

Minutes of Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum Meeting 200317

Present: John Gillett (JG), Susan Connolly, Rob Orton, Paul Edwards, Suzanne Brett, Val Duschinsky, Sami Greenbury, Sarah Walker, Richard Logue, Caroline Oliver, Christina Wong, Zoe Samuelson, Bonnie Overlander, Jonathon Cumming, Clive Blass, Mike Barker (minutes)

Apologies Marc Bergen, Peter Neal, Gordon Banks, Philip Morris, Cheryl Farrow,

Minutes of the last meeting held 20 February 2017 – agreed

Updates on planning applications:

Hasmonean School. The approval of the planning application by Barnet's Planning Committee had been unexpected given the strong advice from Barnet Council officers to refuse the proposals. The loss of c.14 acres of green belt would be a significant loss to the area and could open up further applications to build on the green belt. There was still a number of hurdles for the application to go through before it was given the final go ahead. The next stage would be a review by the GLA who had previously indicated that the current application was deficient in several aspects of planning rules.

Pentavia. The application was still being considered by Barnet Council. The developer had submitted a number of computer generated views showing the impact of the development and was lobbying hard to win approval. The Committee agreed there was still much to be done to ensure any development was more in fitting with the area and we would continue to work to influence the LBB, GLA etc. that major changes in the proposals were needed.

86-88 Bunns Lane The application had been refused as the new block of flats would be too large and not be in keeping with the street scene.

St Vincent's School – The school had now submitted to LBB two applications; a resubmission of the car park application and the major application for significant change to the topography of the fields (green belt) at the back of the school. The committee judged we should object to both applications. The car park changes would impact the Ridgeway whilst the levelling of the rear fields would result in major change in the landscape, could only be done with massive landfill and thousands of trucks dumping rubbish and the potential for drainage issues impacting Woodcote Avenue immediately below the proposed landfill area.

NIMR – the application had been refused by the Planning Committee on 22nd February despite the officer's report recommending approval of the application. This reflected the reservations about the unsympathetic design of many of the proposed blocks in a conservation area. It was expected that Barrett's would submit new proposals but how long this would take was unknown.



Minutes of Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum Meeting 200317

Mill Hill Broadway developments;

Town Square – LBB had consulted on the proposals with few objections. It was hoped work would begin in the next couple of months for completion in the summer. We would need to consider a launch event and a name for the town square.

New Broadway Shops – the changing face of Mill Hill Broadway was evident with the number of currently vacant premises now being renovated and refitted by new owners.

Salcombe Gardens – work continued to improve the shops in Salcombe Gardens. Proposals to create an integrated frontage were well advanced and it was hoped work would start over the next few months.

Mill Hill Library – the NW7Hub charity would be taking over the Library which would open on 6th April. Plans and agreement with LBB to take over the old children's library and Sure Start facilities and turn them into useful community facilities were still ongoing.

80 Daws Lane – Unexpectedly LBB had let the top floor to an organisation which would be letting the space for artists to use short term. We would need to watch this situation did not impact the long term aims to rebuild the site as a community hub and new library under the umbrella of the NW7Hub charity.

Future Mill Hill Broadway Markets - Markets had been arranged for the following dates:

12/13 May

16/17 June

15/16 September

10/11 November

1/2 December

Neighbourhood Plan – It was hoped the draft plan would be ready for comments by the end of April. Volunteers were needed to review the draft.

Bunns Lane Car Park – JG presented some new proposals for the car park site which would involve building a hotel and increasing the size of the car park whilst keeping the height of the new complex within acceptable levels. There would be a lot of lobbying and work needed to take these proposals forward given LBB were still focussed on using the site for affordable housing despite its poor location next to the motorway.

AOB:

Library - Volunteers were still needed to help run the Library.

Civic Award - The Committee congratulated JG on his Civic Award from LBB for all the hard work he had put in to improve Mill Hill.



Minutes of Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum Meeting 200317

Public Meeting – JG reminded the Committee that the next MHNF public meeting would be held on 26th April at Hartley Hall starting at 7.30pm

Mill Hill Music Festival 2017 – This would be held between June 16th and 24th. Roger and team were running it as usual and there were a wide variety of acts and performances over the week of the festival.

Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on 24th April at Mill Hill Library.

