

OLD OAK INTERIM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

DRAFT NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25TH MAY AT 6.30PM WOODWARD HALL, 1 VICTORIA ROAD, NORTH ACTON

Present: Mark Walker, Henry Peterson, Amanda Souter, Ewa Cwirko-Godycka, Theresa McGee, Chloe Fremantle, Desmond Hall, Joanna Betts, Linda Hartley, Henry Morritt, Nick Cowan.

1. Welcome and introductions

1.1. Mark Walker as chair of the meeting invited those attending to introduce themselves. Most people attending had been involved in meetings arranged by the Grand Union Alliance and in consultation sessions held by the OPDC, Cargiant and others.

1.2 Henry Morritt from the East Acton Golf Links Residents' Association explained that his association, covering a residential area on the border of the proposed Old Oak neighbourhood, was exploring the potential of a neighbourhood plan and hence he was attending to hear more about NP preparation.

2. Context for an Old Oak neighbourhood forum and neighbourhood plan

2.1 Henry Peterson introduced a set of slides giving the background to neighbourhood plans. The forum which he chaired in North Kensington (see at www.stqw.org) had completed a NP which had been successful at referendum in February 2016. HP had been working with local groups since autumn 2015 on proposals for an Old Oak neighbourhood area and forum, and would be assisting the interim Old Oak Neighbourhood Forum with the process of designation by the OPDC and LBHF, and subsequent preparation of a neighbourhood plan.

3. Implications of a new London Mayoralty and latest news on Mayoral appointments

3.1. It was noted that the election of Sadiq Khan as Mayor of London had significant implications for the future of the OPDC and the OPDC Draft Local Plan. The new Mayoral priorities included accelerated delivery of affordable housing, action on air quality, and the promotion of culture in London. The London Plan, and its policies, would be reviewed over the next 18 months/two years. This could affect the targets of 24,500 new homes and 55,000 jobs for the OPDC area, as set by the London Plan.

3.2. The new Mayor had appointed James Murray (Cabinet member for Housing at LB Islington) as Deputy Mayor for Housing. No appointment as Deputy Mayor for Planning had yet been made, and the post of Chair of the OPDC Board remained vacant following the departure of Sir Edward Lister.

4. The proposed boundary for an Old Oak neighbourhood area

4.1. The meeting discussed the proposed boundary for an Old Oak neighbourhood area. This had changed as a result of various discussions since autumn 2015.

4.2. HP explained that the Eynham Road area (off Wood Lane W12) had been designated by LB Hammersmith & Fulham back in 2013, so could not be included a second time within an

Old Oak neighbourhood. It had been agreed with the Brickfield Association of Residents that local residents in these streets would have the opportunity to seek inclusion within an Old Oak neighbourhood as part of the 6 week consultation to be undertaken by OPDC and LBHF. If there was support for inclusion of these streets, LBHF would be asked to vary their previous designation decision.

4.3. There had been some discussion on including the area between DuCane Road and the A40, but this was not included in the latest draft on the basis of potential workload on community engagement in an area seen as having a relatively transient population (e.g. hospital staff)

4.4. The small area immediately north of the Wesley Estate in Park Royal was discussed as a potential addition to an Old Oak neighbourhood. It was agreed that this should be pursued, given the benefits for the Wesley Estate of these streets (Disraeli Road, Barretts Green Road, Steele Road) becoming more mixed use with some housing to supporting local shops and amenities.

4.5. HM from East Acton Golf Links RA suggested the addition of the Brunel Road industrial estate, on the basis that neighbourhood plan policies might help to resist the introduction of very tall buildings at this location. The meeting agreed to pursue this option also.

5. The proposed forum - discussion on working arrangements, frequency of meetings etc

5.1. HP explained that the experience of the St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum had been that a management committee of around 8-12 people was needed - elected at an open meeting once designation had been achieved. Open meetings of the full Forum had been held on a monthly basis during the period when NP policies were being discussed and drafted. This was to ensure that proposed policies commanded majority support at referendum stage.

5.2. It was noted that LB Ealing ward councillors in East Acton ward, and LB Hammersmith and Fulham councillors in College Park and Old Oak ward would be members of the Forum by right (under the 2011 Localism Act). The experience of the StQW Neighbourhood Forum had been that ward councillors were content to attend open meetings as and when their diaries allowed, but did not wish to sit on the management committee itself. Management committee membership inevitably involved a significant time commitment.

5.3. In terms of preparation of a neighbourhood plan for Old Oak, the idea was that individual residents associations would come work up ideas and proposals to be included in short chapters for individual 'places' within the neighbourhood boundary, i.e. mirroring the broad approach of the OPDC Local Plan but with different boundaries of 'places' reflecting existing communities.

6. Finalising the designation application to OPDC and LBHF

6.1. It was noted that the intention remained to submit a final designation application for the Old Oak Forum and neighbourhood area once a new chair of the OPDC Board had been appointed. In the meantime any further comments and suggestions on the draft of the application should be sent to HP at info@stqw.org.

7. Update on current planning applications in the OPDC area

7.1. The meeting noted the latest position on the following developments

- 'Kensington Gateway' (Scrubs Lane) application due soon from developers Aurora
- Oaklands application (QPR/Genesis) yet to be decided
- Cargiant holding further consultations
- In North Acton, applications for 6 Portal Way, The Portal, Holbrook House, Carphone Warehouse, Perfume Factory with towers up to 42 storeys.

7.2. Noted that North Acton was becoming notorious for a cluster of poorly designed towers and an excessive concentration of student housing. Not included in the proposed Old Oak NF area as most of the development decisions have either been made or are shortly to be made, and the area ideally needs a neighbourhood plan of its own. The interim forum would continue to lend support in opposing inappropriate planning applications.