

draft Minutes 2026 Annual General Meeting Wednesday 22nd April 2026 7pm Canbury Gardens Pavilion

- **Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- **Apologies:** The Mayor, Peter Higgins, Trevor Willis, Peter Roberts, Pam Wright, John Parrish and Marilyn Mason.
- **Matters Arising & signing of the 2025 draft minutes:** The minutes were approved and agreed. Carrie Foulkes proposed approval and seconded by Anne Owen.
- **Chair's Report:** The Chair reported that neighbourhood planning in London continues to grow. Our submission has recently been made to the Council and we are awaiting the Council led consultation. The Chair's full report is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reported the balance on 22 April stood at £2964.01. His report is attached at **Appendix 2**.
- **Election of Steering Committee and Officers:** Sadly, no new members have expressed an interest in standing for the committee. Members of the current committee stood for re-election. The committee were re-elected and shown at **Appendix 3**. Jacqui Rollason proposed and Anne Owen seconded.
- **Next steps towards adoption of the North Kingston Neighbourhood Plan** - the Chair gave an excellent presentation outlining and updating the next steps. The challenges ahead are great. It is attached at **Appendix 4**.
- **AOB:** Questions raised at the meeting. Concern was raised about the number of licences for similar businesses issued by the council. Vape shops were quoted as an example. It was explained that the council can only react to proposals put forward and that it is Trading Standards who enforce consumer protection laws.

Note added after the meeting:

The [Tobacco and Vapes Bill is set for Royal Assent](#) after Final Lords approval. The Bill will proceed to Royal Assent at a date to be announced. The Bill establishes a statutory framework for the licensing and sale of vape or tobacco products alongside enforcement actions against non-compliant businesses and retailers.

**2026 Annual General Meeting
Agenda
Wednesday 22nd April 2026
7pm Canbury Gardens Pavilion
All welcome**

- **Welcome**
- **Matters Arising & signing of the 2025 draft minutes**
- **Chair's Report**
- **Treasurer's Report**
- **Election of Steering Committee and Officers**
- **Next steps towards adoption of the North Kingston Neighbourhood Plan - presentation**
- **AOB**
- **Q&A**
- **Questions raised for the meeting (to be submitted by 20th April 2026)**

Appendix 1: Chair's Report

Welcome to the North Kingston Forum 2026 AGM. I want to share the great news with you that 3 more Neighbourhood Plans in London have been adopted after successful referendums in 2025/2026, Kilburn, Maida Hill and Kensington, Oval and Vauxhall. Neighbourhood Planning in London continues to grow as the third tier of Planning in London, getting stronger all the time with well over 30 groups in London having adopted Plans or well on the way. Westminster City Council leads the way with 22 neighbourhood planning groups so far, closely followed by Camden with 17.

Our Regulation 15 submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to Kingston Council went ahead smoothly in February 2026 and was formally validated shortly after, allowing us to progress to the next stage Council-led Regulation 16 consultation; a date will be announced shortly. However, whilst Government clearly states that neighbourhood plans can play an important role in the planning system, they have removed all financial support for the time being, a punch below the belt if ever there was one!

The pressures ahead from Government and the London Mayor for new homes is increasing, and without a Borough-wide Local Plan in place, speculative development is an ever increasing risk to North Kingston, and one our community will find hard to defend against without our Neighbourhood Plan.

The importance of our Neighbourhood Forum can be seen in major planning applications where the North Kingston Forum's representations and/or objections are now included in the list of documents associated with planning applications, such as the Canbury Place Car Park, a reminder that as the Neighbourhood Plan moves towards referendum it gains Planning weight. Major developments continue to be of great concern and we have been busy delivering representations alongside a very well attended and successful Walkabout last summer to introduce and discuss our concerns about the proposed closure of Kingsgate Road. More than 50 people attended that evening.

We were relieved to hear that the Council decided to terminate the sale agreement of the Canbury Place Car Park. The Council is still keen to see the site redeveloped and we will be closely monitoring all potential future developments including the former Kingsgate Business Centre Site, Gala Bingo and Canbury Business Park. Thankfully, Kingsgate Road remains open for now. We have also been pursuing the council to instigate enforcement on the owner of Gala Bingo to ensure the site is safe for passers-by. During the heavy rain endured over many months this winter, rainwater from the roof was pouring out of an intentionally placed pipe through a high-level window facing Richmond Road. The resultant "waterfall" risked soaking pedestrians and causing accidents.

We continue to work with the Kingston Society on the Urban Room and have visited a number of sites in England over the past year to gain ideas. Our next visit is in East London hosted by University College London. We would love to work with Kingston Council and Kingston University to deliver a permanent Urban Room in the Town Centre.

As I close, I would like to say many, many thanks for all the support the Steering Committee and the North Kingston community in general have given over the years, and with a special thank you to our councilors who have steadily worked with us in making North Kingston a wonderful place to bring up our families.

