



# St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Newsletter December 2015

## Development proposals for Notting Hill

It looks likely that large parts of Notting Hill Gate will be a building site for the next few years, with two major developments now imminent.

The present built environment of the Gate dates from a road widening scheme carried out by the London County Council in the 1950s. The buildings were never great architecture, but the area has retained an appeal as a slightly quirky alternative to other 'district' centres in London which have already been redeveloped.

Now it is the turn of Notting Hill Gate. Developers have submitted proposals for redevelopment of Newcombe House (above Waterstones) and the row of premises at the top of Kensington Church Street (west side).

The scheme has been several years in the planning, with a series of public consultations. The Council has also published a Supplementary Planning Document for Notting Hill Gate, setting out how the public realm could be improved.

The StQW Forum and the Kensington Society worked together during the consultation period, and persuaded the developers and Council to prioritise a new public space within the development, as a preferred alternative to an unidentified 'cultural hub'. North Kensington already has several theatre and performance spaces, including the Print Room at the Coronet.



Proposed new square, looking south

The new square and pedestrian routes through this key corner site are the big plus from the proposals. Less likely to be popular are the plans for a 17 storey tower building to replace the present 14 storey Newcombe House. Several alternative designs have been consulted on. See next column for the final scheme.

## Notting Hill Gate proposals (continued)



View of proposed replacement to Newcombe House, looking south west

Public consultation on this application, from Notting Hill Gate KCS Ltd, ends on 8th January.

On the northern side of Notting Hill Gate, plans for a new development on the 'Bookstore' site are due to be decided shortly by the Council. The proposed building is by architects Stiff and Trevillion, and is for 19 apartments plus amalgamated ground floor units.



Proposed new building on the 'Bookstore' site looking north east

## Comment on future of the Carnival?

The Council is running an online consultation at [www.rbkc.gov.uk/carnivalsurvey2015](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/carnivalsurvey2015) seeking the views of residents on the Notting Hill Carnival. Policing costs each year are becoming a growing issue. The survey takes only a few minutes to complete.