

Harlesden Neighbourhood Forum: General Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Date and time of meeting:	20 th July 2017, 6:30pm – 8:15pm
Location:	Tavistock Hall , Harlesden
Attending:	<p>Harlesden Neighbourhood Forum Committee: Leao Neto – Chair (LN); Ricky Gardner – Co-vice chair (RG); Paul Anders – Treasurer (PA); Megan Lewis – Secretary & Coordinator (ML); Susan Grace (SG); Colin George (CG); Nick Jones (NJ)</p> <p>Guests: Grace Nelson - Harlesden Town Centre Manager, Brent; Leroy Simpson – Community Liaison Officer and Festival Lights project coordinator; Ken Hullock – Independent planning advisor; Jamie Kesten – Anglia Ruskin Community Resilience researcher</p> <p>Other attendees: 20</p>
Apologies:	Atara Fridler – Co-vice Chair

Item	Minutes	Actions
1	<p>Welcome & Introductions (LN)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LN welcomed all to the meeting, thanked them for attending, explaining the order of the evening. • The minutes of the last meeting (AGM 27th April 2017) were adopted. • LN Introduces Jamie Kesten (JK) from Anglia Ruskin community resilience study (Additional to agenda). JK introduces the study and encourages attendees to get involved. 	
2	<p>Draft Neighbourhood Plan consultation update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ML delivers presentation to summarise the consultation – including engagement activity, survey uptake and an overview of responses. Presentation available on website www.HarlesdenNeighbourhoodForum.com/meeting-minutes • ML and KH invite questions • Q: Where does Harlesden Neighbourhood Forum (HNF) stand in regards to Harlesden Plaza, and particularly due to the private ownership of the car park. Raises issue about car park being ‘underused’ as local people cannot afford to use it. • KH explains close working with Brent, Heritage England and others to ensure the options for the car park site are accurate and achievable given the private ownership. Explains the intention behind the site allocation within the Plan (for Housing and other uses) is to ensure the space is used to its best benefit to Harlesden. • LN also points out general support for proposals for Harlesden Plaza in the survey results • Q: How much influence can the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) have eventually? • KH explains how the Local Authority must to help support the NP, but that the content has to sit within the wider plans (Local/ London Plan). ML explains it will become a statutory document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum meeting to be arranged to cover all proposed revisions from consultation responses in due course

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: What is stopping Brent taking over when the NP gets submitted and they conduct their own consultation and pushing their own agenda? Only engaging with Brent is not adequate. • KH explains we engage with other influential people and bodies outside of Brent. LN explains we will discuss our strategy in the next item and that the Councillors are in attendance. • Response: Concern about trust in councillors, alliance with cabinet, and representation of business owners from the High Street. • LN response explaining level of engagement work having been done to date. • Q: What does 'Heritage and Community Asset' mean? • KH explains local Heritage Assed listing not a formal (i.e Graded) listing but still a locally recognised protection of building. ML explains a Community Asset is the local protection of the use of the building – i.e. specific pubs. • Q: During Brent's consultation, will they open the consultation wider than Harlesden and accept responses from non-Harlesden residents? • LN explains the consultation will be made available to all within the neighbourhood plan area and the process is formalised. 	
3	<p>Forum Strategy workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LN summarises outputs of HNF Committee awayday and introduces 4 working areas. • ML introduces workshop activity to help develop ideas for work under 2 of the 4 areas – Community Voice and Community & Economic Development. • Two groups discuss and take part in activity (<i>Notes to be circulated to Forum separately</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNF to circulate notes • Attendees to get involved as and where they can

4	<p>Grace Nelson – Brent Town Centre Manager for Harlesden introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GN Introduces herself and her upcoming work in Harlesden – to develop and deliver a 12 month, and 3-5 year program for Harlesden as a Priority Town Centre. ‘REACH’ strategy – Retail mix, Economic, Accessibility and Attractiveness, Community and Housing. • GN invites attendees to contact her or visit during Library office hours (10-6 Wednesdays and Thursdays) • LN welcomes GN and TC Manager as a positive next step following from work by Cllr Butt and HNF to put Harlesden strongly on Brent’s agenda. • Q: How long is GN placed in Harlesden? Direction of travel feels good, but concern it may be short lived. • GN reiterates Harlesden being priority Town Centre so placement is for the foreseeable future 	
8	<p>Leroy Simpson- Community Liaison Officer and Festival Lights project introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LN introduces LS - reporting that the Committee puts forward LS to be the Liaison Community Officer for the Forum. That was accepted and ratified by the meeting attendees. • LS explains role of Community Liaison Officer – to ensure facts and information are being disseminated correctly • LS describes the process to now of setting up the Festival Lights project – including forming a collective of representatives from Harlesden’s active groups. • Limited input from residents needed and aiming to get funding via corporate/ Faith group support. Looking to deliver lights from 2017 between October and January for variety of festivals. • Groundwork is almost complete, though liaising with Brent and Electricity company ongoing. • Welcomes support towards latter stages of project. • LN suggests questions and enquires to be directed to LS later. 	
8	<p>Nick Jones – Environment and Planning issues news</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Phonebox proposal on high street and Craven Park Road – HNF monitoring it. LS states 2 have been accepted, 2 declined. • Update on OPDC draft Local Plan consultation – consultation ongoing. Q: Will HNF be submitting a response? ML: yes, meetings with OPDC regarding key relevant areas for Harlesden, inc Willesden Junction station, are ongoing. HNF will compile a response and a summary will be circulated to the Forum in due course • Update on HNF’s Tree Planting award and ongoing work from this – encouraged attendees to report tree concerns and get involved in future activity. Qs cover tree vandalism and speed of replacement. NJ responds by encouraging reporting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNF committee to communicate summary of response to OPDC draft local plan consultation in due course
8	<p>AOB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendee Delroy Washington explains his work for the Federation of Reggae Music, PRS and BMI and on look out for talented young people • Attendee Leonard Johnson encourages councillors present to support schools and young person services to ensure they are able to help support young people to be involved in the work of the Forum and issues concerning Harlesden 	