

Supporting Documents, South Newnham Neighbourhood Forum Application Form

59441

Support

Respondent: Dr Roger Sewell

Summary:

It's really important to have local input to local planning decisions, and the Forum is a good way to organise that.

Attachments: None

60331

Object

Respondent: Prof. Marta Zlatic

Summary:

In the past, the Forum has misused its powers and members of the forum have failed to declare conflicts of interest when commenting about planning applications that directly concern them. Declaring conflict of interest in such cases should be mandatory. By misusing their powers and connections, members of the Forum who have been residents of Newnham for a long time and have had a chance to develop their properties in the past, have attempted to prevent new residents from exercising the same rights that they have enjoyed in the past.

Attachments: None

60827

Support

Respondent: Professor Peter Landshoff

Summary:

I support the creation of the South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan. A great deal of work has gone into this over several years and the area has many features that make it unique in Greater Cambridge.

Attachments: None

60828**Object****Respondent:** Anonymous S Newnham**Summary:**

Adding comment about past behaviour of South Newnham Neighbourhood Forum.

As local resident and professional found it uneasy to accept influence Forum has shown intervening in planning process - abusing its powers.

Forum made of well established residents. Share similar backgrounds, and conservative views of built environment. A like minded group of friends who back each other up in objecting to others' planning applications.

An acting member of Forum, who was also a neighbour to a planning application I dealt with, rallied objections to application. Used same wording this member has dictated, to object. Forum also objected. Local Councillor who, for fear of losing electoral backing, had to call this case into committee.

In my view - Forum, with its current membership has not acted honestly, and there is no mechanism to monitor its actions, or to curb its actions.

As this term is coming to an end, suggest Council sees to it that the Forum reshuffles roles and address its actions with due care for all neighbours, whether they are included in Forum or not.

Attachments: None**60829****Object****Respondent:** Dr Christopher Cox**Summary:**

The Forum's conflict-of-interest procedures are too weak, and could be abused. If the procedures stay as they are, then I object to the proposed redesignation. I will gladly withdraw the objection if the procedures are strengthened as described in my full submission.

Attachments: None**60830****Support****Respondent:** Ms Veronica Spooner**Summary:**

I support the re-designation of the South Newnham Neighbourhood Forum.

The forum has consulted widely with the local community since its inception. It has detailed knowledge of the amenities and character of the neighbourhood and takes a strong role in protection of the environment. It has detailed knowledge of the Local Plan and is extremely helpful when residents have concerns about development and planning issues. The forum has been open and responsive to criticism and worked hard to reflect the views of the community.

Attachments: None

60831**Object****Respondent:** Ms Anne Ghent**Summary:**

I am writing as a resident of Marlowe Road, Newnham. I am dismayed to read that a self-appointed, small group of individuals have attempted to assume a mandate to speak and represent the entire South Newnham community. I find this deeply concerning. This is a group of unelected individuals who presume to represent the community – the majority of whom do not know of the existence of this forum, have not given assent to the constitution of the forum, and are not consulted on the matters this forum deems to opine on.

- I re-iterate, this is group of self-appointed individuals.
- This forum has no right to speak for me nor have they a right to speak for the entire community, as they have not been appointed by the to do so
- Any group that is intended to represent the community at large
 - o must be elected
 - o must ensure it is fully transparent
 - o must abstain from bias, and campaigns promoted by self-interest
 - o must ensure full, open and fair representation of ALL local points of view

I have no confidence whatsoever that this forum would adhere to the above principles of operation and for these reasons I oppose in the strongest way, any proposed resignation of this forum.

Attachments: None**60832****Object****Respondent:** Professor Mary Margaret McCabe**Summary:**

I have been unable to load comments on the website about the proposed redesignation of the Newnham Neighbourhood Group, so I record below my concerns about the plan. I am a Newnham resident, of Marlowe Road.

I have considerable concerns about this proposal, and register the following objection. Since this body is not elected, it has no mandate to speak for this community. Without ensuring, by means that are duly democratic, that it properly respects and attends to different points of view and the interests of the wider community it should not be given the power to determine or to adjudicate policy. Nor should it be in a position to suggest that it somehow represents the community. We have elected councillors for this, and the role of any body, whether it is construed as friends of some particular area or as a residents' forum, cannot be other than consultative in a very limited way, and its role as such needs to be repeatedly assured and guaranteed.

Attachments: None

60833

Support

Respondent: Cllr Cameron Holloway**Summary:**

I am writing to respond to the consultation on the redesignation of South Newnham Neighbourhood Forum.

I support the redesignation of the forum. I have been extremely impressed by the huge amount of work that residents have put into the emerging plan for South Newnham. It's great to see residents so engaged with local issues and protecting the area's heritage and environment.

My main concern is about consultation. While the group have made significant efforts to consult, there are still a lot of residents within the South Newnham area who are not aware of the Forum, and have not been involved in its work. I believe that door knocking and leafleting will be important to reach as many people as possible and make sure that everyone in the local community is able to contribute if they want to.

Overall, however, I believe that the Forum is doing excellent work, and I look forward to seeing it progress. I therefore support the redesignation of the Forum.

Attachments: None

60834

Support

Respondent: Mrs Henrietta Ryan**Summary:**

I write to offer my strong support for the re-designation of the South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan. Its goals are extremely important for the protection of our community, green spaces and building development and climate crisis concerns.

Attachments: None

60835

Object

Respondent: Anonymous S Newnham**Summary:**

Persons to whom this concerns:

I am opposed to the extension or redesignating the Newnham Neighbourhood Forum.

They are a non-democratically elected group.

The contribution of this Forum to Newman life/extension planning so far, is in my view, is questionable. Any extension of their influence unnecessary and probably unjust.

Attachments: None