



## **Minutes of Friends of High Town Tuesday 9th January 2018**

**Attendees** David Landau (Chair), Kevin Poulton (Media & Marketing), Cllr Maahwish Mirza, David Alexander, Maureen Allen, Sam Willis, Jeremy Williams, Pete Savage, Ian Beveridge (for part of the meeting)

**1.) Apologies** Kim Greig, John Wright, Cllr Andy Malcolm.

**2.) Minutes of the last meeting** Apologies not presented.

### **EGM**

Before the meeting commenced, apologies were given for the late postponement of the EGM, moved to February 2018. KP explained a law change in January around CIO's needed to be reviewed for potential impacts.

The group extended their formal thanks to Fiona Morton (Treasurer) and Lyn Bliss (Secretary) for their efforts, as they official stepped down from their positions. KP will take up their roles until new appointees can be elected at the EGM. Both DL & KP asked for members of the group to step forward to fulfil the roles. KP agreed to the request by JW for role descriptions to be circulated with the EGM Agenda, **(Action KP)**.

### **3) Other building works/planning applications**

a) 80 High Town Rd, Building work continues, no further update available.

b) 17 Hitchin Rd, the proposal had been retracted, issue closed at December meeting.

### **4) Conservation Area**

David Alexander raised that No.78 (hairdressers) have fitted a full metal shutter, David Landau to investigate **(Action DL)**

a) No further update received from RC, continues to be an ongoing monitoring issue.

Consultation meeting and re-notification process both updated at December meeting.

### **5) People's Park**

a) Bins have now been replaced, still awaiting an update on benches. **(Action DL)**.

### **6.) Parking Kingston Rd / Ridgeway**

Still awaiting further feedback after LBC started consulting with bus companies. HTIAG will continue to chase (HTIAG)

It was reported by David Landau that painting of double yellow lines had occurred between parked vehicles, resulting in a situation of large gaps being left when vehicles had moved. Cllr Mirza agreed to correspond with LBC. **(Cllr MM)**

### **7) New Items**

a) New Planning applications



i) Number 37 has re-submitted plans, the entrance is now proposed through an existing side alley. However, it still proposed to change the use of some of the ground floor retail space to residential. The group felt that once this space was lost, it would be hard to regain it, and could in worst case scenario led to the majority of the High Street being lost to residential. On these grounds, the group agreed we should object to the proposals. **(Action DL)**

ii) 170 High Town Rd, have submitted applications to extend, and turn the terraced property into an 8 Bed HMO. Discussion around HMO's in general, and the marketing in London by some estate agents particularly pushing the idea of HMO's. David Landau recalled reading something regarding "Article 4" being applied in Barnet to help slow the number of HMO properties. Cllr MM understood that each application had to be weighed on its own merits, but agreed to follow up on the information of "article 4" if DL sent her the details. Ethel Street was raised as an example of the proliferation where 6 HMO existed in a very small street. **(Action DL / Cllr MM)**.

### **Ian Beveridge entered the meeting**

The group overall agreed we should lodge an objection to the application made by 170. An issue around Refuse Collection was then made, and DL agreed to bring particular attention to this when raising the objection **(Action DL)**

**8)** No other items from the December meeting could be recalled.

**9)** EGM confirmed on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Kevin Poulton to circulate the relevant papers. **(Action KP)**

The motion to consider incorporating Friends of High Town as a **"Charitable Incorporated Organisation"** to remove potential liabilities from any committee members will be the main agenda item.

A call for any other motions to be considered for the agenda was made, with suggestions to be forwarded to the Chair.

### **10.) AOB & Notices**

Edible High Town has now formed a separate Unincorporated Association, enabling it to raise money in its own name, and removing any liabilities from FoHT. It will continue to run down existing grants that are held with FoHT.

Sam Willis informed the group of the work in Edward Street and Albion court, where Fruit trees were planted just before Christmas. Some suggestion of other plots of land to explore were proposed.

**Edible High** Town will be operating weekly events on a Wednesday, meet outside NOAH at 10 am, see their website [www.ediblehightown.org](http://www.ediblehightown.org)

High Town Festival ~ planning committees have just started to meet, Bookings for stalls are now being taken.

### **High Town Community Sports & Arts Centre.**

Operating a community table tennis group, Tuesdays 6 pm – 8 pm & Sat 10 am – 12 am ~ fees apply  
METime ~ Mininastics on Mondays ~ fees apply



**Fashion Show LIVE** starts its self-esteem and wellbeing course on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm, see the [fslacademy.uk](http://fslacademy.uk) website for more details.

Sam Willis informed the group that the preparation for an A5 “Welcome Booklet” to be distributed to the new build flats and houses was underway, with an initial run of “1000” being planned. Hoping to get new residents involved in the High Town Community.

Discussion around how the group can attract new members and more active members to the meetings took place. Ideas to be considered included:

- Pub Quiz Teams
- Social Nights
- Social event after the meeting
- Talking with other existing groups in High Town
- Discussion with Grass Roots and their networks
- Advertising the meeting through the Political Parties mailing lists.

### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 7 pm.

Following the EGM 6.30pm.