Highgate Neighbourhood Forum Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 Time: 7.30 pm

Attendance: Martin Adeney, Rachel Allison, Harley Atkinson, Simon Briscoe, Elspeth Clements, Michael Hammerson, Hannah Liptrot, Louise Lewis, Maggy Meade-King, Martin Narraway, Neil Perkins, Christopher Riley, Gail Waldman

Apologies: Cllr Sian Berry, Cllr Clive Carter, Cllr Bob Hare, Cllr Liz Morris, Cllr Martin Newman, Alicia Pivaro, Allan Rapley, Susan Rose, Christoph Schedl

Minutes: Approved from last meeting (9 February 2015).

Matters arising:

- It was reported that six new trees have been planted on Archway Road and it was agreed that they be photographed and reported via social media - Maggy Meade-King and Christoph Schedl.
- To pursue the issue of the flood area risk around Hornsey Lane reservoir being absent from Haringey's 2013 Inundation Map though a member enquiry to Haringey via Cllr Liz Morris and a Freedom of Information request via Simon Briscoe.
- It was noted that Allan Rapley would be carrying out a walkabout to look at Highgate's trees and the committee was encouraged to email Allan if they would like to join him.
- It was noted that Louise Lewis is chasing Alex Fraser regarding a map of trees in Highgate.
- It was agreed that Rachel Allison would circulate the HNF response on the 'bowl' as per the site allocation document for comment and stronger co-ordination with the other bodies involved.

Presentation – Representatives from Goldsmith Court

The Committee received a presentation from the Goldsmiths Court Residents Association which helped to inform the Forum's response to Haringey's Site Allocations DPD SA43, as attached (Appendix 1).

Feedback on Consultation

The Committee received an update on the consultation.

ACTIONS:

- Members agreed that the Plan sections and comments to date be removed from the website whilst under review – Maggy Meade King.
- It was noted that now the 'planning' plan is under way, members might want to turn their attention to the Community Action Plan. It was suggested that interested parties need not stick to the groups that already exist but any group taking any ideas forward, should have a member of the committee so that the committee could be kept informed of any HNF activities.

Draft report on the HNF, Highgate Society and Highgate and Holly Lodge

CAACs

ACTIONS:

- It was agreed that Michael Hammerson would report back to the Forum with Article 4 Directives from the Highgate Society that can be taken forward by the Forum.
- It was agreed that greater clarity was needed as to which role/body individuals are representing when involved with action groups such as the 'bowl'.
- It was agreed that the Forum would only wish to examine or comment on planning applications, which are of a strategic nature, for example those of mixed use, large scale, several units, or which set a precedent. It was noted that if the Forum did so it would need to form a Planning subcommittee at some stage.
- It was agreed that a more co-ordinated view and endorsement from the different bodies would be a forward way of working on common matters of interest.
- It was agreed that Harley Atkinson would incorporate guidance for members on differing roles/hats into the report.
- It was agreed that members email Harley Atkinson with any further comments on the report for reporting back to the next Forum meeting following the AGM.

HNF AGM

ACTIONS:

- It was noted that the AGM would take place on Tuesday, 12 May at 7pm at Lauderdale House.
- There will be a call for nominations to the HNF Committee.
- Members were all requested to bring drink and food for the AGM reception.
- Members wishing to stand on the HNF Committee to submit their biographies for the AGM papers.
- It was agreed that the 'register of interests' form be reworded for greater clarification and transparency on the different roles members may hold i.e. the Highgate Society, Resident Associations and circulated to the new Committee following the AGM. –Christopher Riley

E-bike Initiative in Haringey

It was noted that Haringey are considering the proposal for e-bikes in Highgate.

271 Update

The Committee received an update on the 271 turnaround.

Finance Statement

The Committee noted the Financial Statement.

AOB

There was no further business.

Date of next meeting

TBC

APPENDIX 1

Highgate Neighbourhood Forum, Highgate Society and the Highgate and Holly Lodge CAACs

1. The issue

This was raised at the HNF Committee meeting on February 9, 2015, initially as a need to clarify the respective roles of the Highgate Society and the Forum. It was extended to include the two CAACs whose areas are in (and largely comprise) the Forum area.
The motivations behind this review are (a) to ensure that the roles are clear and as far as possible complementary, (b) to propose how overlapping roles can be managed, and (c) to ensure that the organisations are seen to be separate and independent of one another.

