



St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

2nd Newsletter March 2015

Nursery Lane petition to be debated at full Council on April 15th

Our last newsletter explained that the petition launched by the Nursery Lane Action Group would be discussed at the Council's Public Realm Scrutiny Committee on March 24th.

The position has now changed. As a result of the efforts of the Action Group and strong support from local people, the numbers who signed the petition by its closing date exceeded 2,500.

This means that the *Save our Green Spaces* petition will now be debated at the full Council meeting to be held on April 15th. The meeting will be at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber at Kensington Town Hall, and the petition will be an early item on the agenda. Please join us at the meeting, where local residents will have 5 minutes to explain the petition.

Those signing the petition include RBKC residents from further afield who recognise that garden squares and pieces of open land in this Borough are under constant threat from commercial developers. Were Nursery Lane to be developed for housing, why not the backland open space owned by the Methodist Church behind Kelfield Gardens (where development proposals were fought off by local residents in 1980)?

The section of the StQW Draft Neighbourhood Plan making the case for designation of the remaining St Quintin backlands as Local Green Space has been strengthened with additional detail. Residents who have lived in this area all their lives have provided photos of how the Land at Nursery Lane was being used in the 1970s.



Nursery Lane as used by Clifton Nurseries in the late 1970s, after the sheltered housing was built on the southern part of the original site.

If anyone has similar photos from more recent decades, please send a copy to info@stqw.org. Proving continuous horticultural use of the site will help at the forthcoming Examination of the StQW Draft Plan.

Proposals for 'Portobello Village'

The Westway Trust has exhibited initial proposals for the redevelopment of the area next to the Westway, on Portobello Road. Four sites are involved, including that currently used for the vintage clothes market, beneath the existing white 'tent'. This would be replaced with a restaurant building as shown below, with space for market stalls beneath.



Initial public reaction has not been enthusiastic. A petition on the 38 degrees site, arguing that the proposed developments will remove the 'authentic edge' from this section of Portobello Road, has already attracted 10,000 signatures (google 'Portobello Village' if you want to find the petition).

Portobello Road has a global army of supporters who do not want to see the street lose its vitality and character and become 'over-sanitised'. The counter argument is that the public spaces at this location could do so with some improvement, and more activity in the evenings.

Meanwhile the Trust has reached agreement with Sarah Tuvey at Westway Stables Ltd to pause legal proceedings and to grant a temporary lease to July 2015. This will allow time for a review of options for the future of the stables (see the [StQW August 2014 newsletter](#) for background).

Planning Framework for Old Oak and Park Royal

The London Mayor's current consultation on a Planning Framework for Old Oak and Park Royal can be found at this [link](#).

The document says little that is new in terms of the local road network, or on the building heights envisaged at the HS2/Crossrail interchange. Plans for 24,000 new homes and 55,000 jobs are now built into the Further Alterations to the London Plan.

The Mayor's consultation closes on April 14th at 5pm.