MINUTES OF INAUGURAL MEETING OF REDINGTON FROGNAL CONSERVATION NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Held at 8.00 pm on Thursday 1st May 2014 at Kings College Campus, Kidderpore Avenue, London NW3

Present:

Cllr Andrew Mennear Ward Councillor
Siobhan Baillie Prospective Councillor

Valerie Cass
Hazel & Alan Finn
Monique Giannikos
Janine Griffis
Rob Hagemans
Oakhill Park
Bracknell Gardens
Finchley Road
Hampstead NF
Finchley Road

Farokh Kharooshi Chair Redfrog Residents Association

Avril Kleeman Westfield

Richard Klein Chesterford Gardens

Isabel Langtry Principal, Hampstead School of Art

Dudley Leigh Vice-Chairman Redfrog Residents Association

Zsuzsa Majo Finchley Road
John Malet-Bates Ferncroft Avenue

Nancy Mayo Minutes Secretary Redfrog Residents Association

Carrie Reiners University College School
Pamela Rodger Lindfield Gardens
Alan Rodger Lindfield Gardens
Val Russell Arkwright Road

Alan Sanders (proxy Vera

Coleman) Westfield

Ralf Schoepfer Briardale and Clorane Gardens

Judith & David Sumray Finchley Road

1. Introduction and Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Spinella, Sir Stanley Burnton, Gill Tyler, Laurence Bard, Irving Yass, Maryam Alaghband, James Earl, Caroline Lee and Noel Brock.

Cllr Mennear kindly agreed to Chair the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to put in place a structure to take the Forum forward over the coming months.

Attendance levels were markedly lower than for the public consultation, which had been held on Sunday 2nd March. The disappointing turn out is likely to have been attributable to the weekday evening timing and the wet weather.

2. Approval of Draft Constitution

The draft constitution had been emailed to all on the database in advance of the meeting and hard copies were also provided for attendees. Copies of the online survey analysis were additionally distributed, along with Camden's reworked map of the Red Frog CA Neighbourhood Plan boundaries.

It will be necessary to work out practical policies and negotiate various hurdles in order for the Forum to gain approval from Camden.

The following suggestions were made as slight amendments to the draft Constitution:

- para 3.9. It was agreed to reduce the Quorum for a general meeting to 15 members, in order to reduce the risk of becoming inquorate
- para 1.2 b). The use of the word "reinforcing" was questioned and "collaborating with Camden to propose improvements" was suggested as an alternative form of wording, or that a Neighbourhood Plan "enforces" or "applies" "Conservation Area Statement and Guidelines as relating to Redington Frognal Conservation Area". However, it was noted that this document is merely the legal constitution and it was agreed to retain the wording as drafted in para 1.2 b). It was also noted that the Neighbourhood Forum is not a replacement for Camden Council: it can only work to influence the Council and within Camden's Local Development policies.

The draft constitution was then proposed by Alan Sanders, seconded by Hazel Finn and approved unanimously by a show of hands.

3. Election of Forum

All attendees residing or working in Red Frog and ward councillors are automatically members of the Forum. The 2 March public consultation had been attended by 93 people, although this includes some non-residents. As a result of tonight's meeting and on-going publicity, further names will be added to the list of Forum members.

4. Election of Officers

The following were elected on a temporary basis and duly proposed and seconded:

Chair: Farokh Khorooshi Vice-Chair: Dudley Leigh

Treasurer: Laurence Bard (elected in absentia) Secretariat: Nancy Mayo and Hazel Finn.

There were no further nominations. Additional officers will be needed for Publicity and Website Development and Maintenance.

Volunteers are also required working parties.

5. Formation of Limited Company

It had been understood that, in order to be eligible to apply for a Locality grant, a company limited by guarantee must be established. However, Janine Griffis (Hampstead NF) believes that a community interest company will suffice. Once the Forum is recognised by Camden, Camden will be able to hold funds on the Forum's behalf:

http://cdf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Supporting-Communities-in-Neighbourhood-Planning-Funding-Acceptance-Form-Guidance-Neighbourhood-Forums.pdf

6. Progress to Date

i) Comments from Camden re boundaries submission

The boundaries of the Red Frog Conservation Neighbourhood Plan were voted on and agreed at the March 2nd public consultation.

Discussion ensued. Netherhall has not finalised its boundary, but this should not affect Red Frog. Church Row has held discussions with Hampstead. To the north of the Red Frog CA, the boundary is shared with Barnet (in some cases it is not clear whether houses come under Barnet or Camden). A Neighbourhood Forum is being discussed for the Child's Hill, but this is still at a very early stage.

ii) Liaison with adjoining Neighbourhood Forums

Nancy advised that we have made contact with Fortune Green and West Hampstead, Hampstead and Netherhall Neighbourhood. All adjoining Forums have been contacted, with the exception of Barnet.

iii) Development of Red Frog Conservation NP website.

Minutes and Agendas will be posted on this site, along with links to other Neighbourhood Plans. This is in hand, but there is a need for extra people to work on the website.

iv) Funding application

The application for direct support Stage 2 funding application is to be resubmitted once Camden has approved the constitution, forum and boundaries. A grant application is additionally to be submitted following formation of limited company.

David Sumray asked about the timescale for finalisation of the Neighbourhood Plan. Experience indicates that it typically takes about a year for a Plan to be submitted to the local authority and two years until the public consultation is held. Neighbourhood Plans have been approved in 18 areas of the country.

7. Formation of Working Groups around Key Themes (from on-line survey)

i) Update of Redington Frognal Conservation Area, extension to Finchley Road and Article 4 Direction

This will need 3-6 people meeting on a monthly basis. The following expressed interest: Rob Hagemans, David Sumray, Zsuzsa Majo and one other volunteer (name missed).

ii) Ideas to improve the environment of Finchley Road.

Cllr. Linda Chung is leading a campaign to improve the environment of Finchley Road. In December 2013 she spoke to Andrew Gilligan, GLA Cycling Commissioner, who confirmed plans for Finchley Road to become a Cycle Superhighway. It will be known as Super Highway 11. This will entail landscaping and greening, and many physical improvements.

TfL expects to complete a feasibility study of the potential benefits and impacts of designating Finchley Road as a cycle superhighway and of removing the gyratory at Swiss Cottage 'during 2013-15'. Consideration is also being give to removing the railings between Swiss Cottage and the O2 Centre.

Rob Hagemans agreed to try to find residents who might be prepared to be involved with this working group.

iii) Preservation and enhancement of greenery, trees and biodiversity

The following will be involved in this area: Nancy Mayo, John Malet-Bates and Val Russell.

iv) Pro-growth ideas

Dudley Leigh and Isabel Langtry expressed interest in this.

v) Other issues?

David Sumray suggested a decluttering campaign to aid safety for elderly pedestrians and those with visual handicaps. It was suggested that this could be incorporated into one of the other working groups, eg Pro-growth or Finchley Road.

Isabel observed that it is likely that KCL will cease to offer meeting rooms as from September. She very kindly offered Hampstead School of Art's meeting room in the event of difficulties.

A vote of thanks was expressed to Nancy for all the hard work she has undertaken. Nancy, in turn, was grateful for all the support that she has received from Hazel and Alan Finn and David Sumray.

8. Date of Next Forum Meeting.

THURSDAY 4th SEPTEMBER at 8 pm. Bay Hall at King's College has again been provisionally booked and is to be confirmed sometime during summer.

Details will be posted on the new website.