



Brookmill Road Conservation Area Society AGM 13 January 2021 Chair's report covering period 13 May 2019-13 January 2021

Following the Society's inauguration on 13 May 2019, when the website was also launched, we applied to become an official consultee of Lewisham Council planning and proceeded to review and comment on applications. These have been circulated monthly to members for comment, discussed by the officers, and the Society's responses submitted by the Chair to Lewisham planning. The Society has also kept up to date with various consultations and cooperated with local amenity societies on issues of shared concern.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

All responses submitted by the Society to Lewisham's planning department are in accordance with conservation law, the Conservation Area's Character Appraisal and our constitution. The Society encourages appropriate development and good design.

During the period May 2019 - January 2020, Lewisham Homes has undertaken extensive refurbishment of its properties in the area. This has resulted in a high number of applications for replacement windows and doors, the majority involving timber replacement to the front with Upvc to the rear. 27 individual applications have been reviewed and commented on where anomalies arose. We made recommendations regarding design, sustainable timber use, treatment, manufacture, assembly and installation in accordance with the relevant professional standards.

The Society appreciates the high standard to which the repairs have been carried out by Lewisham Homes and the significantly improved appearance of properties in the area including Sylva Cottages in the neighbouring Deptford Conservation Area at the Deptford Bridge end of Brookmill Road.

5 applications for single-storey rear extensions, 1 in retrospect and one dormer window, were reviewed and commented on.

2 applications for roof extensions were reviewed and commented on.

1 enforcement notice was requested.

PARTICIPATION IN CONSULTATIONS

Bakerloo Line Extension consultation November 2019

Representatives of the Society attended the Bakerloo Line consultation at Goldsmith's College on 18/11/19. Discussion with Transport for London officers present was followed up in writing with questions concerning depth of tunnelling, proposal to site an additional station



on Lewisham Way, concerns about capacity of Lewisham Station, instability of clay in the area. TfL responded satisfactorily to our queries.

Mayor's Briefing Walkabout 24 January 2020

Representatives of the Society took part in Mayor's visit to Brockley ward.

Ward Boundary Change Consultation February 2020

The Society recommended remaining part of Brockley Ward contrary to the proposed boundary change and amalgamation with Deptford High Street. Deptford High Street CA is largely commercial, whereas the Brookmill Road CA is primarily residential with a number of green spaces. Our proposals were incorporated into the final boundaries.

Planning for the Future, October 2020

The Society reviewed and commented on the Government's Planning White Paper.

Cooperation with Lewisham amenity societies October / December 2020

Lewisham amenity societies including Deptford, Telegraph Hill, Sydenham, Ladywell, Culverley Green, Blackheath, St John's and Brockley, have recently come together to make representations to Lewisham Council regarding changes in delegation and lack of transparency of meeting procedures during the pandemic. Brookmill Road CA Society supports this initiative and is glad to be part of this group.

The Society supported St John's Society in complaints made to Lewisham planning regarding replacement of paving with tarmac without consultation.

The Society recommended to Lewisham planning and St John's Society that siting of electric vehicle charging points were, where possible, best located adjacent to fly-tipping hotspots, notably in Cranbrook Road and Strickland Street.

The Society commented on planning applications in other Conservation Areas when requested. We supported Sydenham Society's campaign to protect green space at Sydenham Hill Ridge and Deptford Folk's campaign for additional local green space as part of the Convoys' Wharf development.

Officers and members

We were delighted to appoint conservation architect, Juliet Johnson, as secretary to ensure the Society has up-to-date advice and thank Verity Rowsell for her advice early on.

Since inauguration, we have been delighted to welcome 5 new members.

This report will be available on the Society's website.