

Introduction

West Finchley Neighbourhood Forum (WFNF) submits for consideration this application for renewal of designation as a Neighbourhood Forum.

This application is made to the London Borough of Barnet (LBB) further to Section 61F of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Regulation 8 of part 3 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

Where an organisation or body submits a neighbourhood forum application to the local planning authority it must include:

- (a) the name of the proposed neighbourhood forum;
- (b) a copy of the written constitution of the proposed neighbourhood forum;
- (c) the name of the neighbourhood area to which the application relates and a map which identifies the area;
- (d) the contact details of at least one member of the proposed neighbourhood forum to be made public under regulations 9 and 10; and
- (e) a statement which explains how the proposed neighbourhood forum meets the conditions contained in section 61F(5) of the 1990 Act.

WFNF was designated by the LBB Planning Committee on 26 November 2015.

(Agenda and Minutes of Planning Committee

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=703&Mid=8303&Ver=4>).

Application

WFNF is a qualifying body for the purposes of section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The Forum is the sole body applying for a Neighbourhood Forum for this area.

The name of the Neighbourhood Forum is the West Finchley Neighbourhood Forum (WFNF).

- a) The WFNF has a written constitution (Document 3). The Constitution was adopted by members of the WFNF at a public meeting on 16 May 2016.
- b) The WFNF has met at least quarterly. Minutes of meetings are published on the West Finchley Residents' Association (WFRA) website along with documentation concerning the WFNF and the draft WF Neighbourhood Plan. The contact details of the forum are: Salim Sabri, Chair WFNF west.finchley.nf@gmail.com
- c) The WFNF meets the conditions contained in Sections 61F and 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act as follows.
 - I. The WFNF is established for the express purpose of improving the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the area through the production of a

neighbourhood development plan and through joint working with the LBB and other local organisations.

- II. The membership of the forum is open to:
 - a. individuals who live, work or carry out business in the area; and
 - b. individuals who are elected members of LBB whose Ward covers the neighbourhood.
- d) As at July 2020 WFNF has a membership of 30 individuals. A list of members and their details is attached at (Appendix I) with due regard to privacy and data protection requirements.

The WFNF, a designated neighbourhood forum, is comprised of people living in, working in or representing the West Finchley Neighbourhood Area (WF Neighbourhood Area). It oversees the preparation of the West Finchley Neighbourhood Plan (WF Neighbourhood Plan).

The day-to-day management of the WF Neighbourhood Plan is devolved to an elected Executive Committee of Forum members. The Forum Executive Committee (the Committee) members are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting by Forum members and all are resident in the area. The Committee interfaces with other community activists and organisations such as the Finchley Society, Councillors and officers of the LBB, Metropolitan Police and neighbouring residents' groups.

Objectives of the Forum

In pursuance of the Government's Localism Act (2011) the objectives of the WFNF will continue to be:

- a. To complete, in partnership with LBB, a Neighbourhood Plan for the area;
- b. To maintain and further engage the wider community in the preparation, production and implementation of a Neighbourhood Plan; and
- c. To continue to work with the West Finchley Residents' Association, local residents and West Finchley Ward Councillors to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the West Finchley area in order to foster community spirit and encourage civic pride.

WFNF conducts itself in accordance with Section 61F (5) of the 1990 Act.

Development of the West Finchley Neighbourhood Forum

The WFNF grew out of the West Finchley Residents' Association (WFRA). The WFRA was founded in 2010 because neighbours wished to work together on matters concerning local planning, improving the local environment and to provide social activities.

The WFRA is free and open to all residents. It has an active membership of over 300 households, some 37% of households in the area. The WFRA has an elected Committee that meets monthly and there are social events throughout the year. The WFRA Constitution tasks the Committee with developing a sense of community in the area as well as acting on issues that affect the community.

The WFNF and the WFRA work in collaboration with the local MP, the Ward Councillors, The Finchley Society and other civic groups.

While the WFNF and the WFRA work closely together and have strong links, their work is governed by their respective Constitutions and Committees.

The WF Neighbourhood Plan has benefited from the professional support of Nexus Planning, a planning consultancy with a track record of supporting the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. Nexus Planning's support has been paid for through grant funding from central government.

The WF Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in light of the National Planning Policy Framework, the London Plan and the LBB's current and emerging Local Plans.

