



# St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Newsletter March 2016

## Referendum result on the StQW Neighbourhood Plan – Clean and Green for 2016 thanks to all those who voted 'yes'

The fact that 645 local electors voted in favour of the neighbourhood plan is a testament to the fact that we residents of this area care about its future. The turnout (at 23% of the electorate) was higher than the Forum's management committee had expected. And a 92% majority voting 'yes' shows that the Plan's new policies have widespread support.

We have been told that the StQW Plan will be adopted by the Council via a 'Key Decision' of the Cabinet Member for Planning Policy, so will not need to await a full Council meeting in June. The Council will in any event be using the policies in the StQW Plan from now on, when deciding planning applications in this area.

If you have any queries on whether your own plans for alterations or building works to your property will be affected by the new StQW policies, please feel free to ring on 0207 460 1743. But remember, it will continue to be the Council that makes the decisions on planning applications, using the StQW policies where these are relevant. We can give informal advice but the Forum is not the decision-maker.

### Legard judicial review claim

The High Court had granted permission for the JR claim by William Legard to proceed to a full hearing. As expected, Metropolis Property Ltd has joined the case as an interested party. The Council is defending its decision that the StQW Plan meets all the required 'basic conditions' for a neighbourhood plan, as per the conclusions of the Plan's independent examination. The StQW Forum is ready to support the Council's case as necessary. No news as yet on when the Court hearing will take place.

Meanwhile the land at Nursery Lane has been let to new tenants, on a two year lease. This firm is Evergreen Pots and Soil, who are clearing up the site and plan to use it in a similar way to Clifton Nurseries.

### Crossrail Station at Kensal back on the agenda

The Council has announced that proposals for a 'Portobello' station on the Crossrail 1 line are being reconsidered by Transport for London. Back in 2013, plans for such a station were dropped as unviable. But the current Mayor of London has said *We are now delving into the detail to see just what may be possible in North Kensington to ensure it does not miss out on the much-needed regeneration Crossrail will bring.*" The StQW neighbourhood would then be within 20 minutes of Heathrow and 10 minutes of Bond Street, via Crossrail. The Kensal Gasworks site would be developed with up to 5,000 new homes, if the station goes ahead.

## Clean and Green for 2016

On the one hand the Council is exhorting us to recycle, and on the other it is introducing a £96 annual charge for collecting garden waste.

The latest RBKC 'clean and green' campaign tells us that increasing recycling levels by one per cent could save more than £70,000 a year. The Council's twice weekly 'clear bag' service for recycled waste compares well with that of many local authorities.

But it seems that we citizens are not good at separating out food contaminants, bottle tops, and shredded paper which jams up the machines. This means that some of what we intend to recycle is unusable.

The ending of the RBKC free garden waste service on March 31st is not going down well in our area. Details of how to sign up to the new fee-paying service (run by the Council's contractor SUEZ) are on the RBKC website if you search under 'garden waste'. Several households are intending to share a 3 bag subscription at £96 per year, and split the costs.

Electric car charging points are another part of London's efforts to be cleaner and greener, and the best way to encourage the take up of electric cars and improve air quality. Currently this borough has only 2 on-street charge points. A further 12 are planned but not close enough to serve StQW residents (Westminster had 54!).

We intend to give the Council some idea of local demand, so please tell us:

- Would you consider buying an electric car if RBKC supplied on-street charging points in this area?
- Do you think that the Council should have a responsive scheme in place to supply points to serve residents that request them?

Replies to this email by 4th April would be welcomed. You can also see at [www.sourcelondon.net](http://www.sourcelondon.net) a map of commercial charging points in London to see how relatively poorly we are currently supplied.

