

MEETING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DATE/TIME WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE 2016
LOCATION NVEC MORLEY HOUSE REGENT STREET LONDON W1
FACILITATOR GH
NOTE TAKER CS

PRESENT

Wendy Shillam	WS
Yoram Blumann	YB
Gwilym Harbottle	GH
Steve Medway	SM
Barbara Corr	BC
Chris Shaw	CS

1. Welcome. Apologies from Nick Bailey, Vivien Hughes and Edwina Lonsdale.
2. Declarations of interest – none declared.
3. Questions from the Neighbourhood Forum of the Exec Committee – None
4. Matters arising:
 - (i) Refuse - It was agreed that SM will approach WCC to set up a meeting to discuss the way forward with the refuse pilot in the Fitzwest area. CJS; YB and GH to attend if possible. JH to be advised in order that she can also attend.
 - (ii) Tesco's grant for Fitzwest has been approved (and a letter of support provided by WCC) providing £10,000 towards the greening of Fitzwest area. Tesco's also interested in providing a business representative to the Executive – this will be considered by a future public meeting.
5. Policies. The Executive reviewed the draft documents and work in progress by the various sub groups as appendices to the policy document. The sections considered were:

Housing	NB/SB
Green space	GH
Walking/cycling/transport	WS/BC
Small businesses	EL, supported by NB/WS for guidance
Conservation areas	VH/YB/WS

Licensing	YB
CIL	WS
Rubbish/Pollution	SM/CW – YB support on rubbish

- (i) **Liveable Neighbourhoods – Housing**
 A draft was circulated to the Executive by NB before the meeting and is to be considered and commented upon in time for the next meeting on 13 July.
 Action: The executive thought that a blanket ban on the conversion of commercial to residential and vice versa was unworkable however Environmental considerations are important.
 Action: More work required on environmental targets and requirements.
Pollution and Air Quality – A discussion on how to reduce vehicle entering the Neighbourhood Area and Central London generally. How reduced and coordinated refuse collections can reduce pollution and create less disturbance to residents. Lobbying to reduce diesel emissions. Lobbying to reduce minicabs idling engines while parked up in the Neighbourhood Area and effective enforcement against this.
- (ii) **Greening the Neighbourhood –**
- (iii) **Transport –** WS to produce plans to illustrate various areas of influence, namely Oxford Street Fringe, Great Titchfield Street Hub and Great Portland Street Gyratory Improvement Zone Vertical drinking to be discouraged not banned all together. (see vi below)
- (iv) **Small Business –** this topic to be held over until the next meeting.
- (v) **Conservation and Architecture –** It is suggested that Fitzwest have a design panel (similar to Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment) to review planning application schemes in terms of design and impact and that WCC agree to accept the review as a valid and important consultation as part of the planning determination process. All new schemes should aspire to create a very good quality and standard of architecture. It is proposed we consider the area as a whole rather than in separate sub areas.
- (vi) **Licensing –** Discussed and consideration to be given to the issue of outside drinking and whether this should be prohibited as generating the most anti-social of effects for residents and is in many cases inadequately controlled by the drinking establishments themselves.

The problem has been exacerbated by the need for smokers to stand to the exterior of premises. Key policies include:

- (a) Identifying areas suitable for late night economy – principally where residents do not live.
- (b) Discourage late night license extensions for vertical drinking external to the premises.
- (c) Encourage license holders to participate in co-ordinate refuse collections schemes such as NVEC has applied successfully to businesses in the Bond Street area – this will also help reduce the number of journeys; disturbance of residents and pollution.
- (d) The committee felt that a blanket ban on vertical drinking was unworkable. However it was proposed that standing space outside licensed premises be limited in favour of tables and chairs as this will reduce numbers and noise.

Vii CIL

It was recognised that CIL should be used to fund local priorities and also to fund the Neighbourhood Forum in a sustainable manner.

viii Refuse and cleansing

Refuse and Cleansing – A draft pilot has been prepared and circulated to the Executive. This has been issued for discussion with WCC who are themselves reviewing their cleaning and refuse strategy. Prior to publishing a draft policy we will await the outcome of those discussions however the emerging themes are for:

- (a) Better education and a simplification of the refuse collection arrangements which will be more readily understood; enforced and can save the Council costs.
- (b) Less refuse collections and more recycling collections – there has been a modal shift in these requirements.
- (c) Greater enforcement of fly tipping – Fines recently increased to £400 for fly tipping but insufficient Council resource to enforce these fines.
- (d) Monitoring of refuse hot spots and better interaction between residents with businesses and WCC.
- (e) Immediate levels of action by WCC to remove rubbish pile up and hot spots.

CONCLUSIONS:

It was agreed that the report will be further reviewed and refined for consideration at the next Executive meeting (13 July) and as necessary sub groups will take place to review the material so that this can be pulled together as part of the overall Neighbourhood Plan document. The timescale for the overall Neighbourhood Plan and launch arrangements about this are to be discussed at future Exec meetings and proposed to a future AGM.

Discussion took place about who could help pull the planning policies together into a document which best reflects current planning policies so that the Fitzwest policies are based in current planning policies or where they are different to explain why changes in policy should be made. WS to approach Tom Kimber for a quotation to assist in policy writing.

6. Secretary Report – Nothing to report
7. Financial Report – Monitoring report has been submitted to DCLG.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday 13 July 6:00 – Fitzrovia Chapel – Facilitator WS Note taker SM

Future meetings provisionally fixed for:
Wednesday 21 September – AGM?

Wednesday 12 October – Facilitator NB Note taker VH

Wednesday 09 November – Facilitator – CJS Note taker YB

Wednesday 14 December – Christmas Event?