

## MOUNT PLEASANT NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

### Executive Committee monthly meeting April 24 2017

#### Held at 22a Calthorpe Street at 7pm

**PRESENT.** Julie Riley, Ed Denison, Elena Henson, Oliver Bennett, Judy Dainton, Francois Smit.

**APOLOGIES.** Meg Howarth, Bruce McDougall

There was no response from Miles Hansard or Josie Vos.

#### 1. PREPARATION FOR MEETING WITH VINCENT GOODSTADT ON 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY

##### 1.1. Topics to discuss at evening session 7pm - meet with Forum members.

- How does he see his role, what will he do for us?
- Is existing structure of draft Plan acceptable or how should it be changed?
- Is our approach one which will pass master with Inspector?
- How do we marry tone of Plan – to appeal to local people and also to Inspector?
- What level of reference to Councils' planning is required ... copy and paste of whole sections?.....or a page and para number notation only?
- What sort of presentation? All Fori seem to do different styles, different content. What does he recommend? What do we recommend (*short and sweet was the recommendation of the Exec*).
- Vincent's time-table and our need to complete writing Plan by end September 2017.

##### 1.2 Topics to discuss at pre-walk-about session at 3pm - tea and biccies

- General intro – Mount Pleasant Development of postal lands is motive force that brought us together
- Mention, in passing, pressure to get plan through before development starts.
- Conscious that we have to encourage commercial development,(national policy) but not at expense of local life. How to balance both?
- Show maps etc if appropriate
- Give him info sheet for walk – suggestion is to follow route of architectural walk-about

##### 1.3 Projected Itinerary for May 4

- 3pm meet at 22a Calthorpe Street. Judy, Meg, Elena ... and ..whoever else is free.
- 3.30pm - walk about with members for 2 hrs. Make sure to include commercial area around Saffron Hill – and emphasise lack of residents in area and reputed CrossRail/TfL plans for this area.
- 5.30pm - meet Judy in Calthorpe Arms. *Maybe meet Ed there?* Chat.
- Vincent gets dinner or snack there at 6pm at our expense, if he wants it (*£10 max ,prob less*).
- 7pm – Calthorpe Project – meet with Forum members. Discuss work programme as above
- 8-8.30pm Vincent leaves.

## 2. TIMETABLE FOR WORK, AND MONEY TO FACILITATE NECESSARY ACTIVITIES

2.1 **Time pressures.** Judy explained pressure to have Neighbourhood Plan fully accepted into planning regs by Easter next year, because of up-coming developments on Mount Pleasant postal lands once land is sold. Meeting noted that planning permission on that project ceases July 2018 – but provided a "*spade is turned*" before that date, project still operates under old conditions under which planning permission granted. Was also noted that whatever happens about that discredited RMG project, the details would be so out of date they would have to be modified, and that (*if we not bought the land ourselves*) the Forum needed to be in a position to influence any and all of these planning decisions.

**It was agreed to work to the tightest time-table possible**, and have the Neighbourhood Plan formally finished and "ready to go" into the official timetable of consultations etc by Forum meeting of September 18<sup>th</sup>.

2.2 **Timetable for work.** This draft had been circulated electronically on that day. There was discussion of the complex legal requirements involved. Judy and Ed explained the complex and labyrinthine process the Plan would have to undertake before it became law.

**Meeting agreed to hold to dates set out in proposed time-table.** Judy agreed to present draft time-table as a finish document and to circulate same.

2.3 **Money.** In the Treasurer's absence Judy explained that we would have less funds to play with this year – about £4,500 at most. There was discussion about necessities – these were agreed as

- Vincent's fees (£2,750)
- Mail Chimp completion of website ( about £200)
- the summer Air Pollution study. (? £80)

It was agreed Forum would economise on paid meeting rooms – except when absolutely required. Francois Smit offered the Margery Street Community rooms for free and that offer was gratefully accepted. It was agreed that Forum would use do-it-ourselves printing wherever possible, and incur minimal printing costs (such as lamination of posters) only.

It was agreed to publicise quarterly Forum meetings well in advance.

It was agreed Forum could manage on minimal costs, and no external funding would be absolutely required to get us through the process.

However it was also agreed to look at external sources of funding – such as the Princes Trust, or the Peel Centre, or maybe the District Management Committee, to see if we could accumulate some small sums, to cope with any extra community activities, or to help out with printing the Neighbourhood Plan. Francois and Judy offered to investigate these possibilities. It was agreed to ask Graeme and Miles to help.

## 3. CRtBUILD 1 REFERENDUM PROPOSED FOR JUNE 1<sup>st</sup>.

The requirements were explained. There was discussion about the Inspector's findings and the seemingly premature dates for the referendum. It was agreed Ed and/or Judy would ask Ben Vickers about progress.

It was agreed that Forum would not spend money on publicity, but produce do-it-yourself posters etc. Agreed to contact press – Oliver volunteered to use contacts. Tom Foot was mentioned, as a CNJ and Tribune contact. Judy said she would remind Meg about this item.

#### **4. PROGRESS ON WEBSITE AND OTHER PROJECTS.**

**4.1 Website group reported that work was well under-way.** Data was being uploaded, Mission statement has been completed, lots more pictures have been added.

Oliver, Julie, Elena and Francois were thanked enthusiastically for their hard work.

It was agreed to website group could meet their deadlines and that the new website would be in operation by mid May.

**4.2 Demographic statistics.** In Josie's absence Judy reported that she had seen an email enquiring about access to LGA data, but that she knew no more about progress. She would enquire.

#### **5. THE WRITING GROUP meeting on May 8**

5.1 It was agreed that the writing group would meet up a week after the Forum had discussed the Plan with Vincent Goodstadt. It was hoped we would have a firm steer on the form, tone and content of the Plan and could make positive progress from this meeting onwards through the summer.

It was agreed that the composition of the group and the proposed division of work looked fine.

#### **6. AOB. AIR POLLUTION STUDY – RESULTS**

The results from our spring-time (March) air pollution study had been received that afternoon and circulated electronically.

The readings were interestingly high – it appeared that the whole of our Neighbourhood Area was suffering from illegally high levels of pollution, and that in some instances the levels were above those of known London black-spots such as Euston Road by Kings Cross/St Pancras. Horror was expressed.

Oliver said he had put his tube up late, only last week. It was agreed his sample would be mailed in to the lab with the tubes from the next test.

It was agreed Judy would write and circulate a report containing this information – which would be included as an Appendix to our Plan.

It was agreed the Forum would conduct a second similar study in the summer (? May/June?), to back-up this evidence, and to evaluate any seasonal change.

It was agreed the Forum meeting in June would discuss whether the Forum should continue this program, with a further set of data capture in the autumn and the winter, and how we should pay for to continue this work.

All those members who worked putting up the tubes (and Gaven from the Calthorpe Project) were thanked for their work.

There was no other business

The meeting closed at 9pm.