

HAM AND PETERSHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
CONSULTATION STATEMENT

Requirement for a Consultation Statement

When submitting the draft Neighbourhood Plan to the Council the Forum must also submit a 'consultation statement'. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 define this as 'a document which:

- (a) contains details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
- (b) explains how they were consulted;
- (c) summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
- (d) describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.'

INTRODUCTION

This Consultation Statement documents the consultation undertaken by the Forum with the residents, businesses, local groups and organisations in the designated area together with relevant statutory bodies and authorities as required by the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.s14 and 15 and Schedule 1 paragraph 1.

Consultation was undertaken in three phases:

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| 2013 – June 2015 | Launch and establishment of the Forum. Scoping the issues and concerns of local residents through open public meetings. |
| January – June 2016 | Six policy development workshops on issues identified in the scoping consultation |
| January – March 2017 | Pre-submission consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan |

Ham and Petersham has an active array of local groups and associations and it was from these organisations that an initiative emerged in early 2013 to form a Neighbourhood Forum under the Localism Act 2011. An open public meeting hosted by Grey Court School and chaired by the Head Teacher in June 2013 attracted over 150 people who overwhelmingly endorsed the proposal for a Forum. At a second open meeting in September 2013 a constitution was adopted and a Forum Committee elected. Membership of the Forum is open to:

- residents living in the Area, either as individual members or via representative bodies;
- local businesses, organisations and individuals who work in the Area;
- Ham Petersham and Richmond Riverside Ward Councillors.

The Forum Committee of between 15 and 20 members is elected at each AGM to carry out the day-to-day work of the Forum. A majority of the Committee members must be residents of Ham and Petersham and the quorum for the Committee will be one half of the current membership.

CONSULTATION METHODS AND APPROACH.

The Forum Committee has been keen to provide a wide range of opportunities for residents to participate in the preparation of the draft Plan to ensure that it reflects the priorities and concerns of local people and to keep them informed of emerging issues and policy development. These have included:

- i. The Ham and Petersham Magazine. This full colour community magazine is published four times a year and distributed by volunteers to every household and business in the neighbourhood area. This has been the principal vehicle used to communicate with all residents. Three articles were published in 2013 to publicise the launch of the Forum; since winter 2015 a progress update has appeared in every issue. Key articles published are included in the relevant appendices.
- ii. Open Public Meetings. These are detailed below in the record of consultation events and have been advertised in the Magazine, on noticeboards in the area and in some cases by a leaflet to every household.
- iii. Ham Fair. This is a very well attended annual event held on Ham Common in June. The Forum has run a stall at the Fair in 2014, 2015 and 2016 and 2017 providing information about the Neighbourhood Plan and engaging with residents.
- iv. Drop in Workshops at Ham Library Community Room. These were advertised through the Magazine, by flyers on noticeboards and in prominent locations and by emails to local organisations and individuals.
- v. Questionnaires completed by children in Years 5 and 6 at the three primary schools in the Neighbourhood.
- vi. Street stalls on Saturday mornings at Ham Parade and outside the shops at St Richard's Square.
- vii. The Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum website (<http://hamandpetershamforum.org>) includes information about upcoming events, minutes of past meetings, information on neighbourhood planning in general and ways to get in touch.
- viii. Social media The community page on Facebook for Ham & Petersham Neighbourhood Forum was founded in June 2013. Since mid-2015, monthly committee meetings, AGMs, public events, workshops and the Plan consultation have all been listed on it. The page has also been used

to notify the community about local events, news and planning issues. It has a total of 131 followers and 126 likes.

RECORD OF CONSULTATION EVENTS AND OUTCOMES



Phase 1: June 2013 – June 2015

Supporting material for this phase can be found in Appendix 1, including notes of meetings and records of comments made at consultation events.

11th June 2013 FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

The inaugural meeting of the HPNF was held at Grey Court School and chaired by the Head Teacher, Maggie Bailey. The purpose was to publicise the submission of the application to create a Neighbourhood Forum, invite comments, explain the nature and potential of the Forum and propose the draft constitution. The meeting was very well attended by c. 180 people; eight local groups were represented. The meeting voted to approve the constitution. A letter was sent to all attendees after the meeting. The meeting was covered by the Richmond and Twickenham Times, which noted that Ham & Petersham was the first area in the borough of Richmond to declare an interest in founding a Neighbourhood Forum.

