

**APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF KENTISH TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AND AREA
17.10.2012**

1) The name of the proposed Neighbourhood Forum is Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum (KTNF).

2) A map of the proposed Area of the Neighbourhood Forum is attached (Annex A).

The Area of the proposed Neighbourhood Forum encompasses the north and central area of Kentish Town – on the north side it runs east along the north side of Little Green Street and Ingestre Road and the Ingestre Estate and then it encircles Acland Burghley School. From there (omitting Tufnell Park Station) it runs south down the west side of Brecknock Road and then down the west of Camden Road. It then crosses from east to west below Bartholomew Road, above Rochester Road. It then runs south along the east side of Kentish Town Road down to the railway bridge. From there it runs north up the west side of Kentish Town Road, including all the shops and buildings in that stretch including 187 Kentish Town Road. It then turns west along the centre of Castle Road. From the end of Castle Road it follows the west side of the railway line north, including Kentish Town West station, and then it encircles Arctic Street. The boundary goes back onto the railway line and goes north until it meets the bridge over the First Capital Connect railway line. Before the bridge it goes east and then northeast up to the north side of Carker's Lane to join the east side of Highgate Road and continues north to join up at the northern corner of Little Green Street where it meets Highgate Road.

3) The Area of the proposed Neighbourhood Forum

Kentish Town is an identifiable area with a sense of community that we would like to foster. The Area has also been identified because Representative Residents Associations, Conservation Area Advisory Committees, Tenants Associations, individual local businesses, Kentish Town Community Centre, Transition Kentish Town, Kentish Town Police, local schools, GP surgeries, the Church, well-known community groups and individuals have been consulted in creating this Neighbourhood Forum. The Forum has the support of Camden ward councillors within the Area.

In 2010 Kentish Town Road Action held a series of small public meetings to establish a local public interest in taking forward the idea of a Neighbourhood Forum. A steering committee was formed.

On 19 January 2012 an Annual General Meeting was held and was attended by 50 local residents, representatives of Tenants Associations, businesses, community groups, the church and ward councillors. A Neighbourhood Forum Committee of 15 was elected and a Team of Advisors was set up. A Constitution was voted in and a preliminary area boundary map was discussed, agreed and voted in.

Subsequent to the AGM, representations were made by residents of the area we shall call North Kentish Town to be included within KTNF. The area of North Kentish Town is from Little Green Street and Ingestre Road and the Ingestre Estate and encircling Acland Burghley School, down to the southern side of Burghley Road. These representations were followed by a public meeting in the North Kentish Town area, organized by Kentish Town ward councillors, where a vote in favour of joining KTNF was carried by 30 to 1. This was ratified at a Special General Meeting of KTNF held 23 April 2012.

Part of the northern KTNF boundary goes across Murphy's site from the railway line to the north side of Carker's Lane . We share Forum boundaries here with Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum (DPNF). We have discussed with DPNF and Paul Brosnahan Director of Murphy how all of us will participate in this and

we have come to an amicable agreement that we will get together on any issues pertaining to Murphy's land and also the industrial area including Regis Road (the latter is within the KTNF area and includes Arctic Road because there is a lot of local interest in opening up this entry). Anything that happens in these areas will affect both Neighbourhood Forums and also the Gospel Oak Partnership area; we will get together with the latter at a later date.

The western boundary of the Forum was formed along the London Overground railway line, including West Kentish Town Station. Following the Special General Meeting, representations to be included in KTNF were made by a few residents from the area west of the London Overground railway line. This prompted a debate in a popular local blog, The Kentish Towner. As a result, following the model of North Kentish Town, KTNF worked with Haverstock councillors. A public ward meeting was held in that area on 6 September 2012 and the issue was discussed. The meeting was advertised on the KTNF website, by the councillors and in The Kentish Towner. In the event only 7 local residents turned up. Three KTNF officers attended the meeting and spoke. It was agreed that there was insufficient popular support or interest in joining KTNF.

The eastern boundary follows the natural road and borough boundary of Brecknock Road. Islington is on the other side.

Changes were made to the preliminary southern boundaries of the Forum following representations from residents and councillors from two discrete areas that wished to set up their own Neighbourhood Forums. One is based around the Rochester and Jeffreys Street Conservation Areas with a proposal to link up with Camden Broadway. The other is based around the Castlehaven area, focusing on the Hawley Wharf development. These two areas are now not included in KTNF.

The southern boundaries of the Forum area end in the centre of Castle Road and in between Bartholomew Road and Rochester Road. The boundary then carries on south down to the railway bridge including all the shops and buildings and 187 Kentish Town on the west side of Kentish Town Road and up north again on the east side of Kentish Town Road. The reason for the boundary continuing down to the railway bridge is that this is traditionally considered to be the beginning, or end, of Kentish Town, as seen on the notice on the inside of the bridge. Additionally several members of the Forum are also members of Kentish Town Road Action that has for nearly a decade looked after the interests of all the buildings, shops and businesses all the way down Kentish Town Road to the railway bridge.

4) **We intend to work closely with neighbouring forums** and with communities that do not have a forum, in developing our Neighbourhood Plan and we will co-operate over interests of mutual interest. Indeed, we are actively working with Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Forum and with Queen's Crescent Community Association.

5) **Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum is a relevant body capable of being designated a Neighbourhood Forum for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Act.**

a) We attach a copy of the Forum's written Constitution (Annex B)

b) Refer to 2) and 3) above

c) The contact details of the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum are as follows:

Chair – Caroline Hill

Secretary – John Nicholson

Treasurer – Paul Seviour

Contact: <https://ktnf.org/contact-us/>

d) The following statement from the written constitution of Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum shows that the proposed Neighbourhood Forum is established for the express purpose of furthering the social, economic and environmental well-being of individuals living, or wanting to live, in an area that consist of or includes the neighbourhood area concerned:

Statement of General Policies and Objectives (extracts)

iii) The Forum will enable Kentish Town Road within the Forum Area to flourish and maintain a good range of shops. The Forum will press for continuing environmental improvements to the High Street.

v) The Forum will work with appropriate organisations to maintain and generate greater employment in the Forum Area.

vi) The Forum will emphasise social benefit; community links, services for young people, the reduction of crime, the generation of neighbourliness and companionship especially for the