Appendix 2: Treasurers Report

North Kingston Neighbourhood Forum 2026 AGM Annual Accounts Summary 30/4/2025 - 22/4/2026 Metrobank account			
TRANSACTIONS	CREDITS	DEBITS	BALANCE
Balance @ 1/4/2025			£3293.01
TOTAL CREDITS	£ 100		
CARA Donation - March 2026	£100		
DEBITS INCLUDE:			
1 cheque payments totalling £420 for: <u>Printing costs:</u> NKNPlan plus associated documents as required by Reg 15 legislation. 9 folders in total delivered to Guildhall II. (Payment approved March 2026 Committee meeting)		£420	
<u>Metro Bank:</u> Account Maintenance Fee from 1st January 2026 @ £3 monthly		£9	
<u>Forecast Future Expenditure</u> - Printing - Summary Pamphlet & maps - Consultant's fees - Metro Bank monthly fee			
TOTAL DEBITS		£429	
ON APRIL 22nd, 2026, THE ACCOUNT BALANCE STOOD AT:			£ 2964.01
GIFTS IN KIND			
Wix Annual Subscription @ £250 for 2 years to 2027			
Zoom Annual Subscription @ £155			

Appendix 3: Election of the 2026 Committee.

An invitation was issued in 2025 and 2026 for new members to submit their interest in joining the committee, but no confirmed interest was forthcoming at this time.

Those standing for re-election:

Chair: **Diane Watling**
Kingston Town Conservation Area Advisory Committee, BRaG Liaison

Secretary: **Jonathan Rollason**
Business Lead, Chair of the Police Committee

Comms: **Glen Keywood**
BRaG liaison, Business & Community

Treasurer: **David Cockle**
Chartered Engineering and Project Management Consultant (Semi-retired)

Members: **Saphina Sharif**
Communities Lead, Engineering & Project Management, Treasurer Folar, Trustee Kingston Education Trust, Chair & Director Latchmere Recreation Ground CIC.

Malcolm Porter
Chartered Building Surveyor, Chartered Environmentalist, Conservation of World Heritage Sites (Retired)

Trevor Willis
Canbury Gardens Working Group, Community Champion

Peter Greenwood
Residential Lettings and Management, Kingston Chamber of Commerce

Co-opt **John Parrish**
CARA liaison

Appendix 4: Chair's presentation

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1Bm-roqM1ZuNQEqMOApQRbcvi0kbwhJZa>

2025 Annual General Meeting
draft Minutes
Tuesday 29th April, 7pm
Canbury Gardens Pavilion

- **Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone and said how good it was to see everyone.
- **Matters Arising:** Apologies were received from Mike Patel.
- **Matters Arising:** The 2024 draft AGM minutes were signed and agreed. Proposed by John Parrish and seconded by David Cockle.
- **Chair's Report:** The Chair presented her report which is shown in [Appendix 1](#)
- **Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer presented his report with an account balance on the 29th April 2025 at £3293.01. He assured the audience that we have sufficient funds at present and thanked the two donors who had made generous gifts in kind. The annual accounts summary is shown at [Appendix 2](#).
- **Election of Committee Members and Officers:** There being no new submissions showing interest in joining the Committee the existing Committee was re-elected. Proposed by Mike Seigel and seconded by Peter Roberts. The Committee and their respective responsibilities are shown at [Appendix 3](#).
- **Next Steps towards submission of the NKNPlan:** The Chair gave a very detailed presentation outlining the next steps we need to undertake. She assured the meeting that we are very close to a submission. Her presentation is at [Appendix 4](#).
- **Q&As:** There were no pre-submitted questions
- **Q&As:** John Parrish asked how the target for new homes in the borough was set. The Chair said the Mayors team have a formula but that we did not have any further detail as to how the formula was derived. Malcolm Porter asked for reassurance that all out policies would receive support from the Council. The Chair assured him they would receive due consideration. Saphina Sharif asked for more detail about the housing target. The Chair said she did not have any more detail at this point. **Note added after the meeting: The Borough-wide new homes requirement would become clearer as the revised London Plan moves towards adoption. The Council regularly publishes a [5 year Housing Land Supply Statement](#), and the most recent position is at 1st April 2022 published in August 2023.**

AOB: Jonathan Rollason proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair for all her hard work and dedication to the cause. There was no further

business and the Chair invited the audience to join her with some refreshments and the meeting closed.

2025 Annual General Meeting

Agenda

Tuesday 29th April, 7pm
Canbury Gardens Pavilion

- **Welcome**
- **Matters Arising - signing of the 2024 draft minutes, apologies**
- **Chair's Report**
- **Treasurer's Report**
- **Election of Committee Members and Officers**
- **Next Steps towards submission of the NKNPlan**
- **Q&As including pre-submitted**
- **AOB**

Questions to be submitted by Monday 28th April 2025 to:
northkingstonforum@gmail.com

Appendix 1

Welcome to the North Kingston Forum 2025 AGM. I want to share the great news with you that 2 more Neighbourhood Plans were submitted to Westminster City Council for the Reg 16 council consultation last autumn, St James's and Maida Hill. Neighbourhood Planning in London continues to grow as the third tier of Planning in London, getting stronger all the time with well over 30 groups in London having made Plans or well on the way. Westminster City Council leads the way with 13 neighbourhood planning groups so far!