10th September 2013 SECOND PUBLIC MEETING

The second meeting was again held at Grey Court School and chaired by Maggie Bailey. The aims of this meeting were to finalise the composition of the Forum committee and a 'visioning' exercise to brainstorm topics which might be addressed. Over the summer a dialogue with local groups had succeeded in recruiting representatives from faith, social, sport, youth and community groups. In addition, 4

people stood as independent local area representatives. 13 topics, such as transport, energy, waste, safety, open space, shopping etc were discussed and the points made recorded. The application to form the Forum, originally submitted in March, had been recommended for approval by the Council of London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (LBRuT). In addition to the committee, a drafting team, consisting of local residents with expertise in planning and architecture, was formed. Young people, notably absent at the first meeting, were here represented by 10 students from Grey Court.

10th December 2013 THIRD PUBLIC MEETING

The third meeting was held at Grey Court and chaired by Maggie Bailey, Forum Chair. The meeting was informed that the formation of the Forum had been approved by Richmond Council on 18th October, subject to a Memorandum of Understanding re. open land on the river. The 270 ideas and comments from the September meeting had been organised into topics, seven of which were submitted for workshopping. More ideas and comments were collected.

3rd and 4th April 2014 PUBLIC DROP-IN SESSION, HAM LIBRARY

A drop-in session was held over two days for the public to find out more about the Forum, ask questions and give their input. A four-page Q&A leaflet was distributed, answering questions on the nature of a Neighbourhood Plan, what it should address, legal status, funding, the Community Infrastructure Levy and how to find out what was going on. There were 9 discussion boards showing: a map of the boundary area, Richmond planning framework, potential major local projects, Ham Close, Russell School, Ham Common and Petersham, Plan timeframe, St Richard's, Plan values and mission statement. People were able to use post-it notes to add their comments. Afterwards, the discussion boards were all posted to the website and a dedicated email was set up for people who had not been able to attend to send their comments.

June 2014 CANVASSING THE PUBLIC: HAM PARADE, ST RICHARD'S SQUARE AND HAM FAIR

A leaflet entitled 'Help us plan Ham and Petersham' was distributed. This explained how and why people should get involved, facts about the Forum e.g. membership and progress, and asked questions e.g. 'What do you most like about Ham & Petersham?', 'What would you like to improve or change?'



20th November 2014 FOURTH PUBLIC MEETING INC. AGM

Over 160 people attended this meeting at Grey Court School. There was a presentation on the key stages of a Neighbourhood Plan and the national picture from Jenny Trew of the Department of Communities and Local Government. This was followed by an update from a variety of residents and local councillors on key local sites facing development. Attendees were invited to vote on five key questions on the topics of Housing, Education, Open Spaces, Transport and Character and Heritage. The results of these community votes, with the minutes of the meeting and presentations were posted to the website. 185 people were on the Forum mailing list. Future public workshops were in the pipeline.

13th June 2015 STALL AT HAM FAIR

New boards on the topics of housing and transport were displayed and comments collected.



16TH JUNE 2015 EGM

This meeting at Grey Court School included presentations by committee members on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan, by local councillors on local issues and on the relationship between Village Plans in other parts of the borough and the Neighbourhood Plan for Ham and Petersham. There were 5 display boards on the topics of housing precedents, housing policy ideas, transport, travel and places and the Neighbourhood Plan vision. 56 people attended. Comments were made on post-it notes. The minutes of the meeting were posted to the website.

AUTUMN 2015 PRIMARY SCHOOL SURVEY

In order to gather the voice and experience of children at school in the area, the committee contacted three local schools with questions to put to the pupils. Each school responded in a different way (written responses, class discussions etc.)

Responses were gathered from The Russell School, the German School and St Richard's primary (Yr 5, Yr 6 at Thames Young Mariners' and School council).

A summary of responses is given below:

What do you think is special about Ham and Petersham?

Parks and green spaces; nature; village/community feel.

Is there anything you don't like to see in the area?

Transport difficulties related to bus timetables, traffic, roads, the difficulty of getting to Teddington by car; litter; security issues at Ham Lands

How would you like to see the area change in the future?

Better transport connections; more sports facilities and activities for teenagers utilizing the local environment e.g. woodland, water etc.

Is there anything you don't want to see in the future or any change that you think would not be good for the area? Why?

No big or high-rise buildings or building over green space; no more housing because the schools would have to be bigger.

Following the initial scoping phase of the consultation, a comprehensive master list of all comments was compiled and the comments grouped by subject and then type of comment, that is whether it related to policy, a project, a particular site or was a general comment. Subject groups were

Open Space and Biodiversity	Travel and Transport	Energy and Water
Recycling and Waste	Street Scene and Heritage	Shopping and Employment
Food	Health	Education and Youth
Housing	Community Safety	Major projects and sites.

Phase 2: POLICY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS 2016

Supporting material for this phase can be found in Appendix 2 including a record of each of the workshops

January 2016 -June 2016

From the extensive scoping exercise of the first phase, the Forum Committee identified six themes for policy development. Drop-in policy development workshops were held in the Community Room at Ham Library as follows

- Travel and Transport 9th January, 10am-12pm
- Housing and Housing Design 8th March, 5-8pm
- Environmental Sustainability 11th February, 4-8pm
- Character and Heritage 13th April, 4-8pm
- Open Space and Community Facilities 12th May, 4-8pm
- Sites and Opportunities for Change 21st January, 4-8pm

The events were publicised in the Ham and Petersham Magazine and by A4 posters displayed on noticeboards and prominent sites throughout the Neighbourhood.

Each workshop was organised differently. A summary of the main themes follows:

Travel and Transport

Proposals included encouraging walking, cycling and the improvement to the bus network to reduce congestion and on street parking, both major local concerns.

Main topics were:

- a) How to encourage sustainable travel to school .e.g. safer cycle routes, crossing points and a 20mph speed limit, which most people favoured.
- b) Developing a quiet cycle link Richmond-Petersham-Ham-Kingston.
- c) Building a pedestrian and cycle bridge from Ham to Twickenham, a popular idea.

Housing and housing design

The main topics were:

Context and design – should new builds respond to the character of the area or is modern design acceptable in some locations? High quality modern design was welcomed, but some also wished to protect the character of the area.

PTAL (Public transport accessibility level)– should infrastructure be considered before new housing is built? There was a strong sense that infrastructure was crucial and should be considered in any development proposals.

Scale and Density – is dense new development preferable to low density development over a wider area? There was a mixed response to this question as some wished to protect open spaces. All agreed that quality of design was important.

Affordable housing – what proportion of affordable housing is desirable? Should priority be given to families or the elderly? Most respondents felt that the proportion of affordable housing should be higher than the current 18%. Priority for older people was welcomed.

Environmental Sustainability

The two main themes of this workshop were Energy and Water. The questions aimed to ascertain people's views on topics such as solar energy, retrofitting insulation, ownership of renewable energy, sustainable drainage and restoration of the flood plain. Particular areas referenced were Ham towpath, Petersham Meadows and Ham Lands. In general the public was supportive of renewable energy, sustainable drainage and restoration of the flood plain.



Character and Heritage

This workshop aimed to help people understand what was meant by character and heritage and think about what was important to them. The area was divided into 23 Sections, each of which had its own character appraisal. People were also encouraged to consider the views and vistas which they valued. In general the open space and sense of community scored highly and words frequently used to describe the area were 'semi-rural', 'village' and 'green.' The words used were formed into a word-cloud (later a tree) which demonstrated this iconically.

Open Space and Community Facilities

Large scale maps of community facilities and green spaces in Ham & Petersham were displayed. Draft community facilities and green spaces chapters of Plan provided for comment.

Questions included:

What gaps in or pressure on community facilities concern you? What are your views on the new Sainsburys on Ham Parade?

How much do you value each of our open spaces? Please grade from 1 (low) to 10 (high) in list of H&P's public and private open spaces. Improvement suggestions?

