation. MP was concerned that technology hasn't yet maximised affordable efficiency in the domestic market and whilst this can be suitable for new build development retro fitting this to older buildings was far more involved.	
6.02	DC advised he is attending meetings to discuss tramways in Bromley and another meeting called 'Transport for New Homes- how to stop building car dependency'. He will report back after attending the meetings whether there are opportunities for such application in Kingston.	DC
<b>7.00</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
7.01	<b>Recruitment</b> Saphina suggested DW should contact the gentleman who provided comments and input into the AGM to enquire if he has interest in joining the committee. If members know of anyone willing to join the committee and support the Forum working parties then please put names and contact details forward.	DW
<b>8.00</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b>	
8.01	The next meeting will be held via Zoom Wednesday 27 July 4.00pm.	All to note
	<b>Distribution:</b> This draft edition issued only to Diane Watling 8/6/22 for approval and for further onward distribution to the committee/ forum.	
8.02	Minor amendments finalised and distributed to committee.	DW