

**Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum**  
**Wednesday, 13 June 2018**  
**Living Centre, 6.30–8pm**

**Minutes**

1. **Present:** Michael Parkes, Donna Turnbull, Slaney Devlin, Margaret Stobo, Fran Heron, Amber Perrier (British Library), José Mansilla, Herman Tribelnig, Richard Harrison, Cllr Paul Tomlinson, Lil Scott, Michelle Rispin,
2. **Apologies:** Diana Foster, Penny Jones, Cllr Roger Robinson, Mary Wood, Lita Smith, Sarah Smith
3. **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising:**  
**Action: SD to correct minutes to include approval of the Privacy Policy and related actions.**
4. **Air Quality**  
**ULEZ:** The Mayor has decided to extend the Ultra Low Emission Zone from October 2021 to the North and South Circulars. This means those driving petrol or diesel cars in Somers Town will have to meet new, tighter emission standards or pay a daily charge. Blue Badge drivers will not be exempt. There was concern about the impact on poorer car owners, including those who need their vehicles for work. Engine idling, particularly taxis at St Pancras Station, remains a huge problem. Buses can be dirty and are often half empty at Euston.  
**UCL collaboration:** The UCL have identified six areas of further work and made some progress.
  - i) Evaluation of the current monitoring of air quality in Somers Town and future needs compared to best practice
  - ii) Review of the air quality forecasts in the EIAs for recent developments, compared to current air quality. If possible this will include emissions from Phoenix Place Energy Centre (even though there was no EIA).
  - iii) Linking with the UCL-ELF Environmental Justice Inquiry findings on cumulative impacts of development on air quality and health
  - iv) Working with Knowledge Quarter stakeholders and others to reduce congestion from last-mile delivery traffic – something UCL Estates might sign up to.
  - v) Citizen science ‘window wipe’ testing to identify pollutants
  - vi) Improving data about current street trees and identifying optimal locations for tree planting.

5. **Euston Station Masterplan** A FOI request has revealed the Landowners' Preferred Masterplan for Euston. Camden and TfL are rightly critical of the masterplan. The Government have commissioned Lendlease to take the masterplan forward. It shows massive, very high development along the western side of Eversholt Street, building on Euston Square Gardens including a bus station, aerial bridges over Eversholt Street between the station and Crossrail 2. MP commented on the importance of protecting views from Regent's Park, including the views over Chester Terrace and the other Nash houses. The quantum figures in the Euston Area Plan were based on building on the airspace above the existing station.  
**Action: To continue lobbying Camden and the Mayor to get a better scheme for Euston that works for the communities already here.**
6. **HS2.** Trial holes for utility works are planned in Chalton Street, Lancing Street, Eversholt Street and Churchway during June and July.  
RH reported that HS2 had not been in touch regarding the impacts on school pupils, including safe crossings on Eversholt Street and the problems caused by buses on diversion, particularly during exam time. DT wondered whether Doctors against Diesel, based at RCGPs might help with HS2 air pollution. HS2 have come up with an offer on compensation – no one east of the station will be compensated currently.
7. **Other development. 42 Phoenix Rd.** This property has planning permission. The owners are going to go back to Camden and seek approval for a new design that may include a living wall.  
**St Pancras Gardens.** Camden's proposals to improve access to the gardens are currently out to consultation. HT objected to the loss of two trees. Council officer Saima Downes is coming to the August Forum meeting to explain the plans.  
**St Pancras Hospital.** Changes to the hospital site will soon be out to consultation. The hospital team are coming to talk to the Forum again in September.
8. **Admin & structure:** A subgroup of JM, FH, MR, SD plus, if willing Diana Foster to look into improving the Forum structure and support to work over the summer.
9. **AOB**  
PT asked about greening in Somers Town  
**Action: SD to forward the LUC greening strategy.**  
Responsive security patrol. FH reported that the person who has led this patrol and been a welcome presence on Somers Town streets has failed to secure the role going forward.  
RH reported that Regent High will be having their Summer Fair on 30 June.  
There was a discussion on creating art in the community. AH was giving examples of murals and word sculptures to be forwarded to those working on the British Library extension.  
There was a brief discussion on charging points for electric vehicles.
10. **Dates of future meetings:** 18 July 2018; 8 August 2018