

**Minutes of Somers town Neighbourhood Planning Forum
28th June 2017 6.30pm
STCA Community Centre**

For all news, please refer to website www.somerstownplan.info

Attendees, Cllr Paul Tomlinson, Slaney Devlin, Michelle Rispin, Diana Foster, Herman Tribelnig, John Wood, Anwar Zaman, Donna Turnbull, Rachael Floyd, British library Project manager, Charles Walford - Stanhope (British library extension), Lois Prior - Crossrail 2 consultation; Lucia from Levita House, Helia Evans – Ossulston Estate TRA, Niyan Ahamad.
Cllr Roger Robinson and Samata Khatoon (late)

Apologies: Emma Morgan, Jaimie Denholm, Steve Denholm.

Minutes reviewed. To be on website.

1. Camden Local Plan

The Local Plan was formally adopted this month, so Somers Town is – despite Forum objections – now officially a CIP area.

Action: Chase up Camden council on disruption and works.

2. Environmental Justice Inquiry

Objective: To gather into a report health, environmental and air quality studies, community research and community responses to planning applications. The analysis, presented as Community Evidence to candidates in the lead up to local council elections in May 2018, will be used to promote initiatives that alleviate the impacts of construction and new development.

Process:

Collaboration between UCL, VAC, Environmental Law Foundation and Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum.

UCL researchers are bringing it together.

Sessions will be chaired by David Hart QC.

Idea mooted as a green tax for developers or commitment to green allocation.

Johns Wood made point that it should benefit local community as the current CIL gives 75% to council.

Evening events

Living Centre 20 September, Coopers Lane TRA Hall 27 September, Surma Centre 4th October

Actions

To email Donna if you wish to give witness statements

To convene a green working group (non party) to feed in?

6. HS2/Euston station planning briefs

HS2 are consulting on their station design over the next 2 weeks.

The government has advertised for developers to express an interest in the overstation design.

The Council has their own Euston Station Planning brief, looking at the wider area including Euston Station, the new HS2 station, the oversite development and parts of Somers Town. The Forum has responded to early consultation sessions. A particular concern for Somers Town is how commuters would access east–west routes over the station – we want to avoid walkways or high lines across our area.

There are two HS2 funds local community organisations can apply to: the Community and Environment fund and the Business Fund.

Actions

Residents to attend planning brief meeting if wish to put views to.

Meetings HS2 2-8 Thursday and Saturday at the Collective on Hampstead Rd.

Planning brief comments deadline 3rd July

To find out about fund at Q&A:

Environment fund Sat 22 July 2-4.30pm

Business and local fund - Wed 19th July 6-7.30pm Euston Square

British Library

Charles Walford from Stanhope explained the British Library tender process: they are the chosen partner as developer for British library extension between back of library and Crick (3 acres). Has met a number of groups. BL has changed purpose to more digital.

BL wish the extension to be more open to the public, with gallery space, temporary exhibition space and Alan Turing Institute to have its own section. BL want to have 100,000 square feet.
Stanhope aim to optimise the value of the land by using a level above - BL wants flexibility to have land and use. Not to be residential but to be Knowledge Quarter type space. May be retail and commercial. There is demand from organisations who want to be connected to the Crick.
Timeframe is affected by Crossrail 2 Vent to expel air as this is on the site. Have designed the shaft. Has to be done at same time. Priority for Stanhope now.
Timeframe for consultation: will follow the pre-design consultation.
Will not generate at traffic. Lorries to come in from Midland Rd.

Action

Hope to return in Autumn to consult.
Slaney to set up workshop for Somers town groups to feed in common themes for Somers Town.

Crossrail 2

Michelle raised issue of pollution from air shaft.
Early stages consultation was in 2015 and in March 2017 there were rumours that the entrance to the new station would be within Euston station itself. This would mean fewer homes would be demolished in Somers Town. The current plan is for a construction site and vent shaft off Eversholt Street, taking out the parade of Georgian shops (64 Eversholt St is Grade II listed), Edith Neville cottages and Ian Hamilton House. There will be a formal consultation period.

Action

To find out if the air shaft does pollute. Crossrail 2. **Email** crossrail2@tfl.gov.uk

Fire safety

Residents have requested fire safety review esp. in Amptill Estate. Also Housing Associations. Camden Council is taken up with Chalcot and has not acted everywhere. Samata said Camden council has strategy to check and run safety checks. Circle owns properties and has very poor reputation.

Action

Can TRAs request a safety check or update?
Paul Tomlinson to check on progress at Camden with checking materials.
To check on Circle and Housing associations in area.

Market

Cllr Roger Robinson Updated on progress.
Slaney mentioned BEET group to combine efforts.

Somers Town Bridge

Opening Event on July 5th at 5pm.

AOB

Tube noise campaign

Lucia from a ground floor Levita House has been campaigning on compensation for awful noise pollution caused by tube trains' lack of maintenance as trains run under Levita House now at night.

Community asset

Nominated Pinnars cafe as a community asset. Diana Foster and Steve Denholm

Action

Write letters of support. (To somerstownwishes@gmail.com)

Crick light pollution

Slaney to write a letter on behalf of the Forum and to ask whether the building is 'smart' and request further restrictions to lighting.

Other

To send an email to those interested in **environmental working group** to feed into the Forum. (Diana August)
Group to monitor threats to ST environment, e.g., air quality, pollution of all kinds, and to take action to improve green space, such as tree preservation orders and seeking locations and funds for greening.

Next meeting tbc