

APPLICATION FOR RE-DESIGNATION OF THE NOTTING HILL EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM - PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED BY WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

APPLICATION BY: The Notting Hill East Neighbourhood Forum

CONTACT DETAILS: Suzanne Forte; Richard Perkins; Penny Bagnall-Smith; Andrew Pilkington

AREA: Notting Hill East (the area as Designated by Westminster City Council)

MAP: See Page 3

BACKGROUND:

Notting Hill East lies within the City of Westminster and is not governed by a parish council.

On the 8th October 2014 the Westminster City Council designated the Notting Hill East Neighbourhood Forum (the Forum) as the neighbourhood forum for the Notting Hill East Neighbourhood Area for a period of five years. This designation will expire on 8th October 2019.

Designation decision:

<https://committees.westminster.gov.uk/documents/s5341/Notting%20Hill%20East%20Neighbourhood%20Forum.pdf>

The Forum was established in response to the Localism Act in accordance with the wishes of our residents and businesses to promote, enhance and improve the existing unique qualities of our area.

The Forum prepared a constitution, which was approved by the membership.

The Forum has continually grown its membership, which now stands at over 150 members. The Forum represents the interests of businesses, residents, and other organisations in the area.

Pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 Schedule 9, 61F (5), and in order to encourage further membership growth, a website www.nottnghilleast.org.uk was developed that contains information about the Forum, including copies of meeting minutes and presentations, the constitution, details of current steering group members and the latest draft of the Plan. It also explains how to join the Forum and provides notices of the Annual General Meeting and other Forum-wide meetings and events.

Forum members come from a broad range of cultures and backgrounds with a variety of skills, experience and expertise. Many were original members of the established local amenity association and have extensive community knowledge and awareness.

FORUM WORK:

The Forum has routinely consulted with its members and the broader population of Notting Hill East in a variety of ways – through workshops, neighbourhood walks, surveys, events, newsletters, flyers and emails, and it is through this process that a Plan has emerged. This Plan addresses not only planning and development matters but also lays out public realm improvement projects and environmental policies designed to improve the social and environmental wellbeing of our residents and businesses.

The Forum Steering Group meets regularly and the Neighbourhood Plan subcommittee has been responsible for preparing the Plan. Wider groups of members have joined Steering Group members to discuss and evaluate public realm projects. The Forum has also consulted onsite with various departments from Westminster including Highways, Planning, Parks, Trees and Public Realm.

FUTURE INTENT:

At the time of applying for the renewal of the Forum's status, the Plan has not been adopted and achieving this remains our priority.

The Neighbourhood Plan subcommittee is currently involved in the redrafting of the Plan, incorporating comments from Westminster and other stakeholders.

The Forum will continue to work towards a Plan that will properly conserve and appropriately improve the area by formalizing policies to repair the deficiencies in the neighbourhood and build upon its strengths.

We request that Westminster City Council renew the designation of our Forum as the representative Neighbourhood Forum for the established Notting Hill East Area.

