

**Forum Committee
Meeting 25#3**



**Face to Face Meeting at Westbourne Park Baptist church
corner of Porchester Road and Westbourne Park Villas, W2 5DX**

**Meeting minutes
Meeting 3# 14/7/2025
Held at Westbourne Park Family Centre, Porchester Road**

Attendees	Apologies
- Geoff Biggs (GB) (Chair of the Forum) - Jack Gordon (JG) (Resident and member of the Forum) - Jason Swerling (JS) (Resident and member of the Forum) - Richard Harrison (RH) (Resident and Member of the Forum) - Lina Alchami (LA,) (Westbourne Resident) - Stella Hales (SH) (WCC, Senior Community Development Officer) - Keith Cookson (KC) (Resident and member of the Forum) - Diana Hare (DH) (Resident and member of the Forum) - Sheuly Chowdhury (SC) (Resident and member of the Forum)	- Marina Kroyer (MK) (WCC, Change4Life Programme Manager) - Maria Eubanas (ME), (Westbourne Resident) - Cllr Angela Piddock (AP) (Westbourne Ward Councillor and member of the Forum) - Kieth Cookson (KC) (Resident and member of the Forum) - Adam Zaki (AZ) (Citizens Advice Bureau)

1. Administrative

Comments: the Forum discussed the level of participation and attendance of members and considered whether those who have failed consistently to attend meetings should be removed from the membership. This is in line with the constitutional guidelines which states that failure to attend meetings on 3 consecutive occasions will be suspended. However, the Forum also acknowledged that although some members have not formally attended meetings they do engage in wider activities and Forum business. As such a caveat should be applied in this circumstance and they will be considered as associate members and will still have the opportunity to lend their expertise and add value to the Forums' work.

Agreed actions:

2. Julie Allen to be removed as a member in line with guidelines set out in the constitution which state that; nonattendance and engagement for 3 consecutive meetings will result in expulsion. Should Julie wish to re-engage with the Forum in the future she will have to resubmit an application as per the process. GB to contact Julie Allen to ascertain her position with the Forum.
3. Marina Kroyer – has not attended previous meetings although she provided an explanation and notice.SH, to discuss with Marina whether her role and participation in the Forum is best placed in an advisory capacity.

2. Community Events and Festivals

Comments: The Westbourne Summer Festival, held on the green was highly successful with a over 2000 people attending the event. A total of 100 forms were received, and positive feedback was noted. Analysis from the feedback suggested that the layout for the future festivals should be reconsidered and the stage should be located more centrally.

- Draft date for the next summer festival is 21st June 2026
- Draft date for the Westbourne Food festival is 31st January 2026.

3.Strategic

Comments: The Forum's status as the designated neighbourhood forum in Westbourne has expired. The Forum is required to reapply. SH obtained the updated guidance from the Policy Team at Westminster Council which GB circulated. The guidance requires as part of the re-application process evidence to demonstrate a strong commitment to obtain to neighbourhood plan. Over the last year members have discussed in detail whether a neighbourhood plan should be an objective that is pursued by the Forum.

A number of meetings designed to explore and gather strategic and practical intelligence to inform the Forum's direction in acquiring plan with the Policy Team at Westminster Council as well as with the Madia Hill Forum. In addition, KC, has explored by artificial intelligence has been used to write a plan. The main issue impeding progress is lack of resources and technical in-house expertise. In spite the recognised barriers the majority of members have voiced a strong desire to acquire a plan. Amongst other reasons the desire to acquire a plan include that; it will situate the Forum as the main conduit advocating for the interests of the neighbourhood, it will give it legitimacy to participate in local decision making processes such as consultations and the use of resources such as NCIL.

Agreed actions:

At the next Focus Group on 21 August, members will discuss and look to decide regarding the next steps on:

4. Re-designation application to WCC (Geoff has already shared guidance information from the Policy Team at the Council)
5. The Neighbourhood Plan -how will the Forum secure resources to undertake the work and move it forward.
6. The possibility of using reserve funds to employ a dedicated professional on an ad-hoc basis to launch the awareness campaign.

4.Community and Neighbourhood

Following extensive consultations and workshops in early 2024, with the residents and the wider community to establish a community hub at the Bayswater Children's Centre, Westminster City Council's feedback from experts indicates that the proposals for the site is not viable. The projected costs exceeded allocated funding. In view of this, the Council is looking to establish a hub on the former contact centre located on the Brunel Estate. The Council's Hubs Team has been undertaking local consultations with residents on the estate. Applications inviting local organisations to register an interest to operate/ manage the hub have now closed. The next stage in the appointment of an operator is to engage local residents in the moderation process to evaluate and

interview prospective applicants. Further to the Brunel Estate, Westminster Council is meeting with residents to discuss the proposal of potentially re-developing housing on the sites of Moultsford and Polpero, presently discussions are at an embryonic stage. The final decision will be made by the GLA with the Council in late 2026 and will be shared with residents accordingly.

Agreed Actions

1. Maria and Geoff have expressed interest to sit on the resident panel charged with working on the appointment of an operator for the Brunel Hub
2. Jack and Diana will be meeting with Lukas Holden from the Regeneration Team @ WCC to hear about the potential proposals to develop housing on the site of the meanwhile hub space and on Polpero and Moultsford – both to feedback at the next meeting.

Next meeting 27 October 2026.

End of note