

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum (KTNF)
Thursday 19 January 2012 7.00pm
Room 12, Greenwood Place Community Centre NW5 1LB

Those attending

See Annex A for full list of those who signed the attendance sheets. The meeting room was full with 52 chairs having been set out.

Apologies

Adam Leys (KTRA and IARA)

Brenda Gardner (Castle Road Residents Association)

Gillian Tindall (Bartholomew Estate and Kentish Town Conservation Area) but Richard Lansdown is here to represent Gillian.

Raoul Bunschoten

Denise Mathew (Boma Garden Centre) but Sean Dunn is here to represent Boma

Nick Mavrides (Kentish Town Business Association)

Cathy Crawford (Kentish Town Community Centre)

Councillor Patricia Callaghan

Jake Morgan

Jon March (Vicar of St Luke's Church, Oseney Crescent) but David Watkinson is here to represent St Luke's.

Pat Gibson (Highgate Road Residents Association)

Henry Nakano (Kentish Town Safer Neighbourhoods)

Councillor Angela Mason

Caroline Hill (KTRA) opened the meeting and welcomed all those groups and individuals attending the meeting. Thanks were given to Kentish Town Community Centre for once again providing the venue for the meeting.

1. Introduction of our speaker Hari Phillips

Caroline Hill introduced Hari Phillips who is a Director of Bell Phillips Architects in Bermondsey. He set up the company with Tim Bell in June 2004 after they won an international design competition to carry out a major regeneration project in East London. Hari is significantly involved in all major projects especially the initial stages of projects including competition submissions, feasibility studies, strategic analysis and planning applications.

Hari sits on the Steering Group and is Vice-Chair of the Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum that was formed in February 2011 and was awarded vanguard status in April 2011.

A copy of Hari's presentation is at Annex B of the minutes.

Among the key messages based on lessons learned from Hari's presentation were:

- Be careful not to make the area covered by the Neighbourhood Forum too large so as to make it unwieldy and create so much work for those involved, largely volunteers, that it becomes ineffective
- Don't get bogged down in arguments over constitutions and boundaries as this will put people off and detract from actually getting on with things that matter to the people who live and work within the area of the Neighbourhood Forum
- In the light of the above points remember that this is still new to everyone so things are likely to be fluid

Following questions of clarification from those attending Caroline thanked Hari for his excellent presentation and his willingness to share his experience with us.

2. Introduction and vote to approve the draft Constitution for the Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum (KTNF)

David J (IARA) introduced the draft constitution, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, and was based on the work he had done following discussion on the constitution at the meeting of 20 October 2011.

Amendments were proposed to the Constitution as follows:

1.1 delete the words ‘as traditionally understood’ and introduce the word ‘central’ before ‘Kentish Town’ in lines 2 and 3

6.1 delete the words ‘of the Forum Committee ratified by a majority at a General meeting’ and replace with ‘at a General Meeting with notice of the proposed amendment’ in lines 2 and 3.

Questions were raised about the boundaries of the KTNF and in particular about why the ‘triangle’ bounded by Highgate Road to the west, Fortress Road to the east and the Gospel Oak railway line to the north was not within the boundaries of KTNF. Some residents of that area felt it should be within KTNF’s boundaries. This area had not been included in the map drawn up following discussions at the 20 October 2011 meeting and it was understood that a planned Neighbourhood Forum covering the area further north (Dartmouth Park and/or Highgate) had been advised of the boundaries of KTNF as drawn up after the last meeting. This map was also now lodged with Camden Council as part of our process to secure funding.

A vote was taken on the proposition to change the boundary of KTNF to include the ‘triangle’.

In favour of changing the boundary	13
Against changing the boundary	19

The proposition failed.

The constitution as a whole was put to the meeting for approval

The vote to accept the constitution was passed unanimously with no votes against and no abstentions.

3 Discussion and vote to approve the draft Statement of General Policies and Objectives

David J (IARA) introduced the draft Statement of General Policies and Objectives which had also been circulated prior to the meeting.

A discussion followed looking at each paragraph in turn.

An amendment was suggested to paragraph E to delete the words 'support the efforts of Kentish Town Road Action in opposing the change of' so that the first line would read 'We will oppose the change of'. This was to maintain the line that KTNF did not identify as supporting any one particular local interest group or association.

The amendment was agreed by the meeting unanimously with no votes against and no abstentions.

The vote to accept the whole Statement of General Principles and Objectives, as amended, was passed unanimously with no votes against and no abstentions.

3. Advisors to KTNF

Caroline Hill introduced the concept of an Advisors Team for KTNF.

