

Note on meeting - Pimlico Neighbourhood Forum, Annual Meeting, 19:30-21:00hrs, 2nd September 2026, Dryburgh Hall, Alderney Street, Pimlico, London, SW1V 4ET

Simon Clark, the meeting chair welcomed members to the meeting and introduced the forum's chair, Peter Ruback to speak about the Steering Group's work in the last year etc.

PR explained what the Steering Group had done in the previous 12 months. This included Redesignation of the Forum, which had taken a total of 9 months and been a challenging experience. The other main activities had been responding to WCC's proposals for redevelopment of the area that includes the Queen Mother Sports Centre, WCC's proposed the loss of the Sussex Street Play area for housing, and development of Grosvenor sidings (adjacent to Peabody Avenue/Close) also for housing. We had also input into WCC's City Plan, expressing concern about how traffic management and street works could affect us.

PR noted that decisions taken under the previous Council administration had depleted our Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL), against the Steering Group's wishes, and it was hoped that the current administration would adopt a more cooperative mindset with spending reflecting priorities for the area.

A question was asked about the possible use of NCIL money to fund legal costs for the erection of a gate to secure residents living close to the Vauxhall Bridge. PR expressed concern about very high legal costs for what, on the face of it, should be resolved more cooperatively and cheaply between the Council and the Crown Estate; and also the very high overhead costs for basic improvements to the public realm.

Peter Ruback and Simon Clark were standing for election to the Steering Group, as the two members standing down by rotation, and were unanimously elected.

SC noted the forum's own financial situation and observed that there was a need to raise some money in the medium term to assure us as a going concern. We were not funded for substantial work on plan policy rewrites or major planning issues. There was some debate about how far ahead assurance should reach, and it was accepted that the Steering Group should project some additional expenditure and liaise with RAs in the Forum area about possible contributions.

Councillor Jim Glen addressed the meeting briefly at the end and assured members that WCC would take a more cooperative approach to spending NCIL funds and to focus spending on the neighbourhood. He confirmed that there were now no plans to lose the Sussex Street playground. While the QMSC did need some improvement, there were no plans for re-development at the moment. Finally, there was likely to be some NCIL funding generated by development outside our area, for schemes that

were likely to affect our area (Stockley House, Gillingham House and the former Passport Office), although this would be controlled by other Neighbourhood Forums.