

Central Windsor Neighbourhood Plan

Windsor Rail Link Presentation

Wednesday 16 October 2013 at 6.00pm

Ascot Room, Windsor Guildhall

followed directly by the

Forum and Steering Group Meeting

6.30pm – 8.00pm

AGENDA

- 1- *Welcome and apologies for absence*
- 2- *Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 6 August 2013*
- 3- *Matters arising*
- 4- *Chairman's update*
- 5- *Windsor Rail Link*
- 6- *Project Plan update*
- 7- *Communications and Community Engagement update*
- 8- *Topic Group updates*
- 9- *AOB*
- 10- *Date of next meeting*

Central Windsor Neighbourhood Plan
Forum and Steering Group
Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 16 October 2013
Ascot Room, Windsor Guildhall, 6.30pm – 8.00pm

1- Present Cllr Natasha Airey (Chair); David Malia; Marcia Malia; Cllr Dee Quick; David Bulbeck; Trevor Robinson; Ingrid Fernandes; Jane Carter; Cllr George Bathurst; Claire Milne; John Warobick (resident); Sue Kemp (Legoland); Megan Wastell (resident); David Jessey; Cllr Tom Bursnall (present through the discussion in Item 5); Shamsul Shelim (resident/local business); Phil McMichael; David Marshalsea (resident/local business); Cllr George Fussey (present through the discussion in Item 5); Jorge Nash

Apologies for absence received from Jane Daly; Ian Bacon; Andrew Melville; Martin Miranda; Paul Roach; Margaret Tagg; Cllr Phill Bicknell

Guests Cllr Airey welcomed **Jorge Nash**, the local Planning Aid representative assigned to support the CWNP, and **Richard Wickerson** and also those individuals who were attending the Forum for the first time.

2- Minutes of the meeting held Monday 2 September 2013

These were agreed and approved.

3- Matters arising

- **Business Map** has been completed. (Ingrid)
- **Windsor Library CWNP display** has been arranged and will run from 21/10 to 3/11/13. (Susy)
- **Crown Estate map** still awaited from RBWM. (Susy)
- **Thames Valley Police** involvement in CWNP Forum still awaiting confirmation. (Susy).
- **Draft BLP** release for study still awaited. (Cllr Airey)
- **Project Plan document** has been circulated for comment. (David B.)
- **CWNP Display Boards** have been produced by RBWM and collected. (Claire)
- **WLR presentation** has taken place. (Cllr Bathurst)

4- Chairman's update

Cllr Airey thanked Cllr Bathurst and Mr. Richard Wickerson, Corporate Development Director, WLR, for their earlier presentation and asked if the meeting could allow Item 5 to be taken prior to any further discussion.

(NB Cllr Bathurst left the Ascot Room before the start of this discussion, returning at the start of Item 6.)

5- Windsor Rail Link: Inclusion of WLR "principle" and request for land to be set aside within new BLP policies

The Borough Local Plan (BLP) Working Group had requested this item be brought to the CWNP to be voted upon in relation to its consideration in this document. It was brought to the Forum by Cllr Tom Bursnall who explained that the Draft BLP was now expected to be considered by Cabinet at their November meeting, hence the added urgency of this request. A concern had arisen that without specific identification within the BLP of the proposed geographic area for the WLR,

- a) this land could potentially be allocated irrevocably for housing,
and
- b) the inclusion at Draft stage would enable the WLR to be put forward more effectively and appropriately
for public consultation.

A three-part motion recorded below was read out to the meeting by Cllr Airey and debate ensued, with key points summarised as follows:

- **Jane (Carter)** voiced surprise that this request to support the proposed motion and implied endorsement of the WLR was being raised with the CWNP at extremely short notice without prior warning or discussion, and despite the fact that the Steering Group had not had sight of the Draft BLP which had already in preparation, for a considerable period. This view was echoed by **Claire** and **David (Malia)**.
- **Susy** asked if the motion could be limited to the second and third points only since these seemed sufficient to address the argument for including the potential land use reference while omitting the point which had proved contentious. This suggestion was debated but ultimately not supported by a majority. She requested the meeting consider replacing the word 'principle' with 'possible' ("being something that may or may not

occur”) to more precisely reflect what SG members were being asked to agree, and to overcome the concerns voiced earlier by Jane, Claire and David. This was also not accepted by the majority and the word ‘principle’ was retained.

