



## OLD OAK NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

### MINUTES OF INAUGURAL MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018

Present: Adam Walma, Alexia Stevani, Allan Ttmuss, Anita Ringsell, Clara Curry, Beatrice Hill, Caroline Sauzier, Jane Draper, Paula Edmund, Irene Gallagher, Jennifer Campbell, Jose Otero, Cllr Kate Crawford, Licilia Willaume, Marek Brzegowski, Mike Leaback, Natalia Tomczyk, Nicole Pirie, Nitisha Railton, Chris Hayden, Poppy Okotcha, Yoroslav Brant, Sharon Tomin, Simon Talbot-Williams, Tanja Fredrichs, Toby Burgess, Phillip Ward, Mary Attwood, Bruno Bursac, Ewa Cwirko-Godycka, Stewart Dalby, Dariusz Dzwigaj, Elaine Grigstock, Craig Gunn, Linda Hartley, Edvinas Laurinavicius, Indre Laurinavicius, John McMemman, Kathleen Morrisey, Henry Peterson, Hamish Reick, Marc Sauzier, Claire Sheedy, Erma Simon, Marie Somerville, Amanda Souter, Mark Walker.

#### **1. Welcome and introductions**

1.1 Mark Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting, explaining that while the forum had been meeting since early 2016 as an 'interim' body this was the inaugural meeting of the neighbourhood forum following designation by the old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC).

1.2 Designation meant that the Forum now had the legal powers to prepare a neighbourhood plan for the 22 hectare area including the residential communities of the Wesley Estate, the TITRA streets, Midland Terrace/ Shaftesbury Gardens, and Wells House Road.

#### **2. Election of officers and management committee, and adoption of the constitution**

2.1 Henry Peterson introduced himself as chair of the St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum in North Kensington. This forum had completed its neighbourhood plan in 2016 and subsequently HP had been acting as an adviser to OONF on the process of achieving designation.

2.2 HP informed the meeting that Mark Walker, having acted as chair of the interim Old Oak Neighbourhood Forum to date, was willing to stand as chair the Forum. Ewa Cwirko-Godyka was willing to undertake the role of Secretary.

#### **2.3 Following these nominations, on a show of hands (unanimous) the Forum elected as officers:**

**Chair: Mark Walker**

**Secretary: Ewa Cwirko Godyka**

2.4 The meeting agreed to appoint Theresa Magee to this position (subject to her agreement).

2.5 HP explained that the Forum's constitution provided for a management committee of 8-12 full members (i.e. those living or working within the designated area). Three further co-options to the management committee could be made, for individuals providing relevant support and expertise.

2.6 Nominations for management committee positions were invited from the floor, and the following were elected on a show of hands:

Cllr Kate Crawford

Robert Pirie

Amanda Souter

Clara Curry

Stewart Dalby

Marie Somerville

A representative from the Collective (since confirmed as Shauna McGill)

2.7 With the addition of Mark Walker (chair) Ewa Cwircko Godyka (Secretary) and Theresa Magee (Treasurer) this makes for a management committee of 10, leaving two remaining places to be filled.

2.8 The draft constitution, as published by OPDC as part of the public consultation on designation of the Forum, was put to the meeting and agreed. HP explained that the constitution provided for a minimum of four open meetings a year (i.e. open to all members and those living or working in the area) with the management committee meeting inbetween.

2.8 With the constitutional business of the meeting concluded, Mark Walker resumed the chair and welcomed the speaker from Groundwork UK.

### **3.0 HS2 Community Funds and how local people can use them**

3.1 Groundwork gave a brief presentation on the funding schemes being administered by this organisation of Government. These funds are available to communities and local economies that are disrupted by the construction of High Speed Two (HS2).

3.2 Two sets of funds are involved

- Community and Environment Fund (CEF) available for small or larger (strategic) grants for environmental schemes and social or health projects. Larger grants (£100k plus) would normally be applied for by a local authority.
- Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF) to support local economies that are demonstrably disrupted by the construction of HS2.

3.3 Funding of £40 million has been allocated towards the Community and Environment Fund and the Business and Local Economy Fund combined, over the next 11 years.

3.4 More details on both funds are available on the Groundwork website at <https://www.groundwork.org.uk/sites/hs2funds>

3.5 A comment was made that the Groundwork application forms were not user-friendly and it was agreed that detailed comments would be fed back to Groundwork.

### **4.0 Streetscene issues in the neighbourhood area**

4.1 Mark Walker introduced a series of slides setting out how LB Ealing was now taking more proactive action in response to local complaints of flytipping or inadequate monitoring of waste collection services.

4.2 For the future LB Ealing would be placing increasing focus on HMOs, and on increased enforcement against flytipping and other infringements (22 fixed penalty notices issued in the first quarter of 2018).

4.3 The meeting discussed how residents should best register complaints, including use of the LB Ealing 24/7 App. Cllr Kate Crawford asked that residents contact Customer Services rather than risking overloading individual staff with emails and phone calls. Agreed that the chairs of the local residents associations should have contact details but that these should not be distributed widely.

## **5.0 Update on OPDC Local Plan and reminder of how neighbourhood planning works**

5.1 Henry Peterson gave a brief presentation on the stage reached by the OPDC on their Local Plan, explaining that Local Plans are the documents setting out planning policies against which planning applications are decided.

5.2 Because substantive changes have been needed to the version of the OPDC Local Plan, as consulted on in summer 2017, the Corporation would shortly be publishing a revised version. There will be a (third) public consultation on this draft, running from 14<sup>th</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> July. Members of the Forum would again be attending consultation sessions and submitting a written response.

5.3 The meeting were reminded of the Forum's main concerns on the Draft plan as it stands

- A target of 24,500 new homes at Old Oak – seen as unrealistic and unjustified and leading to unacceptable levels of housing density and building height
- Resistance by OPDC to any mixed use development (i.e. office/industrial combined with housing) within the entire area defined as Strategic Industrial Land (yellow sections on OPDC master diagram). OONF had long argued for a transition zone or buffer zone between Park Royal and the Scrubs, including what was now labelled 'Old Park Royal', with low to medium density mixed use and lower cost housing.

5.3. It was noted that work undertaken by Cambridge and Berkeley Universities in 2017 confirmed the view of the Forum that OPDC current targets would lead to densities and building types akin to Hong Kong and Shanghai, rather than experience to date in London.

5.4 The meeting was reminded of the framework for neighbourhood plans. Policies within these plans are required to 'generally conform' with the 'strategic policies' of the Local Plan. This leaves some room for variation of Local plan policies, along with additional policies specific to an individual neighbourhood. NPs can also include site allocations and designations.

5.5 A new 'neighbourhood hub' at the Atlas Road roundabout, and the potential development sites at the north of Goodhall Street, were identified as locations where a neighbourhood plan could have some influence.

5.6 The formal meeting concluded at 8pm, followed by refreshments to celebrate of the inauguration of the Forum.