2. Overview of the organisations

The organisations have largely parallel aims for the Highgate area and indeed have a significant common membership.

a. Highgate Neighbourhood Forum

The Forum is a body established under the Localism Act 2011 to further the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Highgate area, and is designated as such by Haringey and Camden. The designation lasts for 5 years and may be renewed. The area is defined in its Constitution. Its initial purpose is to produce and have adopted the Neighbourhood Plan which includes policies under which development applications will be assessed. It will continue to monitor policy following the adoption of the Plan, and may initiate actions (eg Right to Build Orders). It is recognised to represent the residents, businesses and workers in the area.

b. Highgate Society

The Society is an unincorporated organisation, formed in 1966, whose aim is to make Highgate a better place in which to live and work. Its activities cover planning, conservation, transportation and social. It is a voluntary member organisation and has no democratic mandate. Its influence in planning and transport matters derives from the expertise of its volunteers. Its area of interest is undefined; over 20% of its membership reside outside the N6 postcodes.

c. Highgate and Holly Lodge CAACs

The Conservation Areas are defined by the relevant Local Planning Authorities and the Advisory Committees are recognised as statutory consultees for planning applications within the areas.

3. Overlaps, gaps and conflicts

The matrix below aims to identify where there may be overlaps or potential conflicts between organisations, or gaps which are not adequately addressed by them.
There are areas of overlap, where it would be advisable to have informal consultations between organisations (which happens now, for example, between the Highgate Society and the Highgate CAAC); a more formal coordination mechanism is not felt to be necessary.
There do not appear to be areas where the organisations' current roles need to be curtailed or extended, nor is it considered desirable that they should be. This question may need to be revisited when the Forum's future role becomes clearer.
The potential to find organisations in conflict with one another exists now and could increase if the Forum becomes involved in promoting developments. In these cases, which should be rare, the organisations should liaise over any issues but should be free to pursue their own objectives.

Issue	HNF	HS	CAAC	Overlap/gap	Remedy
Mandate	Localism Act 2011 Referendum will confer a democratic mandate on the Neighbourhood Plan	Own Constitution	Planning law	n/a	
Lifetime of mandate	5 years, may or may not be renewed	Indefinite	indefinite	No	None
Overall objective	Further wellbeing of Highgate Area	Make Highgate better to live & work in	Advise LPA on policy and impacts on the Conservation Area	Objectives generally consistent with each other	May need more formal coordination on specific cases but also must be seen to be independent of one another

Issue	HNF	HS	CAAC	Overlap/gap	Remedy
Membership	Eligibility defined in Localism Act	Voluntary and open	Appointed	There is extensive common membership across the organisations	None
Duties defined by law	Neighbourhood Plan	None	Consultee on planning [and transport] applications	Possible overlap between HNF and CAAC but HNF Constitution 4.2 addresses this	None
Geographical area of interest	Area defined in Constitution	"Highgate and its vicinity" undefined, at the discretion of the membership	Conservation Areas defined by LPAs	No conflict	
Make planning policy	Yes, within current higher level policies	No, but can and does comment and lobby as it sees fit	No but responds to consultation on policy for Conservation Area	Possible overlap between HNF and CAAC	HNF Constitution (4.2) provides for consultation & requires agreement with CAAC on conservation policies
Review planning policy	Yes as above	Can comment as above	No but can advise as statutory consultee as above	Possible, as above	As above

Issue	HNF	HS	CAAC	Overlap/gap	Remedy
Designate specific sites for development	Can do	No	No	No	
Community right to build orders	Can do	No	No	No	
Initiate actions to improve Highgate	Can do – see Action Plan	Yes – eg planning, transport, social	No	No	
Advise public on planning issues	No	Does so on a voluntary basis	No	No	
Campaign on planning issues	No	Yes	No	No	
Campaign on transport issues	May define low level policies	Yes	Responds to consultation on these issues	Possible overlap and/or conflict	May coordinate informally
Review planning applications	May do so but does not have resources	Does so, is recognised as a consultee, has significant (voluntary) expertise	Does so as its main function and is a statutory consultee Also gives pre-application advice if requested	Possible area of overlap and even possible conflict	May coordinate informally but should be seen to be separate and independent of one another
Object to planning applications where necessary	No	Yes	Yes	HS and Highgate CAAC generally coordinate their views	Not historically a problem