

*Your neighbourhood  
Your views*

# The St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum and Plan

*Free to join*

St Quintin and  
Woodlands  
Neighbourhood  
Forum

This is the 10th anniversary year of the St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum in this part of North Kensington. This leaflet describes what the Forum does. **We would like your ideas for the next decade.**

*Anyone living or working in the neighbourhood area can join the Forum (see map overleaf). There are currently 370 members. Please join if you are interested in shaping the future of the area.*

*The Forum's website is at **www.stqw.org** More details of what the Forum does are in this leaflet.*

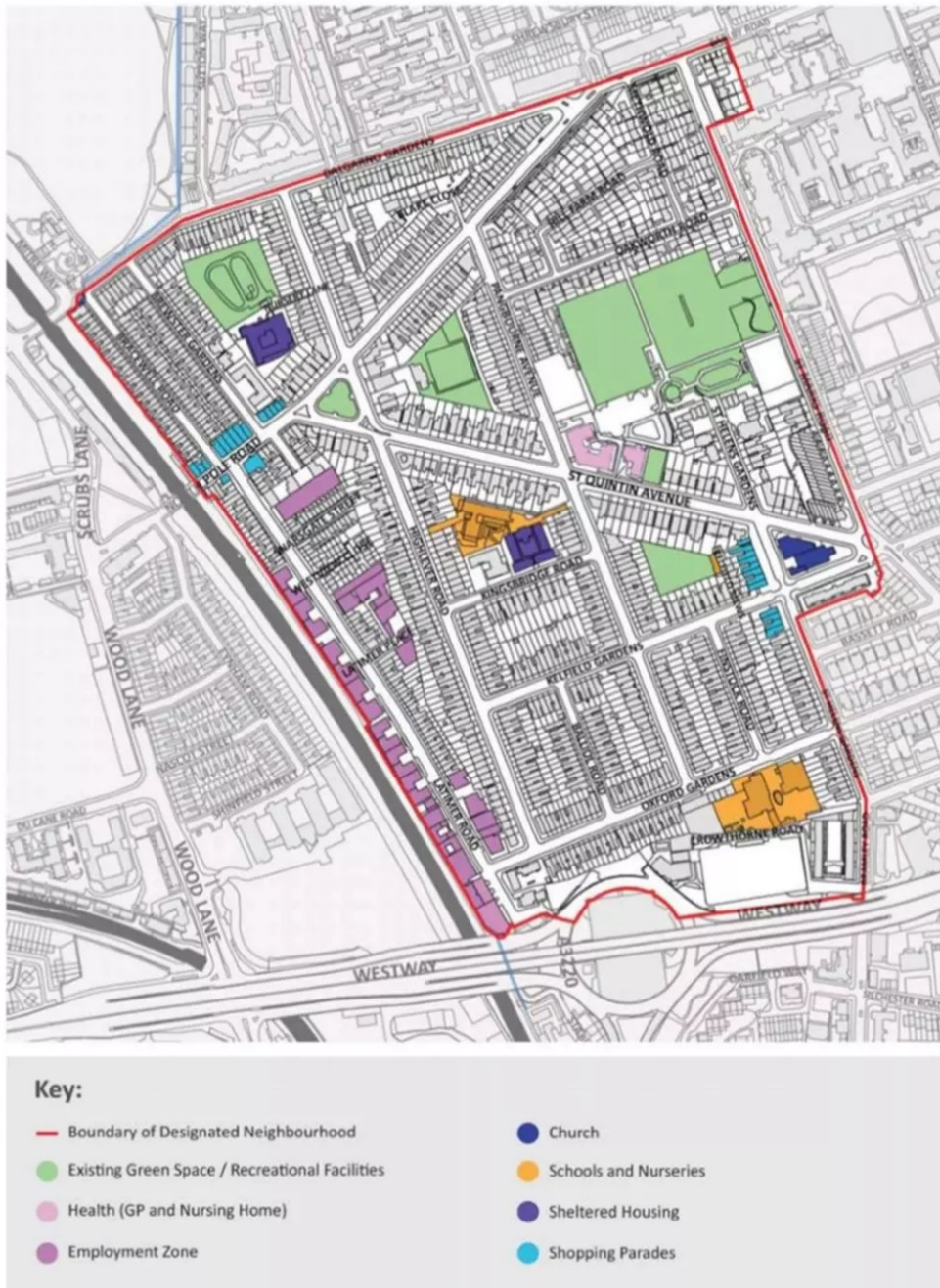
*Our neighbourhood plan was adopted by the Council in July 2018 and is used when planning applications in this area are decided.*

*To join, or if you have any queries, please email **sthelensassn@aol.com**. Membership is free.*

