

Minutes: Meeting June 12 2017**DRAFT**

Ref MinJun017

1. Present: Vitas Puig, Martin Case, Richard Linnell, David Farmery, Denis Browne, Derek Collett, John Todd, Nigel Moore, Nick Kilby, Margaret Thomas, Debarah Burton, David Pavett, Marilyn Batek and Stephen Browne.

2. Apologies: Kath Richardson, Hugh Mortimer, Mel Collins, Christopher Richards.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting: Approved as correct record (see MinApr017).

4. Matters arising:

- a. Kew Bridge Station application: it was confirmed that a letter was sent conveying the agreed comments.
- b. Ealing Road/A4/Alfa Laval Site C – This is dealt with as part of the agenda for this meeting.
- c. Meeting on master plan for Great West Road. This meeting was attended by BCC representatives. There will be a public consultation and a group had been formed, but it was agreed that the group would not meet until the London Borough of Hounslow ("LBH") timetable was known.
- d. A letter has been sent to LBH as agreed on the Morrison's site with BCC's comments. Receipt of this letter had been acknowledged but nothing further had been heard.

5. Presentation by Nicola Erdresser of Air Quality Brentford made a statement setting out the current situation and concerns on this subject. In particular, Prof. Mason had set out concerns about the A4 and the South Circular. She has considered the monitoring station on the A4 near the junction with Glenhurst Road, measuring NOx and particulates. Results and reports are available from airqualityengland.co.uk. The website also includes a mitigation report, dealing with such matters as traffic smoothing, but the general pollution position is shown to be worse year on year.

The Mayor of London is undertaking a consultation on air quality. There is also a Government consultation which closes on 15th June. He is considering extending the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) as a phase 3 of the exercise, to the North and South Circular Roads. ULEZ creates an additional tax, like the Congestion Charge, for all diesel vehicles entering the Zone. Nicola encouraged BCC and its members to complete the consultation forms as the proposed extension of ULEZ would exclude Brentford and may concentrate diesel vehicle use just outside the Zone.

Diesel engines are the first target as contributing to NOx and particulates emissions. Denis Browne commented that there is an inherent contradiction in the plans being proposed for the Opportunity Area proposal for Brentford, encouraging high density development in the area which would exacerbate the air quality problems. This should be raised in the Local Plan Authority review this autumn.

The question of local ameliorating measures was raised, such as green or living walls, hedges etc. to absorb particulates etc. and Nicola said they had some beneficial effect. It was agreed that even if private diesel vehicles were eliminated there are still large numbers of commercial diesel vehicles on the roads and there is no current viable alternative to these. Streamlining of deliveries and the use of commercial vehicles is a step that can be promoted. The recent presentation on pollution in

London showed, allowing for articulated lorries' own power units, none of these vehicles is compliant with the Euro 6 standard.

There was also a discussion of Clean Air Zones, such as now operating on the Uxbridge Road. This required use only by cleaner buses, with diesel cars taxed and other measures.

There was a discussion about the fact that LB Hounslow only has six monitoring sites. Osterley and Isleworth have no monitoring. Osterley want to do monitor so as to have actual measurements rather than relying on computer modelling output. John Todd said that diffusion tubes were unreliable, and that this is a tope for LBH in July and will be publishing a paper on the question. LBH is waiting for PM 2.5 figures from Chiswick and Brentford to be published two of the key areas along with Gunnersbury Park. There are pollution free buses from Kensington to Chiswick High Road. LBH has requested the extension of these routes by TfL, but no answer has been given. In any case, these routes clearly continue into Brentford in practice.

With regard to the implication for planning decisions, John Todd stated that measurement and reporting for various areas in Hounslow was often below standard. Denis Browne said that, in view of the lack of specific commitment, it will be necessary to use the planning process for any proposals from BCC to have any edge. At the moment air quality problems are dealt with by developments with sealed windows and mechanical ventilation, but this is clearly not the optimum solution.

