

Report for: Corporate Committee

Item number: 8

Title: Renaming of Town Hall Approach Road to New Wind Rush Gardens

Report authorised by : Helen Fisher

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Ward(s) affected: Tottenham Green

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Non Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 Renaming the existing road known as 'Town Hall Approach Road' to 'New Windrush Gardens'.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction N/A

3. Recommendations

To:

- i) Note that a 30 day consultation commenced on 30 August 2018 on the proposal to rename 'Town Hall Approach Road' to 'New Windrush Gardens';
- ii) Agree in principle to the name change from 'Town Hall Approach Road' to 'New Windrush Gardens', subject to the outcome of the consultation, for the reasons set out in paragraph 4 of this report; and to
- iii) Delegate the final decision to to rename 'Town Hall Approach Road' to 'New Windrush Gardens' to the Assistant Director- Planning, in consultation with the Chair of the Corporate Committee, having regard to the outcome of the consultation and any objections received in accordance with the provisions of Part II of the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1 It is considered that it is desirable to rename a road in the Haringey administrative area in recognition of the anniversary of the arrival of the Windrush ship. The Windrush generation have a rich heritage in Tottenham,

and a significant part of what makes it such a great place to live and work today.

4.2 The Council has published 'Guidelines for street and building naming and numbering'. The proposed change is in accordance with the guidelines save that: the renaming of existing streets is normally only considered when changes have occurred which give rise to, or are likely to give rise to problems for occupiers; and the policy does not normally allow duplication of street names, and there is already a Windrush Close in the borough. However, it is considered that there are exceptional reasons justifying the aforementioned departures from the policy as follows:

- i) The proposed new name shall create a locally significant cultural landmark and celebrate the Windrush generation's rich cultural heritage in Tottenham;
- ii) Whilst a prominent road, there are a limited number of addresses on Town Hall Approach Road that shall be affected by the proposed name change. Moreover, the road does not include any residential properties;
- iii) Although there is a Windrush Close in the borough, this is a private road with a small number of properties located on it;
- iv) the London Fire Brigade have been consulted on the proposed change and does not object to the change; and
- v) having considered the above and subject to consideration of the consultation responses, the public benefits outweigh any disadvantages.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 A number of alternative options for the name change and its location were considered. The recommended name change and location have been proposed for a number of reasons, as outlined above.

6. Background information

6.1 In June 1948 the HMT Empire Windrush landed at Tilbury and brought 500 settlers from Jamaica and the Caribbean to the UK. These new arrivals were pioneers, the first wave in Britain's post-war drive to recruit labour from the new Commonwealth to cover employment shortages in Britain's state-run services.

6.2 In recognition of the 70th anniversary of this significant cultural landmark, it is proposed to change the name of Town Hall Approach Road to New Windrush Gardens.

- 6.3 The Windrush generation have created a rich heritage in Tottenham, and a significant part of what makes it such a great diverse place to live and work today.
- 6.4 On 30 August 2018 the Council wrote to all properties and addresses on Town Hall Approach Road to formally commence a one month consultation on the proposal to rename the street to New Windrush Gardens. This report seeks the Corporate Committee's approval in principle to change the street name, and to delegate the final decision to the Assistant Director of Planning in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, having regard to the outcome of the consultation and any objections received in accordance with the provisions of Part II London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939.
- 6.5 The Council is required to have regard to any objections that are made and explore, if necessary, support to objectors to mitigate any adverse impacts.
- 6.5 If, following consultation, a decision is made to make an order to rename the street under section 6 of the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939, the Council shall designate a date on which the name shall take effect and notify affected persons accordingly and arrange for new road signs to be displayed from the relevant date. The Council shall also notify Ordnance Survey and emergency services of the change in accordance with its internal procedures.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1 This decision contributes to Haringey's commitment to celebrating diversity and the contribution of its communities to civic life and the borough.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance

- 8.1 **This reports requests that Cabinet** agree in principle to the name change from 'Town Hall Approach Road' to 'New Windrush Gardens. The associated costs for this action are unknown at present but they will be met through the Neighbourhood CIL or Ward Budgets or S106

Procurement

- 8.2 Strategic Procurement notes the contents of this report and confirm that there are no procurement implications that need to be considered.

Legal

- 8.2 The Council has the power to rename streets and roads in the borough under section 6 in Part II of the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939 ("the 1939 Act"). As the 1939 Act is a 'local act', the responsibility for making an order under section 6 of the 1939 Act is a non-executive function which resides with the Corporate Committee by virtue of Function 1 in Part 3, Section D of the Council's Constitution and paragraph (c)(i) of the Committee's terms of

reference. It is open however, for the Committee to delegate its functions to an officer as recommended in section 2 of this report.

- 8.3 Before the Council can make an order under section 6 of the 1939 Act, the Council must consult on the proposed change for at least one month by placing conspicuous notices on the relevant street or by writing to affected properties notifying persons how they may object. The Council has already commenced consultation in order to discharge this statutory duty.
- 8.4 Following the closure of the statutory consultation period and consideration of representations, the Council may if it thinks “fit” make an order to rename ‘Town Hall Approach Road’ to ‘New Windrush Gardens’. Although section 6 of the 1939 Act gives the Corporate Committee a wide-power to rename streets as it thinks “fit”, the Committee should have regard to its general public law duties; namely to ensure that a decision is reasonable and proportionate and that the consultation responses are conscientiously taken into account before a decision is made.
- 8.5 The Corporate Committee must also have regard to the Council’s ‘Guidelines for street and building naming and numbering’, and should normally seek to approve renaming of streets in accordance with the guidelines unless exceptional considerations indicate otherwise. The Committee should note those departures from the guidelines set out in section 4 of the report and consider if it agrees with those exceptional reasons set out in that section.
- 8.6 If a decision is made following the consultation to make an order under section 6 of 1939 Act, the Council should notify all properties affected and ensure that new road signs are in place on the date that the order takes effect.

Equality

The name change proposed celebrates the diversity of the Borough and it therefore welcomed with regards to equality.

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Background documents

Guidelines for street and building naming and numbering -

<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/roads-and-streets/street-and-building-naming-and-numbering/guidelines-street-and-building-naming-and-numbering>