The WF Neighbourhood Plan will have a base date of 2020 and will be active for 15 years from when it is made.

Neighbourhood Consultation

The WFNF has regularly engaged with local residents providing updates of information on the WF Neighbourhood Plan, as well as seeking views to guide its development.

More than 40 residents have at some time been members of the WFNF which has included local business people and Ward Councillors as well as residents.

Recognising that there are key local stake-holders such as businesses who may not be residents of the area proposed for designation, representatives of the WFNF have visited and spoken to all the shopkeepers in the area. We have also made contact with the Finchley Lawn Tennis Club, the Finchley Horticultural Society and the neighbouring Residents' Associations in Dollis Park & District and Woodside Park and the Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum.

Since the setting up of the WFNF there have been three rounds of comprehensive community engagement. These exercises and the feedback received are summarised below.

Engagement 1: Key Issues (February 2015)

This round of engagement was completed prior to the commencement of the WF Neighbourhood Plan, scoping the local appetite for a Neighbourhood Plan and the issues that residents thought it ought to address. In total, volunteers spoke directly with an estimated 40% of households in the WF Neighbourhood Area. A survey was also conducted with 124 individual responses. The responses to the survey, which focused on the positive and negative features of the area, have informed the scope of the WF Neighbourhood Plan.

The most popular attraction of the neighbourhood was found to be its environment. Just over a third (35%) expressed their like for the “green” environment, the tree-lined roads, its quiet, the availability of Dollis Brook and its playground, the open spaces and possibility of walks near at hand. Respondents also said that they liked that this was all available with easy access via the tube to central London for work and entertainment.

Some 15% of the residents perceived the neighbourhood as having a good community spirit and friendly neighbours. Residents see that people care about the area and welcome the ethnic and cultural diversity, the “cosmopolitan” nature of the neighbourhood.

Engagement 2: Vision and Objectives (October – November 2017)

This round of engagement presented the draft Vision and Objectives of the WF Neighbourhood Plan, which the policies would seek to deliver. The engagement involved a leaflet drop to all addresses in the WF Neighbourhood Area and two consultation events. Residents were invited to complete an online survey with paper copies available. In total, 133 responses were received, which were supportive of the proposed vision and objectives and the comments made have been used to inform the draft WF Neighbourhood Plan, including refinement to those objectives presented at the consultation.

Engagement 3: Regulation 14 Consultation (April – July 2019)

This round of consultation was the pre-submission consultation and publicity as required by Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The engagement involved a flyer drop, leaflet drop, and two public drop-in sessions. During the leaflet drop volunteers spoke to an adult at about 40% of addresses. Residents were invited to complete an online survey with paper copies made available. In total, 129 responses were received, the majority of which were supportive of the WF Neighbourhood Plan proposals.

The outcome of this consultation process has been the development of the WF Neighbourhood Plan which has been through Regulation 16 consultation and is now being reviewed by an Independent Examiner.

The WF Neighbourhood Plan is prepared in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

Appendix I. Forum Membership (July 2020)

Those listed below have agreed to continue as members of the WFNF

Name	Street	Description
Richard Bartholomew	Hamilton Way	Retired civil servant. Worked in the Departments of Employment and for Education as a social researcher. Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and currently edits a research methods journal for the Social Research Association. Resident of West Finchley for 29 years. Member of the Friends of Finchley Way Open Space Committee.
Tom Chan	Brent Way	NHS pharmacist providing mental health, community & child health to large part of North London. Lived in the area since 1993.
Hilda da Souza	Brent Way	Retired Civil Servant - 38 years with DWP in various departments including Fraud Investigations Officer. Volunteer organiser for local church-based homeless action.
Alan Douglas	Nethercourt Avenue	Retired architect. Member of the WFRA Committee and the Forum Executive Committee. Secretary of the Friends of Finchley Way Open Space.
Jennifer Douglas	Nethercourt Avenue	Retired lecturer.
Peter Fielding	Brent Way	Civil/Structural Engineer. Lived in West Finchley since 1985.
Ross Houston	n/a	Ward Councillor and Labour Group deputy leader, local school governor, Barnet Group board member, leader of the Labour Group on the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority. Works in housing management.
Ruth Huggett	Nethercourt Avenue	Full time Communications Manager and mother.
Penny Igoe	Brent Way	Retired TV executive. Member of the WFRA Committee
Mary Karaolis OBE	Hamilton Way	Retired Headteacher & Education Consultant Leader. Was Chair of Barnet Mayor's Charities Committee and remains on a number of committees. President of the Association of Rizokarpasso in Britain and Chair of the Help Rizokarpasso Charity. Governor of local Greek Orthodox School.
Jenny Kettleton	Fursby Avenue	Volunteer Co-Ordinator for local theatre company and charity. Secretary of the WFRA.

