

MEETING INAUGURAL MEETING
DATE | TIME TUESDAY 14th APRIL 2015, 6.30PM
LOCATION UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER
FACILITATOR WS
NOTE TAKER SB
PRESENT Shadow executive committee.

NICK BAILEY	NB
SHARON BANOFF	SB
GWILYM HARBOTTLE	GH
ALI MATTHEWS	AM
IAN MILNE	IM
WENDY SHILLAM	WS

65 Forum Members. Tom Kimber (WCC) and Cllr Jonathan Glanz, Observer Matthew Bennett from Soho Neighbourhood Forum.

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- 1. Welcome and apologies** **Presenter** WS

WS welcomed everyone to the first official meeting of the Fitzrovia West Neighbourhood Forum. Apologies from Shadow exec member Yoram Blumann. She thanked those members, now standing down, for their work so far.

WS explained the background to Fitzwest and the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.
 - 2. What Should our Neighbourhood Plan Cover** **Presenter** Wendy Shillam

WS explained the topic groups that had been meeting since November and the work that the committee had done during that period. In particular she spoke about the workshop that had been held where all the results from each topic group meeting and other feedback, was fed into a set of proposals for further work.

WS explained the headings and introduced those who would be speaking on each subject. On a PowerPoint presentation (see attached) she gave

more detail on the area and the problems being faced. There then followed a presentation from four members of the Shadow Executive covering four key topics.

Nick Bailey, Gwilym Harbottle, Alison Matthews, Wendy Shillam

Topic group presentations

9.

- Nick Bailey presented his paper on The Liveable Neighbourhood.
- Gwilym Harbottle presented his paper on Nurturing Independent businesses.
- Alison Matthews presented her paper on Environment.
- Wendy Shillam presented her paper on The Urban Realm.

See PowerPoint slides.

Discussion followed on each. There were a range of questions and comments on subjects such as rubbish collection, parking problems, noise and planning applications. The full list is included below.

Group discussion and feedback

3.

Points raised included:

- WCC's own policies not being strictly adhered to at the moment
- The lack of green space
- Pressure from extended licensing hours
- Rent for small businesses
- Problems of noise especially at closing times
- Deliveries
- State of the pavements and disabled access
- Fly tipping – lack of enforcement
- Stationary vehicles should turn off their engines – Cllr Glanz confirmed that there was a £50.00 fine for this.
- Noise from car radios
- The need for 24hr resident's parking. Cllr Glanz confirmed that there was a parking review and that could be taken into consideration. It was also noted that parking in the street helps to calm traffic.
- The nature of consultation for planning and licensing issues was not always of good quality or equitable (now that it is carried out by applicants)
- Provision of cafe's and restaurants
- People smoking outside cafes and pubs
- Traffic speeds – why don't we have a 20MPH like Camden?
- Tottenham Court Road implications for us.

4.

Break/informal discussion

5.

Proposal 1.a

Resolutions The Plan

Presenter

Wendy Shillam

The topics to be considered in more detail by the Executive Committee (and in respect of which the Executive Committee shall propose policies/policy options and report back to the members of the Forum via topic group meetings and emails and in future Forum meetings) shall include the following:

Priorities for The Plan:

- Liveable Neighbourhood
- Nurture Young and Independent Businesses
- Urban Realm
- Environment

To include policies on:

- Pressure for development
- Affordability of housing
- Importance of independent businesses
- State of streets and squares
- Traffic, parking, deliveries, cycling and walking
- Rubbish collection
- Greening the area
- Night time uses

Discussion.

It was agreed that the following further items be included within the plan:

- Noise
- Designing out anti-social behaviour
- Enforcement

**Proposal
1.b**

a) Approval of Election of Executive Committee
There were a range of questions and comments on the proposed agenda for the first meeting of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall apply for funds from Westminster City Council and Department of Communities and Local Government, and other sources, up to the maximum value available and is authorised to spend all funds so obtained (whether in excess of £5,000 or not) on the following:

- a) Technical studies to generate evidence, posit policies or support policies
 - b) Public consultation, publicity and meetings.
- (ii) The Executive Committee shall report to the members of the Forum on the outcome of all funding applications and the use of all such funds via the website and at each general meeting of the Forum

It was agreed that the Executive should prepare a programme for work on the Neighbourhood Plan and consider administrative support for the process as well, as part of their funding applications.

Vote on 1a and 1b

The Forum was asked to give their approval in a vote on Resolution 1a: priorities for the Neighbourhood Plan.

All were in favour, subject to the amendments agreed above.

Also Resolution 1b: agreement to expenditure, subject to amendments agreed above.

There was one abstention.

6. **Business of the Forum**

a)

WS explained two minor changes to the Constitution (to clarify the split between businesses and residents, and the need to set up a CIC). There were some queries on this and it was agreed to adjourn agreement of the Constitution until the next meeting.

b)

Action: Chair
Election of Executive Committee

The draft constitution allows for up to ten candidates to be elected by the Forum and for another three to be elected by the executive committee during the year. Wendy Shillam reminded the meeting about a clause that WCC had requested we include in the draft constitution.

Cl. 3.3 of the draft constitution provides:

"Subject to the decision of any general meeting, the committee shall be composed of equal numbers of business/organisation members and residents."

R = Resident member

O = Representative of Organisation

B = Business member

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

Nick Bailey R, O

Nick has lived in Fitzrovia for 30 years and teaches at the University of Westminster. He is a member of the Fitzrovia Trust.

Sharon Banoff R

Lived in Fitzrovia for 30yrs and worked nearby (at BBC).

Yoram Blumann R

Involved in the area since 1992, treasurer.

Barbara Corr R

Founder of FitzWest, long time resident and supporter of the area.

Peter Dore-Smith B

Founder of Kaffeine cafes in Great Titchfield Street and Eastcastle Street.

Gwilym Harbottle R

Lawyer. Lived in area over 20 years. Shadow executive member.

Vivien Hughes R

Resident since 1975, now retired from government/academia.

Edwina Lonsdale B

MD Mundi Cruising plc, offering to help edit the newsletter and help set up a business group.

Chris Shaw R, B
Resident and CEO of local business Shaw Corporation.

Wendy Shillam R, B, O
Founder of FitzWest, lives in Great Titchfield Street, worked

The above candidates had put themselves forward for election and were accepted unanimously. WS tended apologies for those of the above who were not able to attend the meeting.

The following candidates had put themselves forward later in the process and the shadow executive were minded to recommend to the Forum that they be considered at the first meeting of the new Executive. There was no objection to the candidates mentioned.

CANDIDATES FOR CO-OPTION

Daniel Castle, B
LDG Estate Agents

(TBC) R
Representative from Holcroft Court Residents Association.

7. Membership Report

Gwilym Harbottle presented a short membership report. (See slide show)
It was suggested that FitzWest set up a newsletter and advertised membership in the local papers.

8. Sum up Overview of tasks

WS thanked the meeting and apologised for the lack of refreshments. She thanked the University through Nick Bailey for offering the use of the Pavilion Room.

END 8.30pm