

# Camley Street Neighbourhood Forum

Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting

Thursday 15 May 2014

Chairperson: David Powell. Secretary: Peter McGinty. Treasurer: John Hayes.

## 1 Welcome and Introductions

David Powel acting as chairperson opened the first AGM of the Camley Street Neighbourhood Forum by welcoming all of the nearly 40 people who attended. He extended a special welcome to our three Camden Councillors Sumata Khatoon, Peter Brayshaw and Roger Robinson who had taken time from campaigning for the local elections on 22 May (don't forget to vote!) and also to Jasper Cuppiage of Camden Brewery who was hosting part of the evening's event.

## 2 Apologies and Absences

Peter McGinty stated that a number of members had sent apologies for their non-attendance.

## 3 Election of Managing Committee

Thirteen nominations for the managing committee had been received.

The constitution states that the maximum membership of the managing committee is twelve and rather than select twelve candidates from the thirteen volunteers it was suggested that we change the constitution to expand the managing committee to fifteen. Peter McGinty (acting secretary) confirmed that as this was an AGM the constitution could be amended provided the motion was carried by at least a two-thirds majority.

A motion to amend the constitution to increase the size of the managing committee from twelve to fifteen was then proposed, seconded, put to the vote and passed with an overwhelming majority.

There then being thirteen candidates for the fifteen seats on the managing committee all thirteen candidates were duly elected unopposed as follows:

Chair: David Powell (Resident), Secretary: Peter McGinty (Resident), Treasurer: John Hayes (Daily Fish). Members: Ahmed Waza (Richmond Laundries), Alex Smith (Alara), Christian Spencer-Davies (Amodels), David Royston-Lee (Resident), Farra Pedley (Resident), Kay Lacey (Resident), Marrio Raggio (IMS of Smithfield), Paul Matthew (Fashshot), Richard Cotton (Resident), Vivienne Barnett (Resident).

## 4 Minutes and Actions from previous meeting

As this is the first AGM there are no previous minutes or actions.

## 5. Matters Arising

David Powell gave a brief summary of activities to date. This is attached as appendix I.

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## 5. Any Other Business

Chris Shaw of Camden Unlimited gave a summary HS2 activities.

David Powell reminded everyone that the deadline for applications to petition parliament on HS2 was Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May for businesses and Friday 23<sup>th</sup> May for individuals and community organisations.

Jasper Cuppiage of Camden Brewery outlined his companies desire to move to 102 Camley Street.

## 6. Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at approximately 7:40 and was immediately followed by three round-table discussions as outlined in appendix II.

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## Appendix I – Progress, Achievements and Ambitions so far

### Camley Street Neighbourhood Forum

The Forum has been set up by local residents and businesses to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the area. When this plan is accepted by Camden – we aim for 2015 – it means that we will have been able to set clear guidelines for the ways in which different parts of the Camley Street area are zoned (residential, business etc). This would form part of Camden's requirements on all new developments in the area.

Camden gave the Forum formal approval in February 2014. A Steering Group of business and resident volunteers have taken forward some early work on the Forum's behalf. Since Spring 2013:

#### HS1/HS2 Link

- We have argued forcefully to get the HS1/HS2 Link cancelled to remove the threat to Camden Town, Barker Drive and Camley Street. The link would evict the businesses in 120-126 Camley Street to create a major construction site generating huge HGV traffic for 10 years or more.
- The current position is that the HS1/2 link is not going to proceed, However, the whole project will bring huge disruption and damage to Camden's' environment and businesses over many years and we need to stay active on this matter.
  - ✓ We have attended meetings with Camden and campaigning bodies.
  - ✓ We have responded formally to the HS2 Consultation processes
  - ✓ We will be one of the local groups petitioning the promoters of the HS2 Bill in Parliament.

#### A Green Agenda for Camley Street

- A fundamental priority for the Forum is to make Camley Street the greenest street in London: the Forum's green and sustainability Statement will set out priorities and targets. Current projects include
  - ✓ The planting of hundreds of fruit and nut trees along the length of Camley Street
  - ✓ Developing a Camley Street Farm brand for local produce, to promote the food being grown locally.
  - ✓ Exploring a local energy supply company, and investigating ways of substantially reducing energy use and costs for residents and businesses

#### Shaping the future development of Camley Street

- The Forum is committed to keeping local jobs for local people within the area. More than a thousand people work in Camley Street, many of them Camden and Islington residents. Camley Street is home to an important cluster of food producers and retailers.
- The Forum proposes that the land to the east of Camley Street (the railway side) should remain as workspace for local employment, and the area on west side of Camley Street should be where existing and new housing and community facilities should be.
- We are seeking substantial changes and improvements to the two large mixed use developments proposed for 101 and 102 Camley Street.
- We are looking to establish a community land trust or equivalent to own and develop workspace for the kinds of businesses which are currently in Camley Street and Cedar Way.
- We will identify a number of buildings as Assets of Community Value including Jubilee Water Sports Centre, Camden Garden Centre and The Constitution, to allow community and/or local not for profit groups to stop their quick sale for private housing development and have the opportunity to put funds in place to retain these local assets for local use.

[www.CamleyStreet.org.uk](http://www.CamleyStreet.org.uk)

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# Camley Street Neighbourhood Forum

**Camley Street Neighbourhood Forum** has a primary responsibility through its designation under the Localism Act 2011, to deliver a Neighbourhood Plan focussed on guidance on land use and on future development.

**Camley Street Neighbourhood Forum** will also promote community initiatives, environmental projects and local employment for local people.

## Appendix II – Round Table Discussions

### Round table 1 = Neighbourhood Hotspots

We want to identify the 'hot-spots' and 'hot-issues' within the Camley Street Neighbourhood Area. It might be something we want to keep / improve / remove/ change / influence or anything at all. The only selection criteria is that you care enough about it to put it on the map.

There will be maps and pens so that we can clearly identify where and on what we need to focus our energies in the twelve months ahead.

### Round table 2 = Environmental Principles and Priorities

We intend to make Camley Street the greenest street in Camden.

- A network of green and canal related projects
- A series of food production and planting initiatives of scale, supported by the licence to plant on Camden's land
- Local energy production and energy efficiency projects, setting out how we can move towards carbon positive

There is a draft document to start the ball rolling but the discussion is entirely up to you.

### Round table 3 = Camden Brewery as an alternative development for 102 Camley St

Camden Brewery have made a bid to purchase and occupy 102 Camley Street and use it as their main brewery and headquarters. They are presenting this as an alternative to the development of 102 as mainly a residential high-rise that was presented by YourShout on 6 March 2014.