

Soho Neighbourhood Forum Steering Group Minutes



Meeting no. 016
Date 25 January 2017
Time 5.30pm - 7pm
Location Shaftesbury Estates, 22 Ganton Street, London, W1F 7BY

Present

Matthew Bennett (MB) – Chair, Tim Lord (TL), Andrew Murray (AM), Rob Kirk (RK), Jessica Stewart (JS), Joan Moynihan (JM), Jace Tyrell (JT), Leslie Hardcastle (LH), Jeremy Eveleigh (JE), Anna Doyle (AD)

Apologies: Lucy Haine (LuH), Ken White (KW), Vivienne King (VK), Sandra Schembri (SS), Michael Case (MS)

1.	<p>Welcome and apologies</p> <p>MB welcomed all.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 14 December were agreed.</p>	
3.	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>MB outlined we will need to commence fundraising for our 2017 as soon as possible.</p> <p>RK confirmed he will contact Michael Fauconnier-Bank to be removed from Metro Bank as a signatory.</p> <p>MB confirmed expecting feedback from LB Westminster re: planning & licensing data by the end of January.</p>	
4.	<p>Policy Draft Narrative – PDTI Culture, Heritage & Commercial Aspirations</p> <p>1. RK - indicated Shaftesbury is unconvinced by proposal to establish SNA as a Special Policy Area. (SPA.)</p> <p>MB – Noted that SNA already is part of a wider SPA as defined in the UPD for creative industries, but relating specifically to the now redundant use class of Light Industrial space. Westminster City Development Plan states that protecting and enhancing creative industries is a priority and in its glossary gives a wide definition of what a creative industry is.</p> <p>JT – will canvas his members on this issue, in principle indicated would not support a SPA.</p> <p>2. With these concerns noted the FSG agreed broadly in favour.</p>	

	<p>3. Agreed with the caveat to amend to ensure all creative industries/artforms included. JM - support the inclusion of theatres.</p> <p>4. JM- raised concern: theatres do have an unavoidable impact on residential communities, theatres require all night get-ins to prepare for shows as an example. Theatres have worked successfully with local communities to adapt ways of working, for example, turning down the volume on tannoy systems within theatres. MB agreed that this aspiration was not intended to prevent night get ins.</p> <p>Action: JT, MB, to review wording of this aspiration.</p> <p>5. MB - Protecting Soho’s heritage was the top priority of our survey. The use of the word protect is key and should be in our plan. As an example we do want to protect our built heritage at the same time as we do want to allow the area’s creative industries to flourish.</p> <p>6. MB – reminded FSG that all our aspirations and all forms of local planning need to be in general conformity with Westminster’s City Development Plan and saved UDP policies, the London Plan and the National Planning Framework. We can not propose less development than is in the Westminster Plan. Within our plan we can provide context - how visible is a new development from a specific street, how does it impact our conservation area, is a development respectful of the area etc. Can we guide and support particular types of development and constrain and condition more tightly those that would not protect the area.</p> <p>Action: RK, JT, JS, JM to review Aspirations 1 – 6 in more detail and feedback to MB/AD/LuH within 2 weeks.</p>	
5.	<p>Policy Draft Narrative – PDT2 Housing Aspirations, Policies, Recommendations and Projects</p> <p>7. Agreed.</p> <p>8. Agreed.</p> <p>9. Agreed.</p> <p>10. Agreed.</p> <p>11. MB/AM - To review.</p> <p>12. Agreed.</p> <p>13. Agreed.</p>	
6.	<p>Policy Draft Narrative – PDT3 Environment Aspirations, Policies, Recommendations and Projects</p> <p>14. Agreed.</p> <p>15. Agreed.</p> <p>16. Agreed.</p>	

6.	<p>Policy Draft Narrative – PDT3 Environment</p> <p>Aspirations, Policies, Recommendations and Projects</p> <p>14. Agreed.</p> <p>15. Agreed.</p> <p>16. Agreed.</p> <p>17. Agreed.</p> <p>18. Agreed.</p> <p>19. Agreed.</p> <p>20. Agreed.</p> <p>21. Agreed: MB updated FSG following meeting with W.C.C this aspiration is being implemented shortly, with dedicated food waste collection.</p> <p>22. Agreed.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. For all to review and feedback on Aspirations & Policies.b. To create a compelling vision narrative to accompany the refreshed Aspirations & Policies to be presented at the next FSG meeting on February 22.	
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