

# Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Pimlico Neighbourhood Forum

St Saviours Hall, Pimlico

Wednesday 1st May 2019, 7:30pm

## **Present**

Steering Group:

Peter Ruback (Chairman)

James Ingham (Vice Chairman)

Clive Aslet

Simon Clark (Treasurer)

Andrew McCarthy (Secretary)

34 members of the Form

## **1. Introduction**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed Forum members. He expressed the sadness with which the news of the death of former Steering Group members Mair Garside and Edward Reeve had been received. Both had been founding members of the Forum and the Steering Group and had used their many years of living and involvement in the Pimlico community to develop the thinking and vision that lay at the centre of the drafting of the Plan.

## **2. Minutes of the meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019**

A draft of the minutes that had been sent with the notice convening the meeting were approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record

## **3. Matters arising not otherwise covered by the Agenda**

There were none

## **4. Chairman's report**

The Chairman spoke to his report that had been sent with the notice convening the meeting. Following questions from the floor and discussion the following points were noted:

The Community Infrastructure Levy was a sum of money paid by developers of larger sites to Westminster City Council who was required to invest the money raised on specified community purposes in the area. Once the Pimlico Neighbourhood Plan had been formally adopted after a referendum the Forum would have influence over how part of the CIL funds paid in respect of developments in Pimlico were spent

The Plan would specifically encourage opening all the Riverside Walk to the public and preserving and improving Pimlico Gardens as a public amenity. Similar considerations concerning Grosvenor Road in the Churchill Gardens Forum Area could not be addressed in the Pimlico Plan although continuation of the Riverside walk would be welcomed

The Forum was precluded from making submissions on the planning application in respect of Dolphin Square until the Plan had been approved at a Referendum although the Chairman had made a submission in his private capacity. The draft Plan for Regulation 14 consultation may be in place before that application was considered by WCC although as a draft it would have little formal legal force

The Forum had supported WCC in its “Direction” to be exempt from permitting change of use from office to residential use without need for consent. The Plan would address the issue of how the existing non-residential uses could be protected (especially in the central area around Warwick Way/Wilton Road) to preserve a vibrant within Pimlico

There were concerns about bicycle lock up units. The Plan strongly encouraged open public space to be retained as public amenity and not cluttered with bins, utility cupboards etc. Within the conservation areas bicycle lock ups on the street should respect the design and historic nature of the areas.

Short lets are a matter of concern because of the increased risk of anti-social behaviour; waste dumping, real and apparent security and reduction in housing for long-term occupation. The Plan was seeking to provide policies that supported long-term occupation, but such matters were not strictly controllable.

A suggestion was made that consideration should be given to improving the experience of tourists and visitors to Pimlico and that this could be used to argue for improvements and preservation of the area.

#### **5. Steering Group membership**

The appointment of Simon Clark to the Steering Group as Treasurer was approved

#### **6. Treasurer’s report and accounts**

The Forum’s financial affairs are dealt with through the agency of Pimlico Neighbourhood Forum Ltd. The Treasurer spoke to the most recent filed accounts of the company. These showed a balance of £12,000 for future activities. This was sufficient for the immediate next steps in the process but further funding may be required and the Steering Group had this in consideration.

#### **7. Pimlico Neighbourhood Forum Ltd.**

As noted the financial affairs of the Forum were managed through the agency of the company that provided a recognised counter-party for funding agencies and contracted parties. The Forum was notified that the company was in compliance with all statutory requirements.

#### **8. Any other business**

There was none

#### **9. Date of next meeting**

This would likely be in April/May 2020 unless as part of the process of adopting the Plan it was necessary to convene an interim meeting

**10. Close of Meeting**

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance at the meeting and their support and closed the meeting