Various contributory factors were mentioned: schools taking pupils and staff from a wider catchment with no car parking provision; old heavily polluting buses being used for special occasions.

There was a further discussion about monitoring. Nicola Erdresser commented that daily readings were averages, with low night-time levels and high daytime levels being averaged out. John Todd commented that LBH were seeing to improve monitoring, but this would have to be after the Council meeting in July. Cllr John Chat is Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee who would look at this. There is no DEFRA monitoring equipment in Hounslow, and the UK Government will not recognize any results.

The main actions proposed and agreed were that BCC should respond to the Government and Mayor of London's consultations as soon as possible and within the tight timetables for this week and next week, and should encourage individuals to respond as well. Denis Browne will prepare a more considered letter as part of the response highlighting the inherent conflict between the Mayor's own proposals for the Opportunity Area and his proposals for air quality. It was noted that LBH does not participate in the King's College London air quality exercise that covers the whole of London, and this should be raised with Theo Dennison at LBH.

6. Planning update on major full applications:

- a. Capital Interchange Way: This has been delayed;
- b. Fountains Centre study: this has not yet been seen.
- c. 'Chiswick Curve' scheme: the application was rejected. A public meeting was suggested a year ago, amongst others by Ruth Cadbury MP. A planning application has been made for advertising on the site for a 5-year term. The outcome of the application is not known. There is a current planning permission for a small building.
- d. B&Q Site: There is a meeting next week on this and a workshop with an exhibition on 19th and 20th June.

e. Plaza site: the owner has instructed planning consultant DP9 with a view to proposing a high-rise residential and office scheme. This will be brought forward this autumn.

f. Telephone masts: John Todd confirmed that LBH had refused two applications and that Vodafone were appealing against both refusals. Local people had commented on both applications.

7. Proforma for responding to planning applications: Stephen Browne stated that the proforma is ready and will be implemented on live cases from now on. Implementation would either be from an agreed project leader within BCC approaching him direct or from the nominations agreed at BCC meetings and recorded in BCC minutes, whereupon Stephen will provide the proforma to the leader and any identified participants in a project to follow through.

8. Development: A4/Ealing Road (aka Site C of the Alfa Laval site). A draft formal response to LBH has been circulated with the papers for the meeting. There were no adverse comments at the meeting. Any comments should be made by 16th June, following which the response will be submitted.

9. AoB

a. Vitas Puig: it is intended to put a list of Locally Listed Buildings into the hands of all LBH Councillors' hands. The LBH personnel have changed which has caused a delay but the work continues.

b. Vitas Puig stated that the extension of the Conservation Area was to be subject to a consultation at 'the end of the summer'. There was a possibility that the Morrison's site would be included. Whether or not it is included, as in the BCC's letter on the site, it is clear that the current proposed scheme will harm the Conservation Area. The process will take time as it has to go to the Secretary of State.

c. Derek Collett mentioned the Hounslow Community Network of voluntary local societies. There is a meeting on 15th June at the Museum of Steam, which Derek will attend. Brendan Walsh is talking about regeneration work and s106/CIL payments.

d. Derek Collett stated that 2017/18 subscriptions were now due. £60 was collected.

e. Nigel Moore gave an update on the Brent Way to Dock Estates footbridge replacement. There had been a problem with an extended ramp for disabled access leading to objections as going across additional land in the Canal and River Trust's ownership but these problems were being resolved.

f. Vitas Puig raised the question of the mobile mast above the Royal Horseguards PH in the Albany Road Conservation Area. There was initially confusion in LBH Planning Department but it was agreed finally that it was not permitted. It was agreed that BCC will request enforcement action is undertaken by LBH.

g. Derek Collett stated that the Butts Society boules match would take place on 9th July and that all were welcome.

10. The meeting closed at 8.59 pm

11. Dates of Next Meetings July 10 and August 14.