- **Phil McMichael** explained that a similar decision had been made by Windsor Chamber of Commerce in order for the WLR to be considered even as a possibility. He further stated that the question before the meeting was not whether the CWNP Forum and Steering Group would be for or against the WLR at this stage but whether or it would be worth being considered as a possibility in the future. Phil indicated that the proposal has already received significant backing from National (Network) Rail, and that the CWNP could wish to be involved in discussions surrounding this potential development.
- **Marcia** suggested that a further way to overcome these concerns might be achieved by replacing ‘the’ with ‘a’. This idea was accepted by **Cllr Quick**, who proposed the motion with the wording below, seconded by **Cllr Airey**, who confirmed to the meeting that the motion was not giving outright endorsement to the WLR, or asking the CWNP to be ‘for’ or ‘against’ any such development at this stage, but simply ensuring that it could be considered and accommodated by the BLP should a Windsor link railway prove a viable and publicly supported proposal. This suggestion also found favour with a majority of those present. The wording of the motion is as follows:

“The CWNP resolves:

1. To support a **[replacing the]** Windsor link railway in principle;
2. To request that the emerging Borough Local Plan marks the associated land as reserved whilst potential development is considered, so as not to impede the development of a railway;
3. The Transport Topic Group will consider a Windsor link railway as part of its discussions.”

- **Voting by those Steering Group members present at this meeting** (Quorum is set at 6 out of 15):

J. Carter – Abstained	M. Miranda – For (proxy through the chair)	C. Milne – Abstained
Cllr Quick – For	S. Shearer – For	Cllr Airey – For
P. McMichael – For	I. Fernandes – For	

Voting Summary : CARRIED 6 for the motion; 2 abstentions; none against.

- Others present, including **Cllr Bursnall** and **Cllr Fussey**, both of whom left the meeting just prior to a vote being taken, and **David Bulbeck** also registered their support for the motion. **Margret Tagg** had registered their endorsement of the motion prior to the meeting (**Cllr Airey**) and had asked for this to be recorded also. **David Malia** abstained from the vote.

6- **Project Plan update**

Cllr Airey indicated this was underway and thanked **David, Ingrid and Cllr Bathurst** for their work so far. There will be a presentation on the Project Plan at 6pm prior to the start of the next meeting.

7- **Communications and Community Engagement update**

Claire confirmed that between 7,000 and 8,000 leaflets had been delivered to houses and flats throughout the CWNP area, with further drops to public locations such as the Leisure Centre, Library and GP Surgeries, and to as many town centre businesses as possible. **Cllr Airey** thanked those who had generously helped with this vital CWNP “launch” and aspect of community engagement. A continuing presence at the Farmers’ Markets was anticipated and a newsletter is being planned which would be prepared with input from the Topic Groups.

8- **Topic Group updates**

- **Business**- Following their second meeting, a draft vision document had been drawn up and has been circulated to the Forum/Steering Group. They will be working on refining this for the 4/11/13 meeting.
- **Transport** - This group’s first meeting had been a useful informal discussion and brainstorming session. They are awaiting the confirmation of a new Chair.
- **Housing** – A second meeting is planned to look at ideas for this group’s vision document. Cllr Bathurst is seeking to encourage greater involvement of the Windsor & Eton Society and other amenity groups in the work of this TG.
- **Open Space** – Following their second meeting and specific “vision” discussion, they have begun preparing their document. A summary of the discussion notes was presented to the meeting this evening. The group will be undertaking a series of “Open Space” walks over the coming months which everyone is warmly invited to join in.

9- **AOB**

As the Draft BLP is expected to go to the November Cabinet meeting, public consultation is expected to start in mid-December. Additional time will be given for individuals and groups to respond to the Plan in order to accommodate the Christmas holiday period.

10- Date of next meeting Monday 4 November 2013, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Ascot Room, Windsor Guildhall

PLEASE NOTE: A presentation by *Stella Scrivener (Planning Aid)* on the Project Plan will take place in the **Ascot Room at 6.00pm before the Steering Group Meeting. **All are strongly encouraged to attend.****