



St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Newsletter July 2017

Our meeting and discussion on the Grenfell Tower fire

The StQW/SHRA meeting on July 12th was well attended. We did our best to come up with ideas and suggestions that would be of some help in the aftermath of the Grenfell fire. We also shared thoughts and experiences of the remarkable way in which local churches, faith groups, and community organisations have responded – at the time and in the following weeks.

Several people asked how they could give help and support to the families of victims and to survivors. Rugby Portobello Trust at www.rugbyportobello.org.uk and Family Friends at www.familyfriends.uk.com were flagged up as two local organisations which run well established programmes for volunteers wanting to provide support via befriending or mentoring schemes.

We also discussed views on how the Grenfell Public Inquiry should approach its task. Circulated alongside this newsletter is a draft response to the Inquiry's current consultation on its terms of reference. This consultation has been further extended until August 4th. Any comments on this StQW/SHRA response are welcome or you can comment direct to the Inquiry at www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk.

Old Oak Interim Neighbourhood Forum

OPDC and LB Hammersmith & Fulham consultation on the 'designation application' for establishing this forum and the boundary of an Old Oak neighbourhood area ended on June 15th. Thanks to those who took the trouble to send in supportive comments.

There were over 220 responses, in all. This is a good level of interest, but not all of it has been positive. It is no surprise that landowners and developers in the area have all asked that their sites are removed from the proposed neighbourhood area, citing various reasons.

This includes Cargiant/London & Regional Properties, QPR, and Thames Valley Harriers (Linford Christie Stadium). Network Rail, HS2, the GLA and Transport for London are also unenthusiastic - seemingly reluctant to support a meaningful form of local community influence on what happens at Old Oak.

There are also 35 identical responses from Old Oak Estate residents, arguing for a separate forum and area for the estate, and for the Scrubs to be removed from the proposed OONF boundary. This could encourage OPDC to approve designation of a much reduced boundary for an Old Oak neighbourhood area, without the Scrubs, which would be a blow. Full details of all the responses at this [link](#).

More residential towers in Scrubs Lane

Despite objections from Hammersmith councillor Wesley Harcourt, the OPDC Planning Committee went ahead and approved the application for the development of 200 apartments at 'Mitre Yard' (104-8 Scrubs lane) including a 19 storey tower (see June newsletter). Final Mayoral approval is still needed and SHRA has submitted a further letter of objection.

Next in the queue of applications to the OPDC is the proposal for 2 Scrubs Lane.

The proposed development is for 83 residential units, and the replacement of the existing City Mission church and day nursery, along with 225sqm of retail or café/restaurant space. The site is on the corner of Scrubs lane and Harrow Road, so this third tower (20 storeys) will be less visible from Little Wormwood Scrubs than those at 'North Kensington Gate' and at 'Mitre Yard'. See below for the applicant's CGI image.



Once again, this development is coming forward many years before public transport accessibility to Scrubs Lane is improved (via HS2/Crossrail 2 and a hoped for new Overground at Hythe Road in 2016). And once again the OPDC is setting aside the existing traffic problems of Scrubs Lane/Wood Lane and the lack of any local amenities nearby (shops, GP etc).

OPDC will host a public consultation event on the proposed scheme on **Monday 24 July 2017 at 6.00pm - 8.00pm at The City Mission Church, 2 Scrubs Lane**. The event has been timed to coincide with a public consultation event on the transport chapter of the OPDC revised draft Local Plan, starting at 7.30 at the same venue.

At a recent OPDC session on the Housing chapter of their Local Plan, an hour long slide presentation did not mention building heights. We were told to await the session on 'Design' on July 26th, see at this [link](#).