She explained that the Committee of KTNF, when elected, would benefit from input from architects and planners who live or work in the area. She asked that if you are an architect or planning specialist and you feel that you are unable to commit to standing for the Committee, perhaps you would consider being an Advisor? Because some architecture/planning specialists are a little short of time or are out of the country a lot, we are appointing a team of Advisors to the Committee. Advisors can be called upon, when necessary. They will not have voting rights within the Committee.

We already had some names for this team and those names will be listed on a flip chart and it was agreed to take more names, if they're forthcoming, after the elections to the Committee. Advisors don't have to be elected.

4. Election of Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum Committee

Caroline Hill explained that the KTNF Committee will consist of up to 15 members, elected from members of Representative Local Associations (Residents Associations, Tenants Associations, Business Associations, Conservation Advisory Committees), Local Organisations (Community Centres, Environmental Groups, Individual Businesses, Churches etc) and Individuals with the majority being from Representative Local Associations, ie. 8 members from RLAs and 7 members from LOs and Individuals (see 1.4 and 3.5 in the Draft Constitution). Officers will be selected by members of the Committee at a later date.

Some nominations had been made prior to the meeting and nominations were invited from those attending the meeting.

Nominations for Representative Local Associations

Name of person seconding nomination		
Diana Baynes	IARA	Debby Hyams
Hilary Barnes	IARA	Derek Jarman
Christopher Cross	B&KTCAAC	Caroline Hill
Tony Dunne	Clarence Way TA	John Nicholson
Isky Gordon	BARA	Cllr Paul Braithwaite
Celia Goreham	B&KTCAAC	Richard Lansdown
Caroline Hill	KTRA	David Jockelson
Derek Jarman	DMC Housing & Kenniston & Willingham TA	Cllr Jenny Headlam-Wells
David J	IARA	Isky Gordon
John Nicholson	KTRA	Elizabeth Hill

The meeting agreed to a group vote of the election of these nominations to the Committee.

The vote in favour was unanimous with no votes against and no abstentions.

Nominations for Local Organisations, Local Businesses and Individuals

Name of person seconding nomination		
Tom Allen	Transition Kentish Town	Cllr Jenny Headlam-Wells
John Grayson	Earth Natural Foods	Cllr Paul Braithwaite
Rev. Jon March	St Luke's Church	Isky Gordon
Wendy Munro	Caversham Elder Peoples Organisation	Derek Jarman
Paul Seviour	Individual	Debby Hyams

The meeting agreed to a group vote of the election of these nominations to the Committee.

The vote in favour was unanimous with no votes against and no abstentions.

The question of engaging local businesses more was discussed and the difficulties, to date, of generating interest from the local business community was mentioned. Kentish Town Business Association appeared to be non-active. John Grayson was asked to consider if he might gain the interest of any other local businesses in working with KTNF.

5. Agreement to list of advisors

Some names had been put forward before the meeting and the offer of further nominations for advisors was put to the meeting.

The following list of advisors was agreed:

Beattie Blakemore

Alice Brown

Raoul Bunschoten

Richard Burton

Clare Healy

Alan Morris

David Prout

Will Upton

David Watkinson

Additionally it was agreed that the local Councillors representing the current 3 Council wards that fell wholly or partly within the boundary of KTNF, Camden Town & Primrose Hill, Cantelowes and Kentish Town, would act in an advisory capacity, as appropriate and subject to any conflict of interest (for example those Councillors on the Planning Committee)

6. Funding

Caroline Hill provided an update on the position regarding funding of KTNF

On November 22 last year Caroline asked Camden to support our bid for up to £21K funding for our Neighbourhood Forum. The timing was very tight because the early November date, when the bids had to be in, had gone past and we only heard about this funding opportunity after this date. Caroline got in touch with Alison Cremin at the Department for Communities and Local Government and she gave an extra week but Camden had to approve our bid first and send it on to her. Caroline asked all of us to send her emails in support of the Statement of Support she

had written. Many of us did this and she was sure this helped our bid. It was very touch and go but now we are level pegging with the other groups that have applied.

These are the emails received:

Ed Watson 5 Dec 2011

Assistant Director Regeneration and Planning

Culture and Environment

London Borough of Camden

“Following our various conversations I am pleased to say that Camden is able to support the bid on the following grounds:

- That Camden fulfil the 'accountable body' function for any grant money that might be allocated to KTNF by CLG (Communities and Local Government)
- That there is also a commitment from Camden to provide officer support to help KTNF understand the strategic planning context in which any emerging Neighbourhood Plan (NP) would be operating. Camden may provide officer oversight at key stages of the process.
- In agreeing to support the bid Camden does not formally recognise KTNF as the Neighbourhood Forum for the area (although their interest has already been registered alongside other groups from across the Borough). Decisions on this will be taken through a separate process.”

