

St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Newsletter January 2015

Consultation on StQW Draft Plan ends on January 25th Housing scheme proposed for Nursery Lane land

The current consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan for this part of North Kensington ends on January 25th, and has been ongoing since December 2nd.

A good number of comments and responses have been coming in, mainly on the issue of the proposed housing development on Nursery Lane and whether Latimer Road makes for a better location for new housing in this area.

This is the statutory 'pre-submission' consultation on the Draft Plan, before we hand over a final version to the Council for independent 'examination' and a subsequent referendum (provided the Examiner approves the Plan, with our without modifications).

So it is important that we take account of the views of as many residents and local businesses as possible.

There will be a further public meeting at St Helens Church hall at 8pm on Thursday February 5th. This will be the last chance, before the Draft Plan is submitted to the Council, to make your views known.

Westway advertising tower

The St Helens Residents Association has submitted an objection to the planning application for the proposed new structure for the tower.

While this changed design would help to shield the visual impact of the tower, and cut off much of the light pollution, this still remains a wholly inappropriate location for a 28m tall advertising structure - only 80m away from a a conservation area.

The decision is expected to be made by the Council's Planning Applications Committee later this month.

Old Oak Mayoral Development Corporation.

The London Assembly has given its approval to the creation of a Mayoral Development Corporation for the Old Oak/Park Royal Area.

This new body will go live in April 2015, and will from then on make most of the planning decisions within the MDC boundary. This covers the area north of Wormwood Scrubs, where the HS2/Crossrail hub is planned, along with 55,000 jobs and 24,000 homes. The exhibition of plans and 'artists illustrations' at the Pavilion pub last month showed a proposed scheme for 21 supposedly 'Victorian style' 4 bedroomed houses on this site off Highlever Road (see below).



Many neighbours and residents have already responded back to the developers, and to ward councillors and the StQW Forum. The main objections raised have been:

- the proposed felling of all the mature trees on the site (particularly the large willows)
- the loss of outlook and amenity for the sheltered housing and all surrounding neighbours would be significant
- these backland sites are meant to be protected
- the proposed basement area is excessive

The StQW Forum has written to planning officers at RBKC asking that elected councillors now become involved in clarifying future Council policy towards this site. The RBKC Conservation Area Policy Statement for Oxford Gardens is clear that the remaining backland sites in this neighbourhood should not be developed for housing. The StQW Draft Plan gives the Council the opportunity to re-affirm this longstanding policy, by supporting the designation of these sites as Local Green Space.

The Nursery Lane Action Group has set up a petition on the RBKC website, asking the Council to support this designation. Please log on to the petitions webpage and add your support to 'Save our Green Spaces' at this <u>link</u>.