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GREEN BELT FORUM - 3.7.2018

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREEN BELT FORUM HELD ON TUESDAY, 3 JULY 2018

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Anne Brown (Chair), Ergin Erbil and Lindsay Rawlings

ABSENT Jon Daniels and Christine Hamilton

OFFICERS: Stacey Gilmour, Governance & Scrutiny Secretary

Also Attending: Approximately 8 members of the public

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WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Councillor Anne Brown introduced herself as the new Chair of the Green Belt Forum and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the municipal year. She hoped that the Forum would have productive meetings moving forward.

Apologies for absence were received from Rob Oles, Planning Enforcement Manager.

An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Ergin Erbil.

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ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

AGREED to defer the Election of Vice-Chair to the next meeting of the Green Belt Forum.

Action: Stacey Gilmour, Governance & Scrutiny Secretary

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TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE GREEN BELT FORUM

NOTED the Terms of Reference of the Green Belt Forum.

4

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 OCTOBER 2017

AGREED the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2017.

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UPDATE ON MATTERS ARISING AT THE MEETING ON 17 OCTOBER 2017

Local Plan Review and Green Belt Review

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The Chair provided the Forum with an update on this matter which she had received from Neeru Kareer, Planning Consultant, Regeneration and Leisure.

A presentation had been given to the Green Belt Forum on the 30th March 2017 relating to the Green Belt Review Study and this forms part of the evidence work to support the emerging new Local Plan for Enfield. The full Study work will be published alongside the public consultation draft Local Plan.

Local Plan Timetable

- Work on the New Local Plan for Enfield is under way and the draft document will be going through various Council approval processes over the next month or so.
- Public Consultation on the early Draft New Local Plan will then proceed in late summer / early September
- Public Consultation will be a minimum of 6 weeks with a view to look at 8 weeks.
- The Green Belt Forum will be notified of publication through Stacey and an opportunity to discuss the Forum's views will be arranged for the next Green Belt Forum meeting on the 18th October 2018.

Following the Chair's verbal update discussions took place. Members of the Forum felt that given the time it has taken for this Plan to come into the public domain, despite promises that it would be published much earlier, they felt that it would be good public relations to extend the consultation period to at least 12 weeks.

The Chair advised that this may not be possible due to the scheduled time lines going forward that Neeru and her team were working towards.

Draft Revisions to National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The Council has responded to the recent revisions proposed by Central Government to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The principle of Green Belt protection remains strong and is supported by the Council.

Sloemans Farm, Whitewebbs Road

A written update had been provided by Justin Caslake, Principal Asset Management Surveyor as follows:

'The insurance claim, following the fire, is still ongoing however once this matter has been resolved it is the Council's intention to offer the farm to the market via a tender.

It may be that the Council look to combine this opportunity with other farms that may be available at the time but this has yet to be decided.'

Following this update the Forum raised the following questions regarding this matter;

- Q. Is there an intended change of use for the site?
- Q. Will it be Leasehold or Freehold?
- Q. There is also a listed, grade 2 barn situated on the same site as Sloeman's farm. Is this intended to be included in the proposed sale?

AGREED that answers to these questions would be sought from the appropriate Officer/s and the response would either be included in the minutes of this meeting as a Post Meeting Note, or circulated separately to members of the Forum as and when a response is received.

Action: Stacey Gilmour, Governance & Corporate Scrutiny Secretary

Hedgerow Cutting in Ferny Hill

Following discussions with Officers information was sought regarding the exact location of where the Hedgerows have reportedly been cut too low.

AGREED that Jo-Ann Brown, Friends of Forty Hall would liaise with Bob Husband, RSPB Group Leader to ascertain the exact location and feedback accordingly. This matter could then be investigated further

Action: Jo Ann Brown/Stacey Gilmour

Events Strategy

It was understood that the Enfield Parks Event Strategy was currently up for review and it was therefore agreed that early next year would be a good time for the Green Belt Forum to review the strategy. In the meantime, in view of the upcoming events taking place across the borough during the summer, answers were sought on the following questions:

- Q. Is there a decibel limit for festivals/events?
- Q. Is there an actual policy on this in Enfield and how is it implemented?

AGREED that answers to these questions would be sought from the appropriate Officer/s and the response would either be included in the minutes of this meeting as a Post Meeting Note, or circulated separately to members of the Forum as and when a response is received.

Action: Stacey Gilmour, Governance & Corporate Scrutiny Secretary/Russel Hart, Head of Operations, Parks & Street Scenes.

Further questions were raised as follows which responses would also be sought on and feedback accordingly:

- Q. Is there a general policy in Enfield on individual plaques and memorials being erected in parks and public spaces?
- Q. The new, recently published Animal Charter has not yet been issued to Park Staff. Why is this?
- Q. Rights of way in the Green Belt- Why has there been no progress on several proposed paths e.g. Romney Marsh to Waltham Cross?

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- Q. Do the Council have plans to enforce Ultra-Low Emission Zone Technology in the borough?
- Q. Is Forty Hall insured?
- Q. Greenways - what is/are the enforcement policy/ies on appropriate action in the Green Belt?

AGREED that the Forum Secretary, Stacey Gilmour would seek answers on the above questions and feedback the responses as soon as possible.

Action: Stacey Gilmour, Governance & Corporate Scrutiny Secretary

6 SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Various discussions took place regarding suggested items for future meetings.

AGREED that the sole item for the next meeting of the Green Belt Forum would be the Local Plan Review and Green Belt Review. Neeru Kareer, Planning Consultant will be invited to the meeting to provide an update on this matter.

Action: Stacey Gilmour/Neeru Kareer

Further items were suggested and it was agreed that these would form the agendas for future meetings of the Forum for this municipal year. The suggestions included:

- Emergency Planning
- Local Government Boundary Review
- Ultra-Low Emission Zone
- National Park City Initiative
- Rights of Way in the Green Belt – Ask for a report on Footpath Progress/ how areas such as Trent Park will be affected by future planned developments.
- Council's Disposal of Assets, both Land & Buildings – with particular focus on the Green Belt.

7 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

NOTED the dates of the future meetings as follows:

Thursday 18 October 2018

Tuesday 29 January 2019

Thursday 7 March 2019