

Minutes of the Marylebone Forum Committee and Plan Making Group meeting – 8th June 2016

Held at The Howard de Walden Estate Office, 23 Queen Anne St, W1

Present:

Michael Bolt, Sarah Hume, Steven Dollond, Stephen Evans, Andrew Wilson, Sheila D'Souza, Hugh Small, Ian Macpherson, Phil Wilson, Richard Lovell, Steven Quinn.

Apologies:

Penny Alexander, Steven Medway, Simon Loomes, Kay Buxton, Kevin Coyne.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting.

There were no comments on the minutes of the previous meeting on 17th May and these were approved accordingly.

2. Appointment of new Treasurer.

Phil Wilson was introduced to the meeting. His appointment as new treasurer was agreed by the meeting and he was co-opted as a Committee Member.

3. Update on development of Neighbourhood Plan Focus Areas.

Life-time Neighbourhood – two issues were raised; firstly, on the issue of ending the linkage of parking to developments and the parking being available to all, whether this will be rejected by Westminster. MB commented that if this is contrary to their strategic policies then they can. Secondly, there is plenty of “blue sky thinking”, such as we want a nicer street, but need to explain how this is going to be achieved. MB said that the same comment on whether the proposals comply with Westminster’s strategic policies applies.

Special Policy Areas – Portland Place: Since 1978 when the policy area was first introduced, the number of institutions has declined despite their protected status and the policy can reasonably be concluded to have not been successful. Recognising the special quality of many of the buildings in the area, suitable alternative uses are suggested where an institution leaves- educational uses, start-up offices/business start-up units, headquarters offices. Return to single dwelling houses was not encouraged.

Harley Street: It was felt that this policy area had been successful in protecting medical uses and encouraging new uses to locate there. The boundaries are currently tightly drawn and a review of these is recommended.

Design/Conservation Areas – no further meetings.

SDS queried why double glazing should not be permitted to rear elevations and it was agreed that this should be allowed.

Discussion about the Conservation Area Audits – it was agreed that the roof extension maps and buildings making a negative contribution to the CA's needed updating.

SQ reported that Kieron Hodgson of Icen had offered his planning expertise to the group.

Parking and Traffic Management – The group are seeking evidence of areas of parking stress and of stress to certain user groups, eg, tradesmen. Economic information on the impact of providing car parking is also required.

There was a lengthy discussion about controls on parking – it was felt that such controls should not be introduced and air quality issues should be addressed by changes to the type of vehicle used.

Public Realm and Transport – The aims of the Group have been discussed and a list of public realm ideas is being put together as a wish list for CIL monies.

The Report on the second consultation for the Baker Street Two Way is due shortly.

Robert Davis has confirmed that air quality monitoring of this scheme will be undertaken.

Air Quality – Need for our own baseline study emphasized – looking into work already being done in this connection by the BIDs. Also see whether the University of Westminster can help.

The work of the Forum on air quality is to form an article for the St Marylebone Society Newsletter.

4. Sub-Committee Reports

Finance and Grants – MB to hand over to Phil Wilson. MB reported that a grant application had been submitted to Locality for £3,000.

There is a discrepancy between what rCOH have invoiced and what work has been done which needs to be clarified. Expenditure is likely to be slower than anticipated.

MB has spoken to AECOM for grant support.

Application to Lottery for £10,000 – response likely in c 4 months.

Publicity and Communications – Banners and brochures for the Fayre have been ordered. Manning schedule for the stand to be agreed.

Governance – the group have met and a second draft is being produced by SD.

5. **Post Fayre Information Meeting -**

This has been arranged for 10th October 2016 at St Marylebone Parish Church at 7.00pm

6. **AOB**

No matters were raised.

7. **Nest Meeting**

Details will be sent by email.

Signed:

Date: