

# Minutes of Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum Meeting 160117

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1. **Present:** John Gillett (JG), Susan Connolly (minutes), Val Duschinsky, , Paul Edwards, Cheryl Farrow, Sami Greenbury, Philip Morris, Peter Neal, Caroline Oliver, Bonnie Overlander, Zoe Samuelson, Roger Tichborne

**Guests:** Andrea Eaton-Pickering (AEP), Robert Gowar (RG), Aneta Fugle (AF),

**Apologies:** Mike Barker, Richard Logue, Clive Blass, Jonathan Cumming, Suzanne Brett, Rob Orton, Tom Davey, Emily Dunbar, Christina Wong, Oli Moradov, Sian John, Ali Sayed, Gordon Banks

3. **Minutes of the last meeting** held 21 November 2016 – agreed
4. **Introductions** JG welcomed AEP, AF and RG to the meeting, introductions were made.
5. **Updates on planning applications:**
  - 5.1 **Hasmonean School** – leaflets had been distributed encouraging people to respond to the consultation. JG went through the conclusions from the GLA response – if anyone would like the detailed response contact JG. The Council website shows 408 objections – all from Mill Hill residents - and 821 supporters the majority of whom live outside of Mill Hill. It was noted that the Council has just gone out to tender on the masterplan for Copthall and the brief did not include a reference to this application.
  - 5.2 **Saracens West Stand** – the planning application has been submitted but is not yet available on the Council's website. JG went through the key aspects of the application and changes that have been made to parking as a result of discussions with local groups, though there will be more grass-creting as they have lost school site parking. This further highlights the need for a bus route into the Copthall site. MHPS will be objecting to more development of the greenbelt but will state that the stadium brings added value for the community. It was noted that with 200-300 students using the site daily there will be more intense use of the facilities.
  - 5.3 **St Vincents School** – The school would like to develop a forest school using landfill that would be brought in from St John's Wood basement developments amounting to 3300 lorry loads, arriving every ten minutes for 4 months. It was considered that there would be significant drainage issues to overcome and that it would be possible to create the features of a forest school without the need for landfill. Concern was expressed about the precedent this would create for the green belt if approved.
  - 5.4 **Sweet Tree Farm** – No application has been submitted yet. Concern was expressed about the incremental erosion of the green belt from this and other recent applications.
6. **Mill Hill Broadway Issues** – JG went through a long list of changes expected to retail units – almost all will be restaurants, plus a beauty salon, bridal wear and potential health food shop.

The Council has announced that they will be using a new device to tackle litter on the Broadway, called the Glutton. They will also be steam-cleaning the pavements.



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## 7. Consultations:

7.1 **Waste management, parks and street scene cleaning** –JG has responded but as it was on survey monkey it had not been possible to keep a copy of his response.

7.2 **20mph zones** – this is proposed at various sites in Mill Hill, concerns were raised about the visual impact and air quality issues as vehicles slow down and speed up. Indeed around school drop-off & collection times much less than 20mph is achievable so 20mph speed limits that could not be “policed” seem pointless and if in operation outside said school hours they could greatly reduce traffic flow at all times

7.3 **City For All Londoners** – this is a consultation by the London Mayor – comments are required by the end of January. The results will fuel the London Plan.

7.4 **TFL bus routes** – There is a real need for a direct bus route between Mill Hill and Barnet General hospital. Further we have previously suggested an additional single decker bus route from Mill Hill East via Copthall to Colindale then Mill Hill Broadway returning via Copthall to Mill Hill East via Devonshire Road. This would be a lower cost option to a lite-rail solution and amongst other benefits provide access to Copthall’s amenities without using a car! Could it also be possible to have hopper buses that can be hailed? Any suggestions to be sent please to Richard Logue who is co-ordinating the MHNF response.

8. **Neighbourhood Plan** – JG is reviewing several sections that are in draft; he intends to compare these to other plans and consider where there are gaps. He has been working with Mike Barker. The intention is to submit it to the Council in the first quarter of this year.

## 9. AOB

9.1 **Mill Hill Library** – JG gave an update on the charitable trust being set up to run the partnership library from April 2017, for an expected three years. It was noted that there are conflicts when considering sharing what amounts to 50% of the full current library between library and the different activities that could increase income and allow longer opening hours. A business plan is being developed for the charity to take on the other half of the library which if viable would give much more flexibility in what could be offered to the community.

9.2 **Sacred Heart Church** – improvements to the lobby and car parking are proposed and an additional stained glass window.

9.3 **Pentavia** – No further update; the GLA report refers to Colindale so is factually inaccurate, this has been pointed out. It was noted that the developer had stated that there are no parking issues from Beaufort Park, claiming it is a similar development, but the Beaufort Park website has constant requests for spare parking spaces and one MHNF member has a relative who has had significant difficulty with parking there. (post meeting notice: The Mayor of London has “called-in” this application)



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- 9.4 **Pocket Park** – JG is attending a second project meeting on 19 January, still issues with leasing the Highway but hoping it will be done by July.
- 9.5 **Salcombe Gardens** – JG is attending a meeting on Friday about this.
- 9.6 **Compton School** – issues with funding may prevent them making a winning offer for Watch Tower House. I hotel/conferencing co is believed to be interested in the site.
- The tender process completes for the main IBSA sites at end February 17
- 9.7 **Millway Surgery** – blood test facilities are no longer available at the surgery so patients need to attend Finchley Memorial or Barnet General. This creates public transport issues. JG will follow this up.
- 9.8 **Mill Hill Village Sports Club** – The youth football team is thought to be folding as the pitches are flooding and the facilities are poor. It is thought this may be addressed as part of the NIMR development.

**Date of next meetings: 20<sup>th</sup> February & 20<sup>th</sup> March**