To promote the North Kingston Neighbourhood Plan we ran a pop-up stall in Canbury Gardens at the Dragon Boats race in July 2024 and presented the NPlan journey to the Kingston Society last autumn.

Major developments continue to be of great concern and we have been exceedingly busy researching and responding to Planning Applications. We have attended a number of council meetings to give our representations regarding the Canbury Place Car Park. The Planning Committee date for determination is still unknown.

We were shocked and deeply saddened by the sight of the Gala Bingo Hall going up in flames, especially after having had a number of broadly positive discussions with the developer Jericho Estates. We and other civic groups continue to keep in contact with them regularly for further updates, whilst the site is being assessed by the owner and the council.

Design has always been a major theme of the NPlan and the council invited us to have our Design Code reviewed by Design South East. The aim is for high level feedback to help strengthen the document as a tool to guide high quality development in the Neighbourhood Area. Discussions will continue with the council, but last years were very disappointing.

We continue to work with the Kingston Society on the Urban Room initiative and would like to see a permanent location eventually. An Urban Room is a space either physical or virtual where people can go to understand, debate and become actively involved in

the changing future of their town. This year to kickstart that interest they are working on including Kingston in the London Design Festival 2025.

The change in government in 2024 resulted in huge pressure to deliver new homes alongside a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and an updated Housing Delivery Test (HDT). It is disappointing to report that the Test results now show that Kingston Council is yet again 'In the Presumption' as the number of new homes delivered has dropped from 60% in 2022 to 48% in 2023. Kingston is seriously vulnerable to speculative development, and we hope the Neighbourhood Plan, when adopted, will go some way to helping tilt the balance away from speculative development.

As some of you may know, we have been in close communication with our Ham and Petersham neighbours next door in Richmond for many years. Their advice helped kickstart us onto this journey. We were deeply saddened to recently hear that they will not be continuing as a Neighbourhood Forum moving into the future. The Neighbourhood Plan they made 5 years ago remains in effect as the Plan became a part of Richmond's Development Plan for the area. However, the Neighbourhood Forum's ability to ensure Richmond Council correctly follows the policies with their Plan, to make future Plan amendments or submit new Plans is sadly lost.

As I close, I would like to say a special thank you to everyone who has contributed to this enormous and challenging project over the years. We could not have completed this journey without YOUR help!

Appendix 2: Treasurers Report

North Kingston Neighbourhood Forum 2025 AGM Annual Accounts Summary 30/4/2024 - 29/4/2025 Metrobank account			
TRANSACTIONS	CREDITS	DEBITS	BALANCE
Balance @ 1/4/2024			£3847.01
TOTAL CREDITS	£ 0		
DEBITS INCLUDE:			
2 cheque payments totalling £544 for:		£554	
<u>Printing costs:</u> • 500 @ 8-page Colour Policy Summary booklet • 100 @ 2024 AGM Agenda b/w			
<u>PL insurance:</u> for the July 2024 NKF stand at the Canbury Gardens Dragon Boats event			
TOTAL DEBITS		£554	
ON APRIL 29TH 2025 THE ACCOUNT BALANCE STOOD AT:			£ 3,293.01
GIFTS IN KIND			
Wix Annual Subscription @ £250 for 2 years to 2027			
Zoom Annual Subscription @ £155			

Appendix 3: Election of the 2025 Committee.

An invitation was issued in 2024 and 2025 for new members to submit their interest in joining the committee. Conversations were held, but no confirmed interest was forthcoming at this time.

Those standing for re-election:

Chair: **Diane Watling**
Kingston Town Conservation Area Advisory Committee, BRaG Liaison

Secretary: **Jonathan Rollason**
Business Lead, Chair of the Police Committee

Comms: **Glen Keywood**
BRaG liaison, Business & Community

Treasurer: **David Cockle**
Chartered Engineering and Project Management Consultant (Semi-retired)

Members: **Howard Sheppard**
Heritage Lead, Chartered Town Planner, Architect, Environmental Conservation (Retired)

Saphina Sharif
Communities Lead, Engineering & Project Management, Treasurer Folar, Trustee Kingston Education Trust, Chair & Director Latchmere Recreation Ground CIC.

Malcolm Porter
Chartered Building Surveyor, Chartered Environmentalist, Conservation of World Heritage Sites (Retired)

Trevor Willis
Canbury Gardens Working Group, Community Champion

Peter Greenwood
Residential Lettings and Management, Kingston Chamber of Commerce

Co-opt **John Parrish**
CARA liaison

Appendix 4: Chair's Presentation

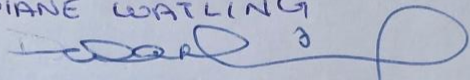
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**2025 AGM
DRAFT MINUTES SIGNED AND APPROVED**

**2025 AGM
DRAFT MINUTES SIGNED AND APPROVED**

Chair:

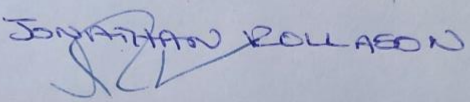
Name: DIANE WATLING

Signature: 

Date: 22nd April 2024

Secretary: JONATHAN ROLLASON

Name:

Signature: 

Date: 22nd April 2024