

**Mayfair Neighbourhood Forum Steering Group Meeting: Minutes and Actions
Wednesday 15th November 2023 5pm, In-Person/Online**

Steering Group participants

Dee Corsi (DC) (Chair)	Community
Edward Watts (EW)	Resident
Fr. Dominic Robinson (DR)	Community
Graham Barnes (GB)	Community
Jeremy Bishop (JB)	Resident
Sandeep Bhalla (SB)	Business
Belinda Harley (BH)	Resident and Planning and Public Realm

Guests

John Walker (JW)	
Lucy Puddle (LP)	Grosvenor

Secretariat

Nicola Rochfort (NR)	Grosvenor
Jannah Evans (JE)	Grosvenor

Apologies

Gordon Morrison	Resident
Zaria Pinchbeck	Resident
Hugo Watts	Business
Charles Owen	Business
Natasha Mitchell	Community

1. Appointment of Dee Corsi as Chair of this meeting in lieu of Gordon Morrison
2. Apologies
3. Previous minutes
4. Grosvenor Square, proposed amendments
 - LP gave an overview of Grosvenor Square redesign and updated on the current stage; Grosvenor is engaging stakeholders including MNF ahead of submitting minor amendments to WCC through a Section 73 application in December. The minor amendments respond to feedback received during consultation and at planning committee.
 - LP confirmed the purpose of buildings:
 - Building 1 will include a Gardeners Area to support the ongoing management and upkeep of the Square, as well as Public Toilets.
 - Building 2 (larger building) includes an education centre and refreshment kiosk offering simple refreshment.
 - LP mentioned that as Grosvenor manage the Square on behalf of DCMS, they are in regular dialogue about the development of GSG.
 - LP confirmed the design team are considering measures to mitigate benches being misused i.e. for skateboarding and rough sleeping.
 - **ACTION:** LP to speak to Grosvenor Property Relationship Manager about measures to reduce accidents on paths, which can be dangerous during winter.

- LP confirmed the project is intended to be completed in one phase. Whilst this would likely require Grosvenor to temporarily shut the square, it will enable Grosvenor Square to reopen sooner. As part of local engagement in 2021, 62% of people told Grosvenor they would prefer the redesign to be delivered in one phase.
- BH raised concerns about the number of events in the education building (104 an average of 2 per week) permitted annually. **ACTION:** LP to share Operational Management Plan – see attached.
- LP to consider streetlights external to the square as a nod to heritage of the gardens.
- LP referenced public drop-ins taking place on Thurs 16th 12-2pm and Tuesday 21st 5-7pm to give people a chance to see the proposed amendments and ask any questions. Details are also available on grosvenorsquare.org

5. NCIL

- Alford Street - BH
 - BH gave an overview of the Alford Street staircase plans and confirmed that permission for reversing the staircase was not granted due to practicalities and costs of the work.
 - BH confirmed that Fees of £15,000 would be required for works on the 77 Park Lane site. The drawings and proposals for these works will be reviewed and progressed
 - BH mentioned that the Mayfair Library Wi-Fi will be improved to enable online meetings on the premises. Sponsorship has been identified from various parties.
 - **ACTION:** BH to follow up with NR on Grosvenor's involvement to date on the above.
- Shepherds Market - EW
 - No update.
- CCTV - BH
 - A Tony Nash Report was received but responsible parties for data protection have not yet been provided. Progress still to be made.
- Homelessness Report - GM
 - DR mentioned that in his meeting with the Lord Mayor yesterday, nine shelters have been approved to open.
 - **ACTION:** BH to revert to the Council of Homelessness and seek further advice from Cllr Paul Fisher and Cllr Liza, to get an idea of outstanding items to submit for the NCIL application.
 - **ACTION:** NR invite Cllr Fisher to give update at rescheduled December meeting.

6. Planning & Public Realm

- JB gave an overview of potential concerns surrounding licensing and the Cumulative Impact Assessment from Westminster based on complaints on 2022 applications.
- JB mentioned recent license applications from Koyn, Nikita, Hush and the Curzon Cinema and restaurant requesting extended opening hours up to 1am and 3am.
- EW referenced change in business model for cinemas to provide refreshments and table service during screenings and that this is a potential driver for Curzon application.

- JB confirmed that NH objected to the licensing application for Hush. MNF members approved for JB to provide a letter of support to RSMSJ for the objection to other aforementioned licenses.
 - **ACTION:** JB to give draft template NH prepared.
 - JB mentioned that NH requested to extend the Mayfair Conservation Area Zone in the Cumulative Impact Assessment and that the MNF should give a continuing mandate to Planning and Public Realm Committee to support Planning Policy concerning licensing.
 - **ACTION:** JB to request more detail from NH on extending the Conservation Zone in the WCC Cumulative Impact Assessment.
 - SB asked to consider other contributors to night-time nuisance and ASB as responsible persons may not be coming from the restaurants operating at extended hours.
 - JW suggested learning from Knightsbridge Association's measures to deter cars from their estate and applying similar methods to deter night-time nuisance activity and ASB.
7. NWEC update - DC
- DC updated on the upcoming Christmas Lights activities: Mount Street Lights, Bond Street Lights and the Ever After Garden.
 - DC mentioned NWEC is campaigning for a freeze on Business Rates.
 - NWEC will be uplifting security for Christmas period and extended cleaning service.
8. AOB
- MNF members in attendance agreed to be added to Grosvenor's Mayfair Community Newsletter mailing list. **ACTION:** NR to add to the mailing list.
 - **ACTION:** JE to update on MNF Gmail Inbox Activity.
 - **ACTION:** NR to reschedule the December meeting. Suggested Wednesday 13th December 4-5.30pm
 - **ACTION:** NR to give update on MNF renewal consultation at the next meeting, which is now available on WCC's website: [Live neighbourhood forum applications | Westminster City Council](#)