

Mortlake Brewery Community Group

Notes of a meeting held at St Mary's, Mortlake High Street, SW14 8JA on Monday 16 October 2017

Approximately 75 people present.

Robert Orr Ewing welcomed everyone to the meeting and set out the agenda as in the [slides](#) for the meeting

Progress over the summer

Robert reported on the meetings with the MP, councillors, Network Rail, the developers, local GPs, and other action as set out in slides 3 and 4. There has been no substantive change in the developer's plans since the meeting in July, they have not yet met with Network Rail. MBCG members are meeting with the developers next week to highlight our concerns once again and to hear whether they are considering further changes to the plans subsequent to the July exhibition

Tim Catchpole reported on the hearing by the independent Inspector of the borough's Local Plan, the document against which the planning application for Brewery site will be assessed (slide 5). Members of the Committee pointed out a number of omissions and flaws in the Local Plan:

- traffic will need management beyond the immediate area
- a secondary school should be smaller
- Mortlake Village Plan should be included
- the field should not be 'reprovisioned'
- heritage assets should include the environment and archaeology
- the GP surgery should be part of phase 1

The Inspector will submit a report to the borough. The report, and the Council's replies, will be on the Council website shortly for comments from the public. There will be a six week consultation period. The link will be put on the Mortlake Brewery Community group website.

Next steps and actions

Developer's timetable

The developer is hoping to submit a formal planning application to the Borough in November. We do not have a definite date yet but as soon as the application is in we shall need to take action.

Preparing for response to planning

There will be thousands of pages covering every aspect of the development. MBCG will need all the help we can muster to read and distil these documents to be sure that we assess all that the developers are proposing. **All offers of help are most welcome.** The documents will be on the Council's website.

What do we need to do to raise awareness amongst our neighbours, friends and across the local community?

Robert noted that many people are unaware of what is happening, from 'Are they still brewing?' to 'It's all decided'. There appears to be general lack of awareness that the Planning Application has yet to be submitted. It is extremely important that we reach the rest of the community to make them aware of what is happening.

Una O'Brien explained the four ways in which we as a community can have an effective voice. We need to:

- **Be clear about our goals and the final outcome**

Discussion in meetings have shown people to be in favour of the development but that at present it is too dense, specifically the field should be saved, the traffic problems are not being addressed, the level crossing is a problem with Network Rail rating its level of risk to pedestrians and cyclists as 2/13 with 1 as high

- **Have influence with the decision makers**

We have had meetings with the new leader of the Council, Cllr Paul Hodgins, and many people have been in touch with Cllr Paul Avon, the local ward councillor and given feedback to Soundings (the developer's community engagement agents) about the exhibitions

- **Have clear channels of communication**

We are on Facebook and Twitter, have websites and are distributing posters

Scale of objections It is vital that as many people are heard and their views are recorded. People will need to be able to give their views on line or via conversations in the street so that they are represented and engaged.

Una presented slides of the posters which had been designed for general use and encouraged people to take home and display.

She also put up a slide of walk that Tim Catchpole led around the Brewery site for members of the Mortlake with East Sheen Society, which everyone had found most informative.

The meeting then broke up into smaller groups for discussion about what actions are now needed

Comments were:

- Every day tell one new person and encourage them to do the same about the development
- LoveMortlake is too positive, we need to be more combatative
- LoveMortlake does not appeal to residents of East Sheen and Barnes
- Any leaflet should be punchy and not too wordy
- The walking tour is a great idea that could be run weekly both to inform and to encourage walking
- Residents should be encouraged to walk and cycle to lessen traffic and pollution
- The field should be used, big local events and smaller events by schools
- Saving the field is not being against the development
- Leaflet car drivers as they wait in traffic
- Distribute car stickers
- Need to reach younger people via sport centre, scouts etc.
- Speak to all schools and ask for information to be distributed through the newsletters
- Inform Barnes and other allotment societies
- Utilise the the libraries for communication
- Leaflet Stations – Mortlake and Barnes
- The areas between the railway and Upper Richmond Rd West (URRW) and south of the URRW need alerting
- Utilise Social media
- 38 degrees petition
- Submit an article to the East Sheen Village newsletter
- Post information on Nextdoor Mortlake
- Link up with Neighbourhood Watch
- Contact Evening Standard
- Contact BBC London
- Maintain relationship with R&T Times to keep high on agenda
- Contact local businesses as their employees who commute will be affected by influx of people
- LBRUT is expected to provide 17,000 new homes in the next 10 years. It is important to work with LBRUT to avoid any tension with the Mayor who is committed to increasing housing in London who may decide to call in the planning application.
- Highlight risks associated with the level crossing
- The Mayor has stated 'London is a big park', the loss of the sports field would go against this
- Highlight Pollution I which is also a concern of the Mayor.

- Campaign for the Protection of Rural England – London could be persuaded to support saving the field even though it is not Green Belt
- No more trains confirmed by Network Rail, means little improvement for commuters

There were some additional comments:

- Has our MP been involved? He convened a meeting about the level crossing, he seems well informed. We could invite him to a meeting.
- Don't forget the towpath. The proposal for large steps down to the towpath could spoil it, and could increase cycling on the towpath.
- Protection of Mortlake Green: This belongs to the Council, not the developers
- Chertsey Court: Cllr Paul Avon wholeheartedly supports the residents of Chertsey Court in objecting to the taking of land from their estate for the widening of the road because it will not achieve what's needed and the money could be used elsewhere. Cllr Avon expressed his concern that Chertsey Court residents will be hugely affected by the proposal to change the traffic junction and this should be stopped.
- Lower Richmond Road is also affected by the proposals for Chalker's Corner and the level of pollution
- The secondary school is needed, many of the Thomson House parents felt 'vitriol' against them at previous meetings and that their view is not being heeded. It was pointed out that everyone has a right to their own view about the development and MBCG's aim was to bring together a consensus as far as possible MBCG's position is that if a secondary school is needed, it should be smaller and not be sited on the field. It could be accommodated elsewhere on the site if housing density was reduced. The ideal would be that the sport field could also be used by the school
- MBCG needs to publicise the position on the school more widely as local parents still under impression that the school was being totally opposed

Section 106 and CIL

Peter Eaton explained how these funds work, as set out in slide 10. Robert then asked the meeting for suggestions to add to the preliminary list (slide 11):

- A river taxi to Hammersmith
- New trees – although any lost as a result of the development should be replaced
- Funding for people – to support walking, for example lollipop people to encourage and make walking to school safer
- Art provision – artist-led workshops for adults and children, space for artists to work
- Community transport – a community centre would not be accessible for everyone

AOB

Robert drew everyone's attention to the Council's Question Time on Mortlake on Monday 31 October at 6.00pm at St Mary's and the invitation to comment on the Air Quality Survey (links on slide 12). He urged as many people as possible to attend and to respond to the survey.

The date of the next meeting will be emailed.