

QUEEN'S PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE** held on **Wednesday 1st April 2015 at 6.30pm** at **Office 1, Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue, London W10 4JL**

PRESENT Cllrs Katie Cowan, Ryan Dalton, Gill Fitzhugh (Chairman), Julius Hogben

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Philip Andokou
Cllr Joe Fernandes
Cllr Eartha Pond-unwell
Cllr Musa Ahmed

Also in attendance: Mike Simpson – Director
2 members of the public

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

To deal with any disclosure by Members of any dis-closable pecuniary interests and interest other than pecuniary interests, as defined under Queen's Park Community Council's Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

There were none

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive any questions, or brief representations, from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order No. 3 e, f, g and h.

Mrs Valerie Lewis informed the committee that she was in attendance to discuss restoration works to the front facades of houses on Fifth Avenue.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Planning meeting – 4th March 2015

NP.185 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Neighbourhood Planning Meeting held on 4th March 2015 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

GUEST SPEAKER

Guy Battle, Chief Executive of the Social Value Portal, attended the meeting to introduce the Social Value Charter to the Committee. The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires public sector bodies to 'consider' social value in their pre-commissioning and procurement processes. One of the key motives of the Act is to engage business in delivering additional social value

(social services) as a part of their core contracts (i.e. at no additional cost). In order to make this happen, businesses need to understand the social value targets that a Local Authority has set.

Despite the opportunity that the Act provides to reduce Local Authority costs, their research shows that less than 20% of Local Authorities actually have a Social Value Policy and that less than 50% of these have actually consulted with local communities.

Guy explained that he wished to work with the Council to produce the first 'community social charter' which Westminster Council would need to consider when commissioning services.

NP.186 **RESOLVED** that the Social Value Portal and QPCC would work together to produce a social value charter for Queen's Park.

HIGH STREET FUND

Update from the Chair following the allocation of £20,000 to QPCC from the Mayor of London's High Street Fund

Cllr Fitzhugh informed the Committee that QPCC was awarded £20,000 from the High Street Fund to go towards the Neighbourhood Plan. The Council has been asked to cooperate with Maida Hill, who has been granted £585,000, when developing the Plan to help improve the High Street in that area. The Committee needs to get the retailers in the area together to discuss the plan. Also, a shop has been identified in which to set up the workshops regarding the Neighbourhood Plan for local residents to attend.

As part of wider consultation for the Council to engage with local residents over the plan, the Committee heard from Ali Alsaraf regarding Common Place, which is a digital engagement tool that helps communities gather ideas and evidence from local residents. Commonplace collates comments and attempts to demonstrate the extent and depth of local engagement. It works on any phone, computer or tablet.

NP.187 **RESOLVED** that Common Place could be funded by the Neighbourhood and Planning Committee

NP.188 **RESOLVED** that the Communications and Events Committee consider adopting Common Place as part of their wider communication strategy

PLANNING MEETING

To arrange a meeting for Cllrs to discuss planning issues in Queen's Park before Westminster City Council attend the next Committee meeting on 1st May to discuss their planning policy

The Chair explained that Westminster Council will be attending the next meeting (6th May 2015) to discuss their policy and that a lot of local residents are not happy with decisions being permitted relating to the Avenues.

Therefore, Cllr Fitzhugh has arranged a pre-meeting for 30th April at 6pm for residents to discuss these issues.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To discuss applications received from Westminster City Council. QPCC has received over 50 planning applications from WCC regarding restoration works to the front facades of houses in the area. (However, the majority of these applications do not require planning permission)

The Chair explained that all 50 applications were from City West Homes and that they only needed planning permission for one reason, which was because the railings on top of the walls will be over a metre high. Local residents are concerned that their rent will go up due to the works but this is not something the Council can affect.

Mrs Valerie Lewis informed the committee that she was confused that the two houses either side of her on Fifth Avenue were both having works but her house had been left out.

NP.189

RESOLVED that the Director would contact City West Homes to enquire why Mrs Lewis's house had been left out and report back to her.