

REDINGTON FROGNAL
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Draft minutes of the Redington Frogнал Neighbourhood Forum AGM,
Held on Sunday 3 October 2021 at 5.30 pm at 3 October 2021
at St. Margaret's School, Kidderpore Avenue

Present

Rupert Terry (Chair)	Ferncroft Avenue
Cllr. Andrew Parkinson (Vice Chair)	Kidderpore Avenue
Laurence Bard (Treasurer)	Platt's Lane
Nancy Mayo (Secretary)	Hollycroft Avenue
Barbara Alden	Chesterford Gardens
Sir Stanley and Lady Burnton	Kidderpore Avenue
Siobhan Ezra	Arkwright Road
John Fox	Rosecroft Avenue
Jacqueline and Jonathan Gestetner	Oakhill Park
Linda Lucas	Frogнал
John Malet-Bates	Ferncroft Avenue
Elizabeth Mitchell	Heath Drive
Kirsty Roberts	Kidderpore Avenue
Janet Gompertz	Lindfield Gardens
Tina Marton	Hollycroft Avenue
Anne-Marie O'Connor	Rosecroft Avenue
Mal Parker	Frogнал Close
Lauren Pecorino	Frogнал
Sir Brian Pomeroy	Ferncroft Avenue
Janis and Shari Roozepeikar	Hollycroft Avenue
Kirsty Roberts	Kidderpore Avenue
Jane Shaw	Platt's Lane
Alex Shinder	Hampstead Hill Gardens
Tania Varsanyi	Frogнал
Dilys Ward	Arkwright Road
Nicholas White	Kidderpore Gardens

1. Attendees and introductions

Apologies had been received from 15 residents. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Minutes of AGM of 15.9.20

No corrections were noted to the draft minutes of the 2019 AGM, held remotely, and the minutes were approved.

3. Neighbourhood Plan Developments since 2020 AGM

Since the 2020 AGM, the Neighbourhood Plan has passed referendum and been formally adopted by Camden, so that it now carries full weight in the Council's decision making.

Residents were thanked for their help with publicity and in delivering a successful outcome.

The Neighbourhood Forum is now a statutory consultee for all planning applications, and it submits representations for applications that are referred. Considerable concern exists that the Neighbourhood Plan policies are not always applied.

At Camden's suggestion, RedFrog attended a Forum Area walkabout on 20.8.21 with senior Camden officers. This was arranged to consider some of the harm that the Neighbourhood Plan policies attempt to address, and Camden subsequently agreed to accept a training session on implementing the policies from Urban Vision Enterprise.

A separate online training session will be organised for residents and all are welcome to attend.

4. Complementary Actions to Deliver the Neighbourhood Plan

To ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan policies are capable of being delivered, RedFrog has been lobbying for various complementary actions:

- since 2010/11, it has been pressing for an Article 4 direction to require householders to seek planning permission for various works which harm the Conservation Area. Other Conservation Areas, eg Hampstead, are already subject to an Article 4 direction.
- RedFrog has lost more than 1 in 8 gardens since the houses were first built. Evidence of this garden loss was presented to the Culture and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 9.6.20, as part of the case for an Article 4 direction.
- liaising with the Trees and Design Action Group to minimise tree and canopy loss. RedFrog was invited to summarise key policies in the Neighbourhood Plan to a meeting of the Trees and Design Action Group, held on 13.7.20. TDAG members expressed concern that Camden's biennial pollarding programme has the impact of reducing the value of the street trees to artificially low levels, so that they do not appear to have much value.
- RedFrog continues to work with other local groups to secure more rigorous enforcement of planning consents. Other groups are: Hampstead Neighbourhood Forum, Heath and Hampstead Society, Netherhall Neighbourhood Association, Camden Resident Association Action Committee and Belsize Society.

A presentation comparing Enforcement practice at Camden with that of LB Westminster and RB Kensington and Chelsea was presented to Cllr. Danny Beales on 20.9.21. Residents are asked to collect evidence of lax enforcement for a future presentation.

5. Planning consultations

RedFrog responds to consultations when asked to, or if there are ramifications for the RedFrog area. It has responded to consultations on:

- The National Planning Policy Framework
- Camden's Draft Biodiversity Action Plan
- O2 site and the proposed Landsec development. The scheme here is for 1,850 flats in tower blocks of up to 16 storeys at densities which are three times greater than set out in national guidance and heights that are four times greater. The tower blocks will be visible from southern parts of the conservation area. RedFrog is working together with other local groups to oppose the scheme and develop an alternative vision.

