

HAM AND PETERSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM COMMITTEE

Notes of meeting at Ham Library: Wednesday 15th October 2014 at 7.30pm

1. Present:

Justine Glynn (Vice Chair)
Andy Rogers (Acting secretary)
Andrew Beedham
Geoff Bond
Jean Loveland
Naomi Campbell
Ros Elliot
Anne Powell
Joe Noble

Apologies:

Sam Payne
Stan Smith
Brian Willman
Penny Frost
David Williams
Sarah Sinclair
Kim Hacker

2. Last meeting

GB noted that in the 3 October meeting he had been asked to suggest amendments to the constitution but deferred to David Williams.

3. Constitution

A wide-ranging discussion took place revolving around the issues of formal procedure and composition of the committee. It was ultimately agreed that there should be a core executive committee beneath a wider standing committee. GB was concerned that members who are local residents should be protected, perhaps by being given voting priority in some way. Proposals for revised arrangements and other procedural changes (AGM frequency, rules for co-opting members, etc) need to be formulated for presentation to the AGM. GB suggested, for example, that there might be a main committee that meets quarterly, with a smaller core group meeting more frequently to progress specific issues and focused themes. **ALL**

AB was concerned that our Forum can be different from others in having full representation from service providers as well as the business community and this aspect should not be lost. JN said that to engage these people committee meetings could be focused on particular issues, perhaps on a rotating basis. They should be involved as committee members, but possibly non-voting.

In conclusion it was felt that the Forum must in some way include all stakeholders – people who live and work here, service providers and local businesses – this is a statutory organisation that will formulate up-to-date planning policies that have the backing of the local community and national legislation, as summarised by AR: it is not, and should not be seen as, a Residents' Association.

4. AGM

There was further discussion on what information should be presented at the AGM by way of an update and in what kind of format.

AR advised that the DCLG had agreed to provide a speaker who could present an introduction summary, with some illustrations, about the Neighbourhood Forum concept and how it is progressing nationally (to be about 15 minutes in total): this will be vetted beforehand to eliminate any content that may be considered too technical.

A possible framework for the Neighbourhood Plan was tabled together with an updated Programme: these should be simplified and presented at the AGM, possibly with some of the preliminary work that is on-going (such as the cycling review produced by Katherine Henry). JN proposed that a series of key issues could be presented, described and voted on to give those attending the AGM a participatory role. Format to be drafted. **AB**

JG advised that the levels of progress on Plan drafting were variable but an emphasis on how the area can be changed or development influenced by the Plan needs to be communicated.

GB agreed to provide draft wording for an information leaflet upon receipt of a detailed Agenda for the AGM, which JG agreed to provide as soon as possible and preferably by the weekend. **JG/GB**

5. AOB

There was no further business.

6. Next Committee Meeting

It was agreed that this should be held approximately ten days before the AGM
JG agreed to send round a Doodle Poll to find out who can attend on which dates. **JG**

The meeting closed at 9.15.

ANDY ROGERS