Summary of feedback:

- a) More facilities and activities for youth.
- b) Another GP surgery needed urgently.
- c) More cafes wanted and retain and improve pubs.
- d) Need a good supply of halls and rooms for hire at reasonable rents.

- e) Generally negative comments re new Sainsburys.
- f) Favourite green spaces most mentioned were Ham Common, Ham Lands and Ham Village Green.
- g) General view seeking (wider) public consultation on the use and purpose of each green space to increase awareness and engagement in management, including the smaller, incidental green spaces within housing areas.
- h) Protection for St Michael's Convent and Manor House gardens and for cricket pitch and facilities

Sites and Opportunities for Change

Discussion was invited on the future of the following sites or areas:

Ham Parade

St Richard's Square

Petersham Village

Ham Close

Cassel Hospital

St Michael's Convent

Previously developed land

Ham St allotments and community orchard

Riverside Lands

Equestrian centre/Ham Polo Club/ Petersham nurseries/Palm centre

Boards presented examples of 'balanced' streets and re-imagining public space.

People were strongly in favour of the policies on Ham Parade, St Richard's Square, Petersham village, St Michael's convent and the allotments. There was strong resistance to any building on the Riverside lands.

Using the feedback from all the workshops the draft plan was then prepared and approved by the Forum Committee for the next stage of consultation prior to submission to the Council.

CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL LANDOWNERS AND DEVELOPERS 2016-17

PARTICIPATION IN HAM CLOSE CONSULTATION

A representative from the Neighbourhood Forum, along with other community groups, Ham Close tenants and leaseholders, attended the Ham Close Community Forum. This group was facilitated by Newman Francis on behalf of Richmond Housing Partnership (RHP) and LBRuT and ran from 2014 to October 2015. During summer 2015 there was a public consultation on the future of the site to which the Neighbourhood Forum gave detailed comments.

In early 2016, the Forum joined a new group set up by RHP and LBRuT called the "Ham Close Redevelopment Stakeholder Reference Group" and have attended all of their meetings. Two separate meetings between RHP, LBRuT and the Forum were held in February and November 2016 to review the latest proposals for Ham Close and highlight the Forum's concerns. Another meeting with RHP and LBRuT was held in June 2017 to discuss the Forum's Neighbourhood Plan policies as they affect Ham Close. The Forum continues to participate as a community voice in the stakeholder reference group.

OTHER SITES

The Forum has been invited to meet with developers of Cassel Hospital site and St Michael's Convent site. We have received and responded to correspondence about plans for these sites and taken an active role in responding to the planning application for the Convent site. The meetings have been attended by between two and four people on behalf of the Forum and the committee has been kept fully informed.

Cassel Hospital site

Meetings:

- March 2016 with Pauline Roberts (Lichfield) and Vanessa Lee (West London Mental Health Trust)
- March 2017 with PR and John Atkins (WLMHT)
- March 2017 with PR and JA

Correspondence:

- 18 Feb 2016 from Pauline Roberts
- 25 May 2016 to PR
- 13 July 2016 from PR
- 13 July 2016 from Howard Williams (BNP Paribas)
- August 2016 to PR
- 14 November 2016 from PR
- 21 March 2017 from PR

St Michael's Convent site

Meetings:

- May 2016 with Matthew Mainwaring (Indigo Planning), Caroline Wilberforce (Indigo Planning) and Polly Damen (PRP Architects)
- July 2016 with the same people

Correspondence:

- July 2016 to Simon-Grier Jones (Beechcroft)
- October 2016 to Robert Naylor (LBRT) with comments on the planning application
- 15 March 2017 to LBRT to object to planning application

Phase 3: PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATION JAN-MARCH 2017

Supporting material for this phase can be found in Appendix 3

A digital copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan was sent to over a hundred organisations, both local and national. This list was based on a list supplied by LBRuT and a list of consultees is included in Appendix 3.

A paper copy of the draft plan was placed in Ham Library throughout the consultation period for consultation by local residents.

A digital copy was made available on the LBRuT website and the Ham and Petersham Neighbourhood Forum website.

A response form was made available to all those consulted on the Plan.

