



Enabling the community to guide future development

## LAUNCH OF DARTMOUTH PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION DRAFT, 25 APRIL 2018

Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum (DPNF), organised under the Localism Act 2011 and managed by a committee of local volunteers, publishes the consultation draft of the Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Plan to coincide with its AGM on 25 April 2018.

DPNF is actively seeking comments on the draft Plan from those living and working in the area.

This Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Plan seeks to ensure that Dartmouth Park is a vibrant neighbourhood with a balanced and diverse community, with thriving local centres and excellent connectivity with the rest of London. While welcoming sustainable development that provides new jobs and needed housing, the people of Dartmouth Park wish to ensure that the area's village character, rich architectural heritage, attractive green streets, open spaces and natural environment are not only maintained but enhanced.

The highlights of the draft Plan are:

- Policies on **design and character** that seek to protect Dartmouth Park's distinctive feel by protecting green spaces, heritage assets and special views (5 of which are identified in the Plan), and welcomes development that is in scale with its surrounds.
- Policies on **housing** that promote social rented housing to maintain a balanced stock, take a sympathetic approach to extensions where they are in keeping with existing buildings to enable growing families to stay in the area, and encourage housing for older people and those with disabilities.
- Policies on **community** that seek to protect an identified list of local community facilities, including Highgate Newtown Community Centre and the area's sports provision, unless new development provides comparable alternatives.
- Policies on **neighbourhood centres and employment** that resists the loss of shops, cafes, services and workplaces, and supports co-working spaces for homeworkers.

- Policies on **environment and sustainability** that designate a number of Local Green Spaces and biodiverse areas for special protection and promote energy efficiency.
- Policies on **transport and streets** that prioritise pedestrians and cyclists in the design of development.
- Policies for **specific sites** that include the expectation that applicants work with the community on seeking mutually agreed solutions before planning applications are submitted. These sites are Murphy's Yard, Mansfield Bowling Club, Swain's Lane, Highgate Newtown Community Centre and ASF Garage. For **Murphy's Yard**, which DPNF understands may become available for development in the coming years, the Plan includes a set of principles for a genuinely mixed-use neighbourhood of up to 500 homes (in the part that falls within the Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Plan area), with employment, housing, cultural and community uses around an open space spine linking Kentish Town with Gospel Oak station and Hampstead Heath.
- Beyond the new planning policies, a set of **projects** that have been suggested and worked up by local people, including:
  - Improved access to Gospel Oak station, with proposals put to Transport for London
  - Landscape improvements to and 'pocket parks' in areas like Highgate Road, Highgate Newtown, Gordon House Road, York Rise and Croftdown Road
  - Better integration of cycle routes and the provision of dedicated, secure cycle parking
  - Reopening the Highgate Cemetery Chester Road gate
  - Reinstatement of public toilets at Swain's Lane
  - A definitive study with Camden Council of how traffic can be reduced on Chetwynd Road, which currently has 5-6000 vehicles passing along each day.

#### **Notes:**

- The DPNF AGM is on 25 April at 8pm at Highgate Road Chapel, 2 Chetwynd Road NW5 1BU. Nominations to join the committee are welcome.
- The draft Neighbourhood Plan contains a community-derived vision of Dartmouth Park over the next 15 years and contains policies that will be adopted by Camden Council as part of its Local Plan, subject to the Neighbourhood Plan passing a local referendum and satisfying an independent inspector.
- The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by people who live or work in Dartmouth Park, and in particular by members of the Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum, a group of local people who have collected the baseline information, developed the policies and proposals, and consulted with the wider community of Dartmouth Park throughout the process.

- Consultation on the draft Plan runs from 25 April to 15 June.
- Comments can be made via the website [www.dpnf.org.uk](http://www.dpnf.org.uk), by email to [info@dpnf.org.uk](mailto:info@dpnf.org.uk), or on paper at Highgate Library on Chester Road.
- The Plan will be submitted to Camden Council after comments from this round of consultation are taken on board.
- Neighbourhood Plans are the most localised level of the planning system. The right for communities to prepare Neighbourhood Plans was established by the Localism Act 2011, and the rules governing their preparation are set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2016. They give communities a say in how their local areas are planned and how planning policies should be applied.
- As well as preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, DPNF has been active in other areas of its purpose, which is to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area. This has included:
  - Listing the subsequently-reopened Dartmouth Arms as an Asset of Community Value, and defending this listing at a legal hearing. This listing prevented its conversion to a different use.
  - Submitting responses to controversial planning applications, such as Highgate Newtown Community Centre and ASF Garage.
  - Monitoring air quality
- For further information contact **[info@dpnf.org.uk](mailto:info@dpnf.org.uk)**



Community engagement, 2016



Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Plan area



**Dartmouth Park**  
Neighbourhood Forum

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## **Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum Annual General Meeting**

**Please join us for a presentation  
on the Consultation Draft of the  
Neighbourhood Plan**

**Wednesday 25th April 2018**

**Upper Hall, Highgate Road Chapel  
2 Chetwynd Road NW5 1BU**

**Doors open at 19.30  
Presentation starts at 20.00**

**If you would like to volunteer to join the  
committee please contact [info@dpnf.org.uk](mailto:info@dpnf.org.uk)**

**We've come a long way from the start  
of this process - help us complete the task!**

[www.dpnf.org.uk](http://www.dpnf.org.uk)

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Neighbourhood Forum