

# Virginia Water Neighbourhood Plan Forum Meeting Minutes

20<sup>th</sup> August 2020

**Attendees:** John Pyle JP      **Apologies:** James Periton JDP  
 John Tenconi JT      Peter Lerner PJL  
 Andrew Stimson AS      Gill Morgan GM  
 Nicola Bates NB  
 Robert Bates RB  
 Carol Manduca CM  
 Harmonhan Dhanjal HD  
 Jonathan Hulley JH

**Minutes:** Helene Parsons HP

<b>Welcome and Absences</b>	<p>JP opened the meeting and welcomed members.                  Due to Covid-19 lockdown period this meeting is conducted using video conferencing facility.</p> <p>Apologies received from Peter Lerner, James Periton and Gill Morgan.</p>	
<b>Agree Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes from the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 Committee Meeting were                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed for approval by AS</li> <li>○ Seconded by NB</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Chairman's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disappointing to report that due to personal circumstances Peter Lomas is having to stand down from the Forum. Chairman thanked him for all his help and assistance.</li> <li>• In addition to Callow Hill, JP has taken over the interviewing of the Wentworth Estate neighbourhood that Peter Lomas was allocated to survey.</li> <li>• JP managed to speak to approx. 8 residents from the main part of the Estate including the Vicar and the Crown Estate.</li> <li>• HP is gathering the results and compiling an Excel report, which will be circulated initially to the sub-committee to review.</li> <li>• Hopefully by the next meeting we will have a report reflecting the principal issues residents within neighbourhoods seem to find themselves with.</li> <li>• It is becoming apparent that the main concerns are traffic congestion, issues of access and for the majority a definite no against any housing development.</li> <li>• JP has been involved with the Planning Application for the incinerator, however JH will update the meeting later on this medical incinerator Planning Application that has been submitted just outside of our boundary area.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan, which is currently in front of the Council hasn't been adapted to incorporate the Thorpe cottages and the Thorpe Village green, so remains as its boundary on the Eastern side of the M25, if you recall the council asked us to remove these cottages when we set our boundary and then have left these residents outside of any Neighbourhood Plan and are now sandwiched between us and the Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan, sitting as a small settlement of approx.. 15 houses which cannot be ignored.</li> <li>• JP to request Cllr JH to investigate with the Planner Officer who is doing the review, if this area isn't going to be incorporated into Thorpe, we should propose to include it into the Virginia Water Neighbourhood Plan. Ideally it would be a resident in that area to write to the Council to ask why they have been excluded from either Thorpe or Virginia Water's Plans.</li> <li>• Judo Club received approval on their Planning Permission and to extend over the entire piece of land.</li> <li>• Local Plan has been adopted, and the Council QC for Wentworth Residents Association has suggested the process has been undertaken sufficiently according to the rules and that the Inspector has satisfactorily answered and gave enough opinion to make it impossible to raise a successful judicial review. Has a further three weeks to run before opinion of judicial challenge is lost. Therefore, what has been written is now likely to become policy and Planning Applications will start to appear on the relevant parcels of land and the Forum will be notified.</li> <li>• JH later will explain about the new government consultations that have been published these give (we), the Neighbourhood Forum especially because there is no Parish Council seemingly a greater involvement in determining the zoning of the land within our community, therefore able to define allocation/zoning within Virginia Water where we would say absolutely no to any new development, possibly to new development and quite definitely new development. If we and the Council positively agree to any new development there is little we or the Council can do to object to anyone building within that zone. The importance is that if it then did come to fruition and become legislation, the changes in Planning Policy will take away a lot from the Planning Authority once the Neighbourhood Plan has determined this is what they approve.</li> <li>• JP shared the Ottershaw Neighbourhood Plan booklet, which quoted a funding of up to £28,000. HP to liaise with Ottershaw Forum to determine the breakdown of their funding.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Update on Neighbourhood Surveys</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This survey is to run to the end of the month.</li> <li>• AS has sent out about 10% of surveys to residents of Virginia Park residents. A good response had been received back and forwarded to JP and HP, and also responses were sent direct to the Forum email. Again concerns are predominately traffic, green space and village and station looking tired were the reoccurring comments.</li> <li>• JP confirmed his feedback on the main concerns was retaining the greenness, the village, traffic (volumes and pollution) and loved the idea of proximity of London and Heathrow.</li> <li>• Regards to the Stroud Lane area, haulage lorries is a high concern and also what is happening with the building works around Great Fosters and fly tipping.</li> <li>• With regards to new housing, reverting back to original survey, the residents views is if new housing must be built that they are built on brownfield sites only and affordable for younger families.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of the shops on Station Parade looking rundown and the new flats that are totally out of character of the village have been commented on. It will be interest to gain more feedback from shop owners.</li> <li>• JP spoke to James Wyatt and Simon at Chancellors asking of the housing stock that they feel is missing and the justification. James Wyatt gathering more information and will revert back to JP.</li> <li>• Knowle Hill it was comments about internet connection and water pressure being very weak.</li> <li>• CM reported that Hurst Lane issues continue. Report expected from Planning Consultant.</li> <li>• JP requested CM and JDP to submit some surveys and will be organising a sub-committee over the next couple of weeks.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Hurst Lane/ Padd Farm Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JT recommended that now corroboration is coming through from these repeated surveys that we are seeing a very clear roadmap for the plan which is set out in previous meetings minutes, and PJL to go and look at the planning issues around those and it is important now to go and deliberately engage with the Council as the basic for the Neighbourhood Plan is now taking shape and is going to develop quickly and what they should be prepared for. We should engage at the earliest opportunity to try and prevent doing anything non essential in the meantime and keep them engaged until we finish this off.</li> <li>• RB confirmed in the process of setting up a meeting with the CMC in the next couple of weeks to try and demonstrate what a wider solution will bring to the area for Hurst Lane and Padd Farm issues.</li> <li>• Hurst Lane need to raise awareness where the problems are.</li> <li>• JP wrote regarding the Bellbourne Application, but received no reply.</li> <li>• JP should be contacting the group of Council Executives who previously were involved with the CIL discussions to update them on the progress, and that it is an emerging plan and they must engage with Neighbourhood Plan.</li> <li>• CM reiterated for strategic direction to write to Ashley Smith or John Devonshire.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Medical Waste Incinerator</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Application submitted there is until 3<sup>rd</sup> October to object, with SCC. The developer who submitted the Application has done so as it is a much needed site for St Peters Hospital and West London as it will be treating all the medical garments and masks etc.</li> <li>• Cllr Few forwarded a letter to JP and JH informing them that an Application for the erection and operation of a small scale clinical waste thermal treatment facility has been lodged by Waste Energy in Chertsey and this application will be considered in due course by the County Planning Authority and we will advise you of the outcome. In the interim Cllr Few has made direct contact with the County to find out the details of this Application and the timescales. JH will follow this up with Cllr Few and report back.</li> <li>• JP asked what RBC's views are, JH confirmed that as an interested party and a stakeholder they will be consulted. JH will find out what Runnymede's Planning Departments view is on this.</li> <li>• The land sits in the Longcross/Lyne and Chertsey ward.</li> <li>• Issues regarding traffic concerns with significant increased lorry movements in from West London also issues with smell and pollution.</li> <li>• It would be an option to employ a team of professionals to undertake a survey or report on the Application itself, this would require funding.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JP had already been informed from a local resident that there are strong smells coming from the anaerobic digester which sits on the site next door to this. An objection to the Environmental Agency was made.</li> <li>• CM asked how we can make as many residents aware as possible to put in objections and are we as the Neighbourhood Forum going to provide publicity around this giving suggested grounds for objection. This is outside of the Forum area, we can obviously pass comment on it and object.</li> <li>• Facebook has posted how to contact the EA to give objection and make a complaint.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JT requested JH to speak to Cllr Few on status of a traffic assessment around the incinerator plant, in combination with the works that will go on in Longcross, possibly the enhancement of the Film Studio, lorries in and out of the incinerator medical waste, and a council site for maintenance vehicles, all of which are asked to travel through totally inappropriate narrow village roads.</li> <li>• Surrey County Council have launched a communication which refers to a Community Projects Fund, £100 million 5 year Community Fund giving residents the opportunities to make ambitious for their neighbourhood come to life? JH unsure of details but assumes this is linked to Making Surrey Fit for the Future, intention to push forward is linked to how SCC expects to operate in the future. JH will investigate further and report back.</li> <li>• Referring to the promised demise of Public Health England, where that leaves decision making on the medical facility in Longcross? An email has been sent to a number of stakeholders by the Agency Curtain &amp; Co who set up the Steering Meeting, requesting to hold meeting 26<sup>th</sup> August for the Steering group, to update on their plans for the northern site, which a well known film studio wants to purchase the top site where the film studio is currently. What the impacts will be are unknown, but will have an impact of the plan of the garden village. JH will forward the email to JT and CM.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be advised.</li> </ul>	