



# St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Newsletter January 2018

## Plans for the Silchester Estate - Council confirms that these are dropped and not just 'on hold'

Prior to the Grenfell fire, the Council was moving towards final decisions on 'estate renewal' of the estates at Silchester East and West. The most ambitious of the options being considered involved compulsory purchase and demolition of housing association properties along Bramley Road. This would have been 'comprehensive redevelopment' on a huge scale.

Such plans have been 'on hold' since last June. At the January 23rd Council meeting. Deputy Leader Kim Taylor-Smith confirmed that Council plans for estate renewal at Silchester are 'terminated, on my watch'.

The Council is working with tenants and leaseholders at Lancaster West to gather views and ideas on how that area should be refurbished as a 'model estate' for the future.

## Westway Trust's latest project

The Trust is working with the BBC team that creates near instant buildings, DIY SOS *The Big Build*. The project will create a flexible community building, alongside a new home for the Dale Youth Amateur Boxing Club, displaced by the Grenfell fire.

The site is beneath the Westway at Bay 20, on St Marks Road. All the materials for these BBC projects are donated by companies. Much of the labour will be by volunteers. Because the Trust will have a new building constructed at no cost to them, rates for use of the community space can be subsidised.

For more information on the project, see the [flyer](#) circulated with this newsletter

After a pause for further consultation, Westway Trust will soon be seeking a decision from the Council on the planning application for their Portobello scheme, as featured in earlier newsletters. Working with Octavia Housing Association, the aim now is that the new housing units on the Acklam Road carpark can be all social units, rather than social and intermediate.

## The StQW Forum will be seeking renewed 'designation' in mid 2018

The Forum was formally established back in July 2013, when RBKC granted us the legal powers to prepare a neighbourhood plan. Neighbourhood forums have a lifespan of 5 years, after which they need to apply for renewal of their designation.

Some forums across England have found the process too demanding and have come to a halt.

For our neighbourhood, there remains a lot to do. We are faced with pressures for development all around us. The RBKC Local Plan, the new London Plan, and the Old Oak and Park Royal Local Plan are all unfinished business. Once these plans, with their new policies, are finally adopted we may want to review and update our own neighbourhood plan. So we will be circulating a draft 'renewal' application in the next couple of months.

## Old Oak Neighbourhood Forum (OONF)

The 'interim forum' is entering the final stretch of what has been a long road. The OPDC second round of consultation generated 118 responses, of which 112 supported designation and 6 were neutral. So OONF should be designated shortly.

See at [www.oldoakneighbourhoodforum.org](http://www.oldoakneighbourhoodforum.org) for responses from landowners, HS2, QPR, and others as submitted on the OPDC Local Plan last summer. OONF pressed for these to be published, as the OPDC were not intending to do so until May/June, when the next version of their Plan appears. It is clear that proposals for 'Old Oak South' (around the HS2 station) will need to be reduced in scope and that the Boris Johnson vision of a 'Canary Wharf of the West' requires some rethinking. Fingers crossed.

## New community 'hub' in Freston Road

SOBUS is an organisation based in Hammersmith and Fulham, formed in 2014 by a merger of longstanding charitable bodies supporting the voluntary sector.

The organisation has recently opened a brand new purpose built 'hub' for start up enterprises, charities and social businesses. The building is in Freston Road, opposite the Harrow Club and offers

- 40 + workspaces complete available on a pay as you go or monthly hire basis.
- 4 high quality meeting and training rooms accommodating from 2-32 people.

We are short of meeting spaces in this area, and workspaces for non-commercial bodies. See at [www.sobus.org](http://www.sobus.org) for more information.



Proposed housing on Acklam Road car park