***Our Annual General Meeting will be held at St Helens Church hall, St Helens Gardens W10 6LP on June 8th 2023 at 7pm.***

*New members joining by 5th June will receive an email invitation and agenda.*

## St Quintin and Woodlands neighbourhood bordered in red



### ***Some background info on the StQW Neighbourhood Plan***

*The area and forum were designated by Kensington and Chelsea Council in July 2013. This gave the forum the legal powers to prepare a neighbourhood plan for the area.*

*The plan and its policies were drawn up during 2013-15 through discussions at open meetings at St Helens Church hall. After being independently assessed, the Draft Plan was voted on at a local referendum in February 2016. The vote was 91% in support with 706 registered electors voting.*

*The StQW Neighbourhood Plan is part of the 'statutory development plan' for the Borough. The policies in the plan are used by the Council when deciding planning applications at properties within the boundary above.*



*Members of StQW/SHRA receive a monthly e-newsletter with information and updates. The content relates mainly to local planning issues, along with anything affecting quality of life in the neighbourhood (traffic and transport issues, RBKC consultations, crime and community safety, NHS changes).*

*Our stated aim is 'To secure the future of a neighbourhood that offers the best features of life in central London, for this and future generations'.*

*Not an easy goal, given new development all around us and its impact on traffic and our environment. Our 2013 surveys showed what residents like about the neighbourhood. Family-sized houses in streets which stay relatively quiet. Shopping parades that provide for everyday needs. Wide tree-lined streets. And open spaces nearby. Our aim is to keep what has always been good about the area, and to ensure that any new development is well planned.*

*The Forum seeks to achieve consensus amongst residents and businesses for the benefit of the whole neighbourhood.*

### ***What has been the impact of the Forum over the past 10 years?***

*Below are some examples of the impact of the Forum and neighbourhood plan:*

- We have secured 'Local Green Space designations' for the remaining open land at Nursery Lane, the West London Bowling Club and behind Kelfield Gardens, protecting these spaces from development.*
- The Plan made RBKC policies more flexible in allowing rear dormers and loft extensions in all streets in the neighbourhood, along with full width doors/windows in rear extensions. RBKC conservation policies previously restricted such changes in many streets in this area.*
- The Plan allows for new housing in Latimer Road (within height limits) while keeping commercial space at ground floor level in the Employment Zone sections of the street.*
- StQW policies have helped to keep business premises filled in our local shopping parades. We obtained funding for CCTV in North Pole Road.*
- Our membership rallied to save the historic West London Bowling Club a decade ago. We had the land registered as an Asset of Community Value and helped the club to grow its membership.*
- We headed off an ill-conceived set of proposals from RBKC for a Low Traffic Neighbourhood, blocking off streets in the area.*
- We have commented on dozens of individual planning applications, pointing out where proposals will cause harm to the Oxford Gardens/St Quintin conservation area.*
- On major proposals at Kensal Canalside and at Old Oak we continue to work closely with other local groups to challenge excessive densities and heights of developments.*

## ***Current actions in 2023***

*A decade ago Imperial College promised to build a pedestrian/cycle underpass between Latimer Road and Wood Lane, giving better access to the Central Line. We constantly press the College to deliver this 'community benefit' from the College's mega-development next door.*

*The open space at Nursery Lane is under threat again, from proposals for a 72 bed luxury care home. We will oppose this application and seek RBKC support for a better long-term use for this Local Green Space (ecology centre, 'City Farm', children's outdoor education facility?)*

*The last pub in the area at 274 Latimer Road (former Ariadne Nektar) is being sold by auction on May 17th. We will continue to campaign to keep the building in use as a well managed pub/bistro rather than become another residential conversion (the fate of too many pubs in the Borough).*

## ***Looking ahead***

*The Council has revised the Borough's Local Plan (see [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk)). New and existing members can contribute to updating the Forum's neighbourhood plan. On issues such as adapting homes to sustainable energy sources, improving air quality, reducing flood risk, new ideas are needed.*

*North Kensington has a history of citizen-led projects for open spaces and community buildings, co-ownership housing schemes, collective studios for artists and makers. While our local parks are good, are we running short on places and spaces for people to meet informally?*

*Every 5 years a neighbourhood forum has to be 'redesignated' by the local council. The RBKC website will carry a 6 week public consultation after our June 8th AGM. Please support the continuation of the StQW neighbourhood forum.*

*Email [sthelensassn@aol.com](mailto:sthelensassn@aol.com) to join, giving your street address (we don't need a house number). Our 2023 AGM is on June 8th at St Helens Church Hall, St Helens Gardens at 7pm. You will be very welcome as a new member if you join by June 5th. See at [www.stqw.org](http://www.stqw.org) for more background information on the Forum.*

***Henry Peterson***

***Chair, St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum***