



## Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum – Committee Meeting, 12 November 2018

### Draft Minutes

**Present** – John Gillett (Chair), Clive Blass, Susan Connolly, Cheryl Farrow, Bonnie Overlander, Roger Tichborne, Jonathon Cummings, Elliott Simberg, Stefan Taricska, Limor Noriel, Mike Barker (minutes).

**Apologies** –Paul Edwards, Caroline Oliver, Lachyya Gurung, Golnar Bokaei, Sian John, Val Duschinsky, Gordon Banks, Laithe Jajeh

**Welcome** – John welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Planning updates** – John updated the Committee on a number of the larger site proposals.

- Further work had been done by the potential developers of the “Watchtower building”. This still included the possibility of an additional storey on the current building. As at the previous Committee meeting in September the members voiced a number of opinions about the status of such a proposal for an extra storey and the general development of what was a green belt site. When the formal planning application was submitted, the Committee would need to carefully consider all aspects of the application before we expressed the Forum’s opinion to the Council.
- Proposals for the “IBSA building and site” now included potentially using the lower floors as office space with the upper floors being converted to residential. A new residential building was a possibility for the back of the IBSA site. The Committee would need to consider when a formal planning application was submitted, noting that this site was not Green Belt.
- Kingdom Hall could now be left as a place of worship, its potential to be used for a new school had receded.
- The Pentavia proposal had been “called in” by the Mayor who would take over from Barnet Council as the statutory planning authority for any future decision on the site. The Forum needed to ensure as many people as possible wrote to the Mayor objecting to the current planning application.
- The Committee noted that the publication of the final Copthall green spaces strategy had been delayed by the Council. It was thought this might be connected to a further planning application from Hasmorean School. The Committee noted the story about on the new school building that had recently been in the Jewish Chronicle. This suggested a significant area of Green Belt would still be used, something the Committee remained opposed to.

### Frith Grange Scout Camp

- Jonathan outlined some of the issues for the scout camp. The background is that new plans for Phases 6 & 6B at Millbrook park which are in the immediate vicinity of the camp would be materially higher than originally thought. Jonathon said this gave the Scout camp a number of problems including potential safeguarding issues and a reduction in the “rural atmosphere” of the camp site. Jonathon also noted that new neighbours could be disturbed on a regular basis by the Scouting activities of what were teenagers.
- After some discussion it was agreed that the increased height of the new buildings represented a real problem for the scout camp and that we should write to the Council accordingly asking them to consider a lower height to the new buildings.

### Mill Hill Broadway Station

- John noted that the Council were soon to start the feasibility study into improving the Station area and that Govia would be submitting the bid for step-free access funding by Friday 16th November.

### **Mill Hill Broadway Traders association.**

- John and Golnar had agreed to try and start a new traders association and would be contacting shop owners and managers over the coming few weeks.

### **AOB**

- The Committee noted the dates of the next meetings which would be on 14th January, 11th February and 11th March.
- John reminded Committee members that there would be a Winter Market in the Broadway on 30 November and 1st December.
- John asked how many Committee members had received a copy of the new Mill Hill guide. Several members had not received one though it was hoped that distribution to all homes in the Forum area would be completed in the following weeks.
- Roger said he would be looking at the opportunity of setting up a community pub and would be visiting such a venture in Pimlico. A lot of work would be needed though to move from an idea to the practical realities of the community owning and managing its own pub. If the idea gained some traction over the coming months a business case could be developed during 2019.

John Gillett finalised – 14 January 2019 at meeting