Document 2
West Finchley Neighbourhood Forum
Redesignation Application



Name	Street	Description
Kieran Kettleton	Fursby Avenue	Charity Director. Chair of the WFRA and member of the Forum Executive Committee.
Suzanne King	Hamilton Way	Retired social researcher, evaluator and company director with experience in running public engagement exercises. Resident of West Finchley for 29 years. Member of the WFRA Committee and member of the Forum Executive Committee. Chair of the Friends of Finchley Way Open Space.
Marilyn Lee	Courthouse Gardens	Senior Teaching Assistant at local secondary school. Member of the WFRA Committee.
Laurence Lewis	Brent Way	Runs a music company distributing recordings from Eastern Europe and America as CDs through shops, over the Internet and through all the major online music stores. Member of Friends of Finchley Way Open Space Committee.
Linda Moore	Hamilton Way	Retired Computer Operations Manager at Middlesex University
David Morris	Nether Street	Retired. Most of my years were in consultancy and IT services, mainly private sector, and voluntary activities in not for profit organisations increasingly focused on mental health. I am a long-standing resident of West Finchley.
Piero Niccoli	Brent Way	Retired Builder
Maria Niccoli	Brent Way	Retired Secretary
Jonathan Pam	Chesterfield Road	Stakeholders Engagement Planner in the Smart Energy Sector. Member of WFRA Committee
R Patel	Courthouse Gardens	Sales & Marketing Director for international media company. Lifelong Finchley resident. Resident of West Finchley for 15 years.
Danny Rich	n/a	Ward Councillor. Local Rabbi.
Barbara Rudoie	Courthouse Road	Retired. Ran a mother and baby home for homeless women/Ran counselling service for charity/Wrote three books. Volunteer for North London Hospice.
Salim Sabri	Courthouse Gardens	NHS hospital finance manager. Treasurer of the WFRA and Chair and Treasurer of the Forum.
Arvind Shah	Fursby Avenue	Retired businessman. Lived in Finchley for 55 years. Trustee for OAUK charity.

