

FITZWEST NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

10 MARCH 2020 SAINSBURY WELLCOME CENTRE 6PM

MINUTES

Present: Barbara (Chair), Gwilym, Julia, Nick, Pancho, Yoram

Apologies: Dan, Chris, Ian, Sharon

1. **Renewal of the Forum designation and Neighbourhood Plan.** Yoram was congratulated on achieving this. However, there is a 9 day period during which we were not designated (not our fault). Because we happened to submit the draft plan to Westminster (“WCC”) during this 9 day period we need to resubmit. WCC have asked for changes to the basic conditions statement. It seems likely (subject to virus issues) that WCC will be consulting at the same time as Soho – April/May – followed by examination in the Autumn. Action: Nick and Gwilym.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting.** These were agreed.
3. **Finance.** NVEC have kindly agreed to pay us £5,000 for use in the next financial year on the neighbourhood plan consultation.
4. **Current & next round of CIL.** A number of points:
 - (i) Yoram reported that according to Jonathan Glanz, CIL available for the FitzWest Area is currently £145,068.69, £152,000 having already been allocated.
 - (ii) Nick reported that money not spent in one year is carried over to the next. There is a change in the procedure. Officers will assess and then make a recommendation to a committee of 3 councillors. Next meeting of the committee in April. They will look to reduce the minimum to enable feasibility studies to be paid for. It may be possible to ask for funding for the Forum and the development of the plan.
 - (iii) Nick will look at commissioning someone to develop further greening schemes.
 - (iv) 15% of CIL can be spent in accordance with our bids. After the plan is adopted this goes up to 25%. We can campaign for Central as opposed

to Westminster CIL to be spent on our area and go into partnership with others.

(v) We will put a link to the procedure on the website. Action: Julia, Nick.

4. Air Quality Action Plan (incl OSD update).
 - (i) It was agreed Julia would write to NVEC reminding them that they had expressed interest in consolidating deliveries in our Area and asking whether they were still interested.
 - (ii) It was agreed that WCC had gone very quiet on OSD. It was agreed we would write to the person in charge and ask what was happening on OSD in general and Market Place in particular. Yoram to send details of the person in charge and Gwilym to write. According to WCC pedestrianisation of Foley St was “not feasible”. Action: Yoram and Gwilym.
5. **Riding House Street.** Yoram reported on a meeting with 3 local residents. Concerns had been expressed about noise, anti-social behaviour, traffic on Cleveland Street. Pancho reported on a meeting with 8 local residents. A range of concerns had been expressed and residents did not feel involved. It was decided to agree with the proposals in principle (subject to concerns that all planters seemed to be too close to the buildings and a request to maximise trees) but recommend further consultation with local residents.
6. **Corner Project Planting.** Gwilym reported that funding had been continued. There was a redesign which he was attempting to get agreed with the designing out crime officer. Gwilym also reported that we had agreed to assist Denise Julien with her application for ward funding for her greening work at the north side of Holcroft Court and he was working with her on the form. We would have no financial commitment but would hold funds.
7. **Roast Restaurant, Great Portland Street.** Chris had expressed concern that local residents were not being advised on licensing applications. It was agreed that Chris should circulate the objection and we would support it. It was agreed that we would link to WCC’s weekly list of new planning and licensing applications. Action: Chris and Julia.
8. **AOB.** Pancho mentioned that he was working on a rubbish consultation and that there was a petition for an elected mayor of Westminster.
9. **Date of next meeting.** Next Executive meeting 16 April. AGM 2 June.

GH
17.03.20