Alison Cremin 8 Dec 2011

Department for Communities and Local Government

“I can confirm that we will now include your bid supported by Camden with the other bids we have received - we have not taken final decisions on which applications are successful and we'll let you know about that in due course.”

Any funding we may receive will not stretch to paying for planning or architecture specialists. However, we will need funding to produce our Neighbourhood Plan in a presentable form and for marketing and publicity before the referendum. In addition we can't go on asking for free rooms and halls for meetings and there will be many other expenses. Camden will hold the funds (should we get them) and they'll dole them out to us in chunks for specific purposes.

There were no questions about the current position on funding and the meeting thanked Caroline for the update.

7. Website

Caroline asked if anyone could provide help in designing and putting together a website for KTNF. There were no immediate volunteers. Everyone attending, particularly those representing local associations, was asked to think of any volunteers who might help and let Caroline know. [It was suggested that there might be some help on model websites on the Camden Council website].

8. Any other business

'Kentish Town: Shaping the Future' Camden's Plan

Caroline Hill mentioned this document and possible confusion with the KTNF. It was agreed that it was a useful document with some good suggestions and that it should be looked at by the newly elected Committee at its first meeting.

Date of first Committee meeting

A date was proposed for the first meeting of the Committee of Thursday 2 February 2012 at 7.00PM at the offices of Transition Kentish Town, Fortress Road. Caroline would circulate confirmation and details to those elected to the Committee in due course.

Caroline Hill asked the newly elected Committee for permission to continue performing the role of Chair of KTNF until the Committee meeting when elections for officers of the Committee will take place. The Committee agreed to that proposition unanimously and thanked Caroline for all her work to date.

To cover the concerns outlined in section 2 above about the 'triangle' area it was suggested that Mary Cane should be co-opted to the KTNF pending discussions with the other Neighbourhood Forums setting up in the area.

Action points from the minutes

ACTION	BY WHOM	BY WHEN
Volunteers to help with design of KTNF website to be sought	All members of KTNF	As soon as possible
Committee to hold first meeting	All Committee members	2 February 2012
'Kentish Town: Shaping the Future' document to be considered by the new Committee	KTNF Committee	2 February 2012
Seek to engage more local businesses in KTNF	KTNF Committee	Ongoing
Constitution to be amended as agreed	DJ	2 February 2012

Annex A

List of attendees from signed attendance sheets

Patsy Ainger	Torriano Cottages Association
Tom Allen	Transition Kentish Town
Cllr Meric Apak	Kentish Town Councillor
Hilary Barnes	Inkerman Area RA
Diana Baynes	
Jeff Baynes	
Beattie Blakemore	
Cllr Paul Braithwaite	Cantelowes Councillor
Alice Brown	Transition Kentish Town
Mireille Burton	
Richard Burton	
Mary Cane	
Sean Dunn	Boma Garden Centre
Anthony Dunne	Clarence Way & Castle Rd TA
Roy Fox	Willingham Close TRA
Isky Gordon	Bartholomew ARA
Celia Goreham	Bartholomew Estate & Kentish Town CAAC
David Goreham	Bartholomew Estate & Kentish Town CAAC
Cllr Georgia Gould	Kentish Town Councillor
John Grayson	Earth Natural Foods
Rod Harper	KTRA
Cllr Jenny Headlam-Wells	Kentish Town Councillor
Clare Healy	
Caroline Hill	Kentish Town Road Action
Elizabeth Hill	Kentish Town Road Action
Debby Hyams	Inkerman Area RA
David J	Inkerman Area RA & KTRA
Gill Jacobs	Transition Kentish Town
Derek Jarman	DMC Chair Housing
Cllr Phil Jones	Cantelowes Councillor
Richard Lansdown	
Rosemary Lewin	Kelly Street RA
Belinda Low	Home Start
Alan Morris	Prince of Wales Road RA
John Nicholson	Inkerman Area RA & KTRA
Hari Phillips	Bermondsey Neighbourhood Forum
Zoe Polya-Vitry	
David Prout	
Lindsey Purchall	Kentish Town Road Action
Patrick Quinn	
Paul Seviour	Inkerman Area RA
William Upton	
Gill Walt	Bartholomew Area RA
David Watkinson	St Luke's
John Woodcock	Leighton Road Neighbourhood Assoc
Jenny Wright	Leighton Road Neighbourhood Assoc
Norma Wynter	

Annex B
Powerpoint presentation by Hari Phillips

See 2 attachments