6. Local Community Infrastructure Levy projects

Accepted and in progress

- a. LCIL041 Heritage tiled street names. The project is to replace non-heritage signs displaying the Camden logo with tiled street names in a white font on a black clay tiles. Following the installation of a prototype sign in Platt's Lane (at the junction with Hermitage Lane), tiled street signs will replacing all signs featuring the Camden logo.
- b. LCIL067 Finchley Road / Frognal Pocket Parks. Drawings for two trees and a living wall to enhance the area are with TfL for costing.
- c. LCIL087 Neighbourhood Plan. Implementation training is being arranged for senior Camden planning officers and Forum members.
- d. LCIL266 Plastic litter bins to be replaced by cast iron heritage bins.

Rejected

- e. £60,000 for Camden to commission an arboriculturist to update is database of trees with TPOs. This was rejected by Camden.
- f. £3,900 for Treeconomics to provide an evaluation of current and past canopy cover appraisals for RedFrog, along with CAVAT and iTree Eco values in the Frognal & Fitzjohn's ward for pre and post-biennial pollarding of public trees. This would include a presentation to Camden, but the project has also been rejected by Camden.

Not determined

- a. LCIL037 Arkwright Road repaving
- b. LCIL040a Croft Way refurbishment, to include improved footway, cast iron railings and planting
Costs for both LCIL037 and LCIL040a have now increased considerably and the projects remain under discussion.
- c. LCIL043 Arkwright Road traffic calming
- d. LCIL267 Frognal Lane: galvanised steel railings to be replaced by cast iron heritage railings.
- e. Branch Hill Pond reinstatement:
 - £4,800 for a puddling clay liner so that the pond will retain water
 - funding for RedFrog Association exhibitions to publicise the pond's reinstatement, to be accompanied by art and photography competitions / displays.

f. LCIL042 project to mark the historic routes of the lost watercourses, using cast bronze glyphs, and to develop a walking trail for the lost River Westbourne's journey through Frognal & Fitzjohn's.

7. Treasurer's report

The Neighbourhood Forum is supported by Redington Frognal Association, which receives and pays out funds on behalf of the Forum. During the year to 31 March 2021, the Forum received £1,260 of Local Community Infrastructure Levy (LCIL) funding from Camden, which was used for project LCIL041 to replace street name signs with the Camden logo by heritage tiles street names. A prototype sign has been installed at the junction of Platt's Lane and Hermitage Lane.

Unfunded expenses are mainly attributable to the cost of maintaining the Neighbourhood Forum website, resulting in a deficit for the year of **£1,196** (up from £253 in 2020).

The accounts were unanimously approved by a show of hands.

8. Re-election of Executive Committee, Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary

The following members of the Executive Committee had expressed willingness to stand for re-election: Cllr. Andrew Parkinson, Laurence Bard, Siobhan Ezra, Mal Parker, Juliette Sonabend, Harlan Zimmerman and Nancy Mayo.

Resignations from the Executive Committee were announced by Rupert Terry, who had served for five years and successfully delivered the Neighbourhood Plan, and Michael Hibbs. They were thanked for their commitment and support.

The Executive Committee is now down to the minimum number required by the Constitution. Additional members, with an interest in planning, would be welcomed.

Andrew, the Forum's Vice Chair, offered to take the place of Chair, Laurence agreed to remain as Treasurer and Nancy as Secretary. There were no nominations for Vice Chair, but if a suitable candidate were to materialise, that person could be co-opted onto the Executive Committee, to stand for election at the 2022 AGM.

Andrew had previously checked with Camden that there would not be any conflict between a position as Vice Chair and serving as a ward councillor. The advice will also apply to the role of Chair.

The Executive Committee and Forum officers were all elected.

9. AoB

The designation in the Neighbourhood Plan of West Heath Lawn Tennis Club as Local Green Space has helped WHLTC to secure a renewal of its lease from Thames Water. RedFrog has submitted an application to Camden to redesignate Camden Arts Centre as an Asset of Community Value for a further five years.

The Forum has much work ahead to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan policies are implemented and that the Plan remains up to date, as national and local policies evolve.