Publicity for this stage of the consultation included:

- a) Articles in the H&P magazine including a summary of the draft Neighbourhood Plan (see Appendix 3)
- b) A public meeting and AGM on 28th February 2017, where policies were presented in brief and comments invited both at the meeting and afterwards or through the website. This was advertised by posters, through the magazine and through emails to local organisations and individuals.

All responses were collated and, where necessary, responded to. There were 49 responses, 30 by email, 3 on paper from the library and 16 written responses from the meeting. Transport and traffic were common themes particularly amongst residents

Email responses included nine from statutory organisations i.e. LBRuT, NHS (CCG), Historic England, TfL, Thames Water, PLA, Natural England, Highways England and Sport England. Other organisations with local interest included Richmond Housing Partnership, Ham Riverside Lands Ltd, Indigo Planning Consultancy (on behalf of Beechcroft, the developer of St Michael's Convent), Lichfield (on behalf of WLMHT, owner of the Cassel Hospital site), Pembroke Lodge and Martingales Close Residents' Association.

Summary of Comments Received

The comments were collated according to the chapters in the HPNP and are included in Appendix 3 with a response from the Forum. Comments from Richmond Council are included as a separate document for ease of reference. These documents should be referred to for a full understanding of the response to the pre-submission consultation. A summary of issues raised follows:

Vision and Objectives

Comments were received from 14 organisations and individuals which are summarised individually together with the Forum's response in the document 'Responses to the Pre-Submission Consultation'. Seven explicitly expressed support for the Vision and Objectives and others commented on individual objectives, generally favourably, and on details. Indigo Planning consider that more provision should be made for additional housing and RHP commented that the Plan should provide for new residents as well as existing. Historic England welcome the support for heritage conservation and TfL support the intention to increase sustainable transport.

Character and Heritage

Comments were supportive and included suggestions e.g. Historic England suggested assessment tools for character studies and encouraged the mapping of paths and through routes. TfL asked for reference to be made to strategic walking routes. Other comments referred to the use of heritage and design and access statements and commented on light pollution, walls, enclosure of front gardens and improvement of the existing infrastructure.

Housing

Six organisations and individuals commented on this chapter. Several comments related to the redevelopment of Ham Close covering density, building height, single aspect housing and unacceptable condition of the existing flats with the consequent need to progress development. Indigo Planning reiterated the view that new housing should not be restricted to sites allocated in the Local Plan and commented that the objective to provide housing for older people did not appear to be carried through into the policies and proposals. The effectiveness of travel plans was also questioned.

Travel and streets

Comments were received from 10 organisations and individuals which are summarised individually together with the Forum's response in the document 'Responses to the Pre-Submission Consultation'. RHP and Indigo questioned the allowance for cycle spaces. TfL referred to the assessment criteria for travel plans, improvements to the bus network and cycle parking. Individual comments concerned poor public transport options, traffic, speed limits (both for and against the 20mph limit) and the integration of transport including the possibility of a bridge.

Community Facilities

Comments were received from 5 organisations and individuals which are summarised individually in the table with the Forum's response.

Richmond CCG notes that health facilities will be provided according to local need and has noted the concern re. access to GP services. Sport England mentions in particular the need to protect playing fields.

Retail, Local Services and Businesses

Comments were received from 2 organisations and individuals which are summarised individually in the table with the Forum's response. Policy R1 was supported.

Green Space

Comments were received from 6 organisations and individuals which are summarised individually in the table with the Forum's response. Comments related to designations of public/private space, the future of Ham Lands and use of local facilities.

Environmental Sustainability

Comments were received from 5 organisations and individuals which are summarised individually in the table with the Forum's response. Thames Water suggested an additional policy on water supply, waste water and sewerage, but supported the water consumption target and the policies on managing flood risk and SuDS. The Environment Agency asked for reference to be made to the River Thames Scheme and the Thames Estuary 2100 Action Plan and a requirement for new developments to act on the recommendations therein. They also made recommendations regarding flood risk and supported the policy on SuDS.

Opportunities for Change

Comments on this chapter were received from 17 organisations and individuals and covered the range of sites included in this section of the Plan, in particular Central Ham (Ham Close) and Cassel Hospital. These detailed comments are summarised individually together with the Forum's response in the document 'Responses to the Pre-Submission Consultation'