



Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum – Committee Meeting 14 January 2019

Minutes

Present – John Gillett (Chair), Jonathan Cumming, Paul Edwards, Bonnie Overlander, Val Duschinsky, Lachya Gurung, Cheryl Farrow, Peter Neal, Stuart Kershaw, Limor Nouriel.

Apologies Received – Susan Connolly, Sian John, Clive Blass, Marc Bergen.

Welcome – John welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first in 2019.

AGENDA:

- Introductions/ Apologies
- Pentavia Retail Park
- Our NDP – Policy Review
- The Committee
- AOB

Pentavia Retail Park; We reviewed a revised Scheme: This involved: redevelopment of the site including the demolition of all existing buildings, and construction of 724 new Build to Rent residential units (Use Class C3), along with 949 sqm of ancillary residential facilities, 987 sqm of non-residential floorspace (Use Class A1, A3 and D1) within buildings ranging from 5 to 15 storeys, a new pedestrian access off Bunns Lane, open space, landscaping, car parking, acoustic mitigation and highway / pedestrian improvements. Stage 2 statutory referral - Mayor's final decision: The Mayor has taken over the determination of the planning application.

Comment: This application should not be supported due to its height, massing and failure to comply with planning guidance, notably the Planning brief for the site.

The Neighbourhood Plan. We reviewed the Vision, Core Values, and the objectives to meet the vision. Committee members were asked to review these and comment where necessary by the next meeting

The Committee: It was noted that after Mike Barker's resignation, a new Secretary to the Forum was needed, also a new Deputy Chairman as doubt was raised about the position and continuing membership of Committee member, Mr Richard Logue. There had been no communication from Mr Logue since September 2018. He had made no attempt to communicate with the MHNH Forum and had actively criticised the Forum on social media.

It was noted that recently there had been considerable criticism, of the Forum's work, from a Mr Jon Klaff, (Jon Mark on Facebook). Mr Klaff is a committee member of the Mill Hill Residents' Association (MHRA). His criticism focusses upon the Forum's 'transparency', and whether decisions were being taken by the Forum's Chair or by the Committee as a whole. The feeling of the meeting was that all decisions had indeed been taken with the full consent of the Forum Committee as a whole, and minutes should be made available online so as to ensure total transparency. However, it was noted, that, on occasions, matters arose that were either confidential and/or which simply should not, until a later date, be placed in the public domain. This latter point applied, for example, to developers' plans before Planning Applications were submitted, and to confidential deliberations about site allocations.

The MHNH Committee left open the possibility that the above objections were politically motivated, and it restated the fact that the Committee was at pains, at all times, to be completely politically impartial.

Clearly replacements for the Deputy Chair and the Secretary are urgently required. In an environment where we have an external group (led by Mr Klaff) intent on finding fault, the Forum needs to be on its guard.

AOB:

We discussed the following topics:

- Millbrook Park 6 & 6B
- IBSA - Expect outline Planning Applications – Soon
- St Vincent's School – Landfill!
- Sweet Tree Farm
- Parking Review- Poets' Corner - Awaiting Outcome?
- Mill Hill Broadway Station – Feasibility Study for station and surrounding areas.
 - STEP-FREE-ACCESS latest
- Mill Hill Golf Club
- Jeannette's at Belmont Farm