

Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum

Application to London Borough of Camden be a qualifying body for the purposes of the Localism Act 2011

This application explains how the proposed neighbourhood forum meets the conditions contained in section 61F(5) of the 1990 Act.

Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum meets the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 to be recognised as a qualifying body. It has been established with more than 21 people to promote the social, economic and environmental well-being of Dartmouth Park in a manner which reflects the diversity, character and inclusivity of the area and includes people who live and work in the area and local councillors.

Name – Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum

Constitution – Attached – approved at inaugural meeting on 28 February 2013

Name of neighbourhood area – Dartmouth Park (boundaries defined in map)

Statement of purpose – The constitution states:

“The purpose of the DPNF is to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Area.”

The primary purpose of the forum is to represent the overriding and essential values and views of the community in a documented neighbourhood development plan as outlined in section 3 of the constitution.

To achieve this, the forum will work in an open and transparent way to engage with people across the identified neighbourhood area. The results of the engagement will be used to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan that will balance the different concerns of the people who live and work in the area. Preparing the plan will be the initial focus of the forum, but the forum will also concern itself with other issues that affect the area.

Membership – Membership is open to all and includes people who live and who work in the area and local councillors. The constitution states:

“Membership of the DPNF is open to every person (a ‘Member’) who:

- *lives in the Area; or*
- *works in the Area (whether for a business carried on there or otherwise); or*

- *is a London Borough of Camden Councillor for the Area*

and every such person may consider himself or herself as a Member and therefore may participate fully in the activities of the DPNF.”

Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum has been established in a manner intended to draw its membership from different parts of the area and sections of the community so it reflects the diversity, character and inclusivity of Dartmouth Park.

This is reflected in the governance of Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum through the constitution which states:

5.3 *Every effort shall be made to ensure that the membership of the Committee accurately reflects the full membership of the DPNF. This should include representation of people who live or work in different parts of the Area, including representation of the different tenure groups, that is owner-occupiers, tenants of the local authority or a registered social landlord and private tenants.*

5.4 *Therefore, so far as is possible the Committee should include:*

- *at least two people who live or work in the part of the Area which is on the west side of, or west of, Highgate Road*
- *at least two people who live or work in the N19 part of the Area*
- *at least two people who live or work in other parts of the Area not included in a) or b) above.*

5.5 *Every effort shall be made, including full use of positive action provisions in current legislation to ensure that the membership of the Committee, elected or co-opted under 5.1 above, will always include:*

- *at least one person age under 26*
- *at least two people from local businesses*
- *at least one person from each of the tenure groups: owner-occupier, tenant of the local authority or registered social landlord and private tenant.*
- *members who are women*
- *members who are men*
- *ethnic minority members*
- *disabled members”*

The process of establishing Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum also involved particular effort to engage and reach out to different areas and sections of the community. After an initial public meeting in June 2012, a steering group was formed specifically to ensure that the Forum was properly representative before taking the decision (at a further public meeting in February 2013) to form the Forum. A very considerable effort was made to

contact every group and institution in the area, including speaking to someone from each of the tenants and residents associations, street and estates, and contacting local businesses. Local events were mounted, stalls organised and residents systematically canvassed where gaps in existing organisations were identified. Further information about this process, including details of the feedback received, can be found at <http://www.dpnf.org.uk/getting-involved/>.

Local organisations consulted with include:

- (Lower) Laurier Road Resident's Association
- (Upper) Laurier Road Resident's Association
- 124 Croftdown Road Tenant's Association
- Boscastle Road Resident's Association
- Brookfield Park Resident's Association
- Chetwynd and Twisden Roads Resident's Association
- Croftdown Road Resident's Association
- Dartmouth Park Road Resident's Association
- Glenhurst Avenue Resident's Association
- Grove Terrace Resident's Association
- Haddo House Leaseholder's Association
- Heathview Tenant's Co-op Ltd
- Highgate Road Resident's Group
- Old Brookfield Estate Resident's and Tenant's Association (Chester Road/St Albans Road//Kingswear Road/Croftdown Road)
- St Albans Villas and Oak Court Resident's Association
- Swains Lane Resident's and Neighbourhood Watch Association
- Whittington Estate Resident's Association
- Woodsome Road Resident's Association
- Highgate Newtown Community Centre (including youth workers)
- Brookfield School
- Churches and other faith organisations
- Highgate Library
- Friends of Highgate Library
- Transition Dartmouth Park
- Dartmouth Park Conservation Area Advisory Committee
- Local traders

There are 192 registered members including the following 23 people for the purposes of this application:

Ben Castell
Bethan Mascarenhas
Catharine Wells
Chris Harrison
Caroline Fatanmi
Ellen Gates
Ian Short
Jessica Jacobs
Kay Hughes

Deidre Krymer
Lucy Tauber
Mariachiara Corazza
Patrick Lefevre
Rae Fether
David Cronin
Rob Schoenbeck
Eileen Willmott
Fabian Watkinson
Teresa Brewer
Paul Brosnahan
Maya de Souza
Sally Gimson
Valerie Leach

A list of further names of registered members is attached.

Ben Castell, Chair, is the named contact for the purpose of this application and he can be contacted via info@dpnf.org.uk. Further information on the Forum and its work is available online <http://www.dpnf.org.uk/>.