

Minutes of North Kingston Forum AGM held on February 17th 2020 DoubleTree Hotel Kingston 7:00pm

Item 1. Welcome

Di Watling welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked them for coming. She also thanked the hotel for their generosity providing the Sopwith suite.

Item 2. Guest Speaker

The guest speaker was Brian Willman from the Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum who gave us an excellent update on the Ham & Petersham Neighbourhood Plan. Brian stressed the value of postal voting. Brian's presentation is attached at **Annex 1**.

Item 3. Chairs Report

The Chair informed the meeting that 2019 had been an incredibly busy year for the Committee, and told the meeting that the Forum has been actively commenting on a wide range of Planning Applications and Council consultations. North Kingston continues to be bombarded by developer challenges, and our incredible team of volunteers have been responding to those planning applications. The Chair's report is at **Annex 2**.

Item 4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer provided a very comprehensive report on the finances. He ran through the accounts in detail. His presentation is at **Annex 3**. The conclusion was that we have £5632.66 left to get the North Kingston Forum over the line. Di stressed the fact that we are very tight on funding and asked the meeting for ideas of how we could raise more monies.

Item 5. Election of Officers & Committee.

The committee was re-elected. Proposed by Fr. Martin Hislop : Seconded by Howard Sheppard.

The committee members are:

Diane Watling - (BRaG rep) Chair/Development Officer
Jonathan Rollason- Secretary
Michael Pearson- Treasurer
Glen Keywood - (BRaG rep) (in absentia)-Communications
Marilyn Mason - (TTK/KEF rep)
Howard Sheppard
Saphina Sharif - (Folar rep)
Malcolm Porter
Trevor Willis - (Canbury Pavilion Trustees) (in absentia)

Co-Opted:

John Parrish (CARA liaison)
Asa Backman

Item 5. Community Engagement Reports

The Chair stressed the fact that neighbourhood planning is now recognised as the 3rd tier of planning in London. The presentation is at **Annex 4**. Our Plan will give us the right to have a say over future developments once adopted. The advantage is that our Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the Local Development Framework for the borough. This means that any planning application submitted to the council will be assessed by the policies within the Neighbourhood Plan. The biggest issue is that the new London Plan requires Kingston to build 13,640 new homes over the next 10 years. The current London Plan annual target in Kingston of 643 new houses has not been achieved.

The new London Plan is likely to be adopted in February/March 2020. We hope to have our referendum completed this winter. The emerging RBK Local Plan is not likely to be adopted before winter 2021/22, so there is likely to be a planning void, where some policies in the Core Strategy 2012, will no longer conform with London Plan policies.

It is therefore important that the Neighbourhood Plan is adopted as quickly as possible to help fill that potential planning void until the Local Plan is adopted. The North Kingston neighbourhood will be the only area in the borough that will have some protection against inappropriate development challenge during that period.

Di outlined the 2019 community consultations, 91% of residents agreed that tight controls should be applied to protect the character of the neighbourhood.

Item 6. Draft Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Chair updated the meeting outlining the current position. Her presentation is shown at **Annex 4**. The forum is the process of notifying the owners of key development sites and until this has happened we cannot release more details.

The Forum was asked for members who are interested in community-led housing to come forward.

Item 7. Acknowledgements

The Chair thanked the following for their help:

**The steering committee who have put in a HUGE, HUGE number of hours!
Incredible pro bono support from:**

- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel – for the use of the wonderful Sopwith Suite
- Hawker Centre – meetings
- Canbury Pavillion - meetings
- Kingston Voluntary Action – for being our accountable body
- Create Flying Pictures – our incredible video
- Charlotte Salaman – for designing our Logo
- Richard Broome – 2019 consultation posters
- Andrew Dobson – helping with design briefs
- The support from our ward councillors past and present
- The Kingston Town neighbourhood managers both past and present
- Council planning officers for their help and advice

And, our independent planning consultant Neil Homer, for understanding how tough it is for Neighbourhood Forums, and has therefore not put his fees up! Not to mention all those local suppliers who have given us 'a few extra bob off the price'

Annex

1. [Brian Willman's H&PNF presentation](#)
2. [Chair's report](#)
3. [Treasurer's report](#)
4. [Chair's presentation covering Community Engagement Report and the Neighbourhood Plan update](#)