

**Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum**  
**Wednesday, 13 February 2019**  
**Living Centre, 6:30–8pm**

**Minutes**

**1. Present:** Slaney Devlin (Chair), José Mansilla, Helen Cadiou, Mary Wood, Cllr Roger Robinson, George Cochrane (British Library), Cllr Samata Khatoon, Diana Foster, Alan Stephens, Ken Jones, Steve Denholm, Michael Royce, Lil Scott, Jane Kokoevo, Eugenio Kokoevo, MR, Herman Tribelnig, Niyan Ahamed, Dave Hoefling, Cllr Danny Beales

**2. Apologies:** Richard Harrison, Lita Smith, Sarah Smith, Fran Heron, Michael Parkes, Cllr Paul Tomlinson, Margaret Stobo, Phil Kerry (New Horizons), Donna Turnbull

**3. Cllr Danny Beales, Cabinet Member for Investing in Communities (Including Planning, Regeneration & Economic Growth)**

Cllr Beales fielded questions for over an hour on topics including the Central Somers Town CIP, Housing, HS2, Transport and Housing. Some highlights are below:

- The new Edith Neville School should open in September 2019.
- The six-storey block of 10 new homes on Chalton Street should be finished in April 2019. Priority will be given to Somers Town residents and anyone on the housing waiting list, including Origin tenants, can apply. The homes will be for social rent. All will be lifetime homes, 10% (one home) will be wheelchair accessible). MRo asked if the lifetime homes would be easily adaptable for wheelchair users. (There was a conversation about how disabled people were becoming trapped in their homes.)
- Plot 10 should be finished by April 2019.
- Housing repairs, including the state of Levita House.

**Action: Invite Cllr Merik Apek to a future forum meeting.**

- Planning applications given permission before ward boundary changes should share CIL monies within the old ward boundary of St Pancras and Somers Town.

**Action: DB to check whether the King's Cross Development was due to deliver any CIL or whether this application was approved under an earlier system.**

- The impact of major developments on residents' health and wellbeing. DH talked about construction all starting with the first rebuilding of Euston Station. We have to get developments right first time. MR asked if residents' health could be tracked during developments – a pilot scheme with local GPs.
- The likely closure of Eversholt Street to buses will have a real impact on vulnerable people trapped in Somers Town. There will be rat-running through Somers Town.
- New developments with subsidized canteens do little for the local economy.

4. Minutes of December 2018 and January 2019 were agreed. These will be uploaded onto the website.

Please let the chair know if you'd like your name anonymised.

5. Air quality

Residents would like to see more action to try and clean up our toxic care. In particular, they'd like to see delivery consolidations, protection of all green spaces– the Council shouldn't be building on these, radical greening throughout the estate, car free days, recharging points for electric vehicles, an electric hopper bus in the area, something done about Euston Road, parking permits reviewed to discourage people from driving into Somers Town and something done about engine idling, including at AVIS.

**Action: SD to invite Cllr Adam Harrison to a future forum meeting.**

6. Ward boundary changes

The Council has put forward it's preferred new boundaries for local wards, and these will be open to public consultation from April. There were questions about whether changes would divide the borough culturally and socially, and leave it worse off.

**AOB**

DF announced a Heritage workshop on 9 March in the Living Centre.

The British Library Story Garden has planning permission

UCL has invited SD to attend a international symposium on air quality – Resistance is in the Air – in Brussels in April and co-present a paper.

**Date of future meeting**

13 March 2019, Living Centre, 6:30–8pm