

North Kingston Forum

20th Meeting: Hawker Centre Wednesday 19th July 2017 7:30pm

DW opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and outlined the agenda. This is a record of the meeting.

Item 1. Agree minutes from last meeting.

Action: The minutes were agreed and signed.

Item 2. Feed back from Pre-Inception walkabout and Vision Workshop.

It was agreed that the report would be a good starting point for the project. DW ran through the main points in the report. David Cunningham reported that the London Mayor had visited and expressed the wish to retain the business areas (and employment) in the borough. DM raised the issue of the 7 Kings car park. The car park is owned by Aviva who have expressed an interest in meeting the forum. David updated the meeting on the triangular car park owned by the council and thought a planning application is likely to come through in early 2018.

It was requested that we should not cause unnecessary concern by identifying and publishing sites that are not currently planned for development too early .

It was suggested that the next steps should be to form four work groups to build upon the report. The need for groups to work together and share ideas was expressed and agreed.

David suggested we review the Council Character Study document, and the new council 2016 Authority Monitoring Report has just been published:

https://www.kingston.gov.uk/downloads/download/35/annual_monitoring_report .

Suggested that key sites are considered by all groups. We were not clear where transportation fitted.

Action: DW will distribute some reports to show where each points fit. It was suggested that team members should meet to discuss the mix of tasks.

Item 3. Canbury Business Park - proposals for redevelopment.

Howard reported on his visit to the exhibition and raised a number of issues. His report is below:

The exhibition states that the scheme will "support the local economy" and be active "day and night" (what about the amenity of existing housing near by in Canbury Park Road and Cowleze Road?)

· 300 homes are proposed with a mixture of affordable, build to rent, and market housing with an allocation for key worker housing, but no specific allocations stated. How will this be managed?

- *Grade A office space and a business incubator hub with space available at affordable rents is planned (although how much is not stated) in partnership with Kingston University, (however this is not certain and described as a “nice to have”).*
- *Other uses include a restaurant/café, medical centre and space for “community events”, will this be available at no cost? how will it be managed?*
- *“Benefits” will apparently be secured by planning conditions and s106 agreement – although it’s not clear how the management regime, fostering start-ups at affordable rents, for example can be guaranteed.*
- *The enhanced public realm is promoted as a public benefit but all of the “improvements”, the central mall and planting around the periphery seem focussed on making the development itself more attractive.*
- *No elevations were presented as I was told “they would confuse people” and except for one very schematic cross section, the context of the development site was ignored.*
- *Apparently further consultation is proposed prior to the submission of a planning application.*

Leaving aside the overall bulk of the development that needs to be tested with a “visual impact assessment” the mix of uses seems appropriate. However a major worry is whether the stated benefits such as the affordable housing for key workers, the business incubator hub at affordable rents and the maintenance of the public spaces will be guaranteed as we have already been told that CNM will not be managing the completed development.

DW thanked Howard for his report. DM expressed the view that although the developers ideas were good, they lacked detail. It was agreed that it is too early for comments yet.

Item 4. Finances

We agreed to pay the bill for the work completed so far by rCOH, the consultant and we have the monies required to pay.

Item 4. Development Officer - Project Leader Role

Di outlined the need for a project leader.

Action: Howard Sheppard has kindly volunteered for the role.

Item 5. Development Officer - Project Manager Role

Action: DW volunteered for the role. Suggested we add the role to the Chairs job description. Need to review the job terminology. (note added after meeting: it may not be necessary to change the JD of the Chair)

Item 6. Work group leaders - 4 committee members to lead as outlined by Neil

Action: We agreed to distribute the sample reports and ask for more volunteers.

Item 7. Work group volunteers - building that list

See comments on Item 6.

Item 8. Potential date for Inaugural AGM

It was suggested that the AGM be held on 13th September at the Hilton Doubletree starting at 7.30 pm.

Item 9. Date of next meeting is Wednesday 6th September at 7.30 pm.

Item 10. AOB

There was much discussion about the need for school places. Schools have little opportunity to add more classrooms in the borough but the council has the requirement to provide sufficient places. Concern was expressed that 17 new children are born every day in Kingston hospital. They will not all live in the Borough.

The view was expressed that we should not normally comment on residential planning applications, but subsequent lively discussion indicated this may not be the majority view.

JR mentioned that one of the two nursery's in Kings Road is due to close and the owners have asked that we let members know.

DW reported that the Forum was approached by a resident in St Albans Road asking for the Forum to inform the community of their parking petition and by outlining in our website blogpost. The meeting agreed we should not become involved in this sort of issue at this stage.

It was suggested we contact Leanna Carl leanna.omnilocal@gmail.com to ask for forum details to be published.

The meeting closed at 9.15.

Attendees

Diane Watling (DW)
Steve Ransome
Des McRow(DM)
Peter Walter
Jonathan Rollason(JR)
Vincenzo Calenzo
Marilyn Mason
Matthew Rees
Julia Rees
Cllr Maria Netley
Mike Seigel
Wendy Seigel
Peter Greenwood
Cllr David Cunningham

Apologies

Glen Keywood
Howard Sheppard
Emma Marrington
Linda Richards

Michale Frain
Sarah Olney

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Agenda

- ❖ Agree and sign minutes from previous meeting
- ❖ **Feed back from Pre-Inception walkabout and Vision Workshop**
 - We need to think about a vision statement
 - Agree with the proposed way forward
 - Agree to pay the first consultants bill
- ❖ **Canbury Business Park**
- ❖ **Finances:**
 - Payment of RCOH bill: (document to be signed by current bank account signatories Di, Jonathan & Des and sent to KVA to act upon)
 - Expenses – Diane Watling (see following page)
 - Just Giving update
 - New Initiatives grant – no movement
- ❖ **Development Officer – Project Leader role:** To be confirmed To have overall responsibility of the project. To coordinate the planning, procurement and execution of the project, and acting as a conduit between the consultant, project manager and Forum Committee in coordinating the delivery of the NPlan.
- ❖ **Development Officer – Project Manager Role:** To be confirmed In liaison with the Project Leader, and consultant team the project manager will plan and organise resources and people as necessary. They will track work to be completed, agree deadlines and delegate tasks to the Steering committee as necessary.
- ❖ **Work Group leaders** – 4 committee members to lead as outlined by Neil Homer
- ❖ **Work group volunteers** – building that list

❖ **Potential date of Inaugural AGM** – Wednesday 13th September, DoubleTree by Hilton (time to be decided)

❖ **Date of next committee meeting:** Wed 6th September 2017. Hawker Centre, 7:30pm

AOB