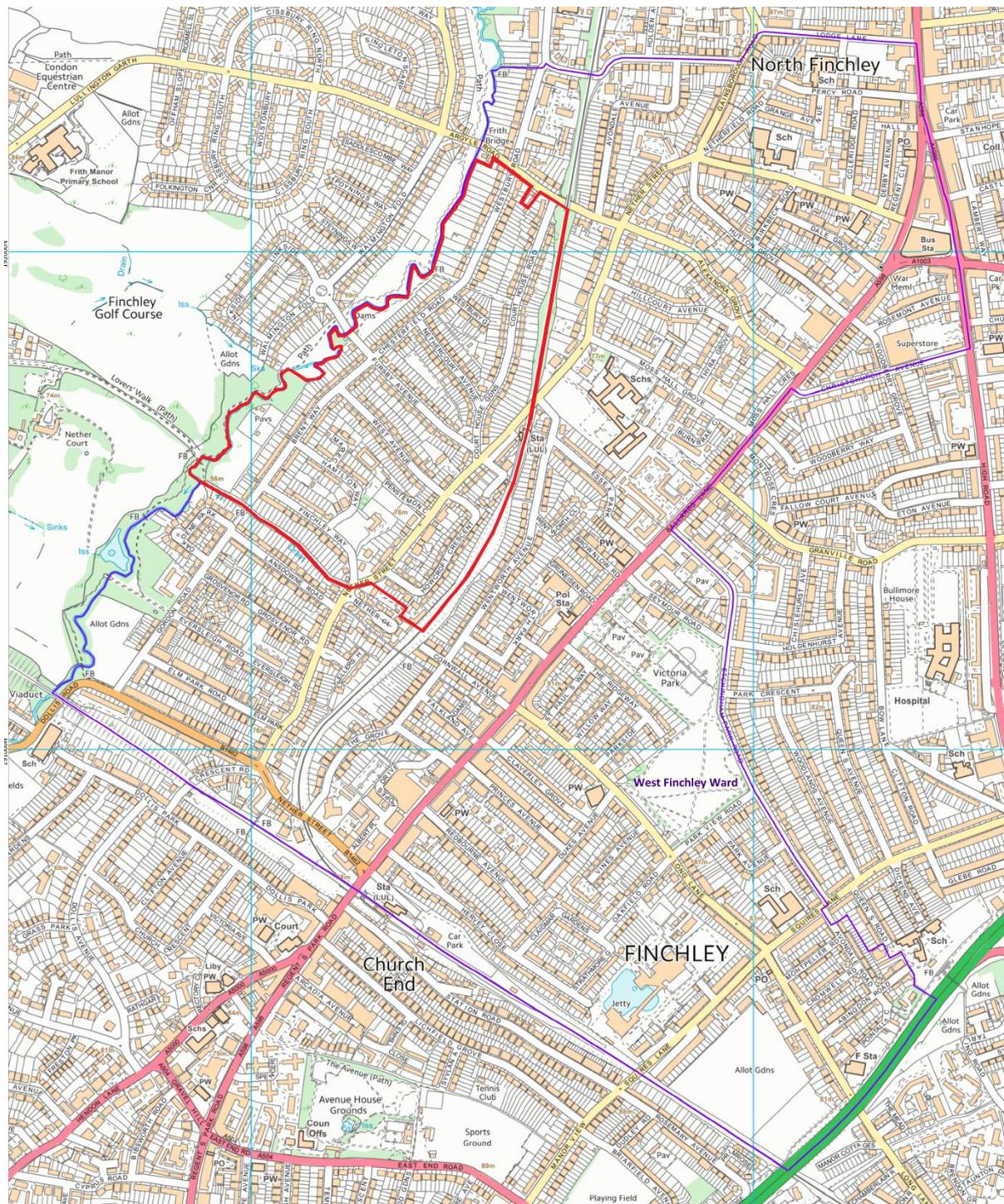
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Name	Street	Description
Sheila Shannon	Brent Way	Retired Senior PA and HR generalist. Member of The Finchley Society Planning Committee and Committee Member of the WFRA.
Catherine Delano Smith	Nether Street	Retired university lecturer, presently Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Historical Geography in the School of Advanced Studies, University of London; Editor of Imago Mundi, the International Journal for the History of Cartography; and researcher in the history of maps and mapping. My house on Nether Street has been my home since 1946
Roger Taylor	Chesterfield Road	Retired computer software technician (in 2005), and latterly an archives manager looking after and organising legal documents relating to some 250,000 freehold properties. Now fully retired. Lived in West Finchley for 68 years, in Chesterfield Road.
Greg Thornett	Nethercourt Avenue	Engineer - Director of Thornett Project Services Ltd. Member of the WFRA Committee and member of the Forum Executive Committee.
Lisa Zaferakis	Nether Street	IT Project Manager. Member of the WFRA Committee.



Appendix II. Neighbourhood Area



Neighbourhood Area Boundary

Commencing in the centre of the roundabout at the junction of Finchley Way N3 and Nether Street N3, the Boundary goes along the middle of Nether Street then East **along the back** of the properties on the south side of Howcroft Crescent N3 thus including all the properties in Howcroft Crescent as well as the properties in Salento Close.

The Boundary continues **along the back** of the properties in Howcroft Crescent/ the Underground railway line and the back of properties on the East side of Courthouse Gardens N3 and Courthouse Road N12/ the railway line to the point where the railway line intersects with Argyle Road N12.

The Boundary continues **along the back** of the properties on the south side of Argyle Road to the Dollis Brook.

The Boundary continues south along the eastern side of the Dollis Brook to Lovers Walk.

The Boundary continues along the north side of Lovers Walk/ **along the back** of the properties on the south side of Finchley Way to Nether Street N3 and thence along the centre of Nether Street to the centre of the roundabout at the junction of Finchley Way N3 and Nether Street N3.

