

CONSULTATION – NEW CAVENDISH STREET PLANTING - 2020/2021

The Forum has funding from Tesco to spend on greening. Two previous attempts have been met with resident objection to planters so this time the plan is to choose locations that

1. Have space, wide pavements etc,
2. Are not immediately outside residential buildings
3. Are in areas lacking in greening
4. Are places that tend to be used for dumping rubbish so they may act as a deterrent.

CONSULTATION TIMELINE

- 8/7/21 – AGM – The locations were presented to the 25 attendees and they were approved with no objections.

Fitzrovia Planters Presentation: <https://www.fitzwest.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Fitzrovia-planters-AGM1Final.pdf>

Extract from minutes of AGM:

Update on greening – Fitzrovia Planters Julia Haythorn presented ideas for potential locations for planters at various locations throughout the area to help address two particular local issues, namely:

- Lack of greening and
- Rubbish dumping

The hope is that, once established, these would then be maintained by volunteers from businesses and residents. Current thinking is that planters would be installed at various locations along New Cavendish Street: Some outside the Harris and Hoole coffee shop at the junction with Hanson Street; several at the junction with Gosfield Street and several at the junction with Great Titchfield Street.

Julia reported that when she had toured the potential sites with a designer, attention had been drawn to various “dead spaces” and “cut-out corners” in the street-scape which would appear to be ideal for planters. The Forum currently have money awarded by Tesco for greening in the area and it is planned to use it for this project. WCC have given an agreement in principle to the locations, pending final details.

No objections to the proposals were raised in the AGM and the suggested sites were approved.

Next stage is to consult further with businesses and residents in the area and to develop the plans with WCC.

Link to full minutes of AGM on FitzWest Website: <https://www.fitzwest.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/FWF-Notes-AGM-080721v2.pdf>

- 3rd November 2021 – Start of consultation. 227 FitzWest Forum members – business and residents and 234 businesses in the FitzWest area sent online survey and information about the project. <https://www.fitzwest.org/consultations/greening-project-for-fitzwest-please-complete-consultation-survey/>
- 10th November 2021 – 500 printed leaflets with mock up of planters in situ are distributed to residents and businesses in vicinity of all planters. They included a link to the consultation survey on the FitzWest website and the opportunity to be filled out and left at the Fitzrovia Community Centre. The Centre also had flyers and were able to discuss with anyone who had questions or wanted to fill out a survey.
- Oct/Nov/Dec 2021 – Julia Haythorn and Gwilym Harbottle talked personally to various businesses and residents by visiting premises and sending emails.

CONSULTATION RESULTS

Online survey

- 24 responses
- 100% in favour generally of greening
- 1 respondent objected to N2 and N5 because of crowding. We are looking at making the planters smaller here.
- 18/24 respondents expressed a wish to help care for and water the planters
- Full list of responses available but restricted for public viewing due to data protection

Paper survey

- 2 responses
- 1 in favour of all, 1 in favour of some locations but not others

Email and personal contact

- 10 responses from residents and adjacent businesses
- 100% in favour of all locations
- Director of Estate at University of Westminster in favour and offered to care for planters and their building is adjacent to N2, N5, N6 and N7.
- West End Councillors informed and Cllr Glanz and Cllr Lewis emailed specific support for the project.
- Full list of responses available but restricted for public viewing due to data protection

Conclusion

- 36 responses in total
- 34 in favour of all, 2 objected to some locations (details above)