

ALEXANDRA PARK AND PALACE CONSERVATION AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

APP Consultative Committee – Presentation by Interested Group

Presentation by Colin Marr, Chairman APPCAAC

Background, Terms of Reference and Membership

Conservation Area Advisory Committees (CAACs) are promoted by the Government to assist Local Planning Authorities in securing high quality conservation objectives in new developments in or adjoining conservation areas. There are seven CAACs in Haringey, some of which cover more than one area. In effect they are appointed by and report to Haringey Planning and Regeneration.

The Terms of Reference refer to the role of CAACs in advising on planning and conservation matters by representing local historical, civic and amenity societies as well as residential and business interests. CAACs are not residents associations although they may and usually do have RA representatives in membership.

The APPCAAC currently has a membership of 12 and this includes two architects, two planners (one of whom was Head of Planning at a London Borough), a professional archaeologist and a historian. There is a common membership with most of the local RAs and other groups including: ARA, MHFGA and WERA, The Hornsey Historical Society and the Friends of AP. Most of the APPCAAC's business is conducted by email and we meet together on a needs-be basis. The CAAC holds an Annual Meeting at which officers and appointed/ reappointed and membership is reviewed.

History

The current committee was established early in 2006 at a time of concern about the imminent agreement of the 125 year lease with Firoka and it has been actively involved in planning matters to do with the Park and the Palace since then. This was in effect a reactivation of an earlier APPCAAC that had ceased to function.

The APPCAAC was represented on the Consultative Committee for the first time in February this year following agreement by the Board after it had been satisfied as to its credentials and legitimacy.

In former times the earlier CAAC had been instrumental in getting the Palace listed by English Heritage as Grade II, and had been heavily involved (if not instrumental!) in obtaining Heritage Lottery funding for the Park project that has been completed in recent years.

Recent activities

The APPCAAC takes its responsibilities seriously and has been active in expressing its views on all planning applications within the Park and Palace conservation area, and

importantly also in relation at all proposals near the boundary of the Park that have a direct bearing on it.

The chairman's report to the last Annual Meeting of the CAAC in August 2010 summarised the activities over the previous year as follows:

1. Objections to Railtrack's proposed Train Shed at Hornsey were submitted in October 2009. The proposal was subsequently withdrawn following LBH's appeal to the London Mayor's office.
2. Letter sent to London Mayor Boris to encourage a widening of the protected view of St Paul's and to raise concerns about Heartlands and its impact on views. No satisfactory response received on the latter point. October 2009.
3. Objections submitted to the AdiZone proposal. Planning recommended approval, but the Planning Committee refused it following representations by the CAAC and Campsbourne residents. November 2009.
4. Objections submitted to the extension to the deer enclosure, but the decision to approve was taken in advance of submission with a subsequent wrangle about this with Paul Tomkins. November 2009
5. Participation in the APP Stakeholder Forum and subsequent correspondence about Governance. October 2009 onwards. Ongoing.
6. Objections submitted on the proposed re-vamp of the Pitch & Putt course. February 2010 – still no decision.
7. Participation in first meeting of the reactivated Joint CAAC in February 2010 leading to Des-Con-HGY website etc. Ongoing.
8. Tour of the Park with Mark Evison followed by correspondence with him about tree felling by the reservoir. March 2010.
9. Objections submitted to proposal for BT cabinet by CUFOS. Consent given on condition it is painted black, not green. April 2010.
10. Support submitted for the 345 School/Islands building in the Grove. April 2010.
11. Further objections submitted on the Pitch & Putt proposal. May 2010 – still no decision.
12. Objections submitted to the Grove Workshop/Little Dinosaurs appeal. June 2010 – no decision yet.
13. Support submitted for proposed replacement of small antennas on the tower. June 2010.
14. Comments submitted on proposed 'mobile' classroom at Muswell Hill primary School. August 2010.
15. Detailed submissions on the Council's Local Development Framework (LDF), Core Strategies in June 2010. Comments were submitted on 18 aspects of policy.

The APPCAAC is represented on the all-Haringey Joint CAAC, which is known as Design-Conservation-Haringey. There is a website that gives details of all the Haringey CAACs and their concerns - see: <http://www.des-con-hgy.org.uk/>

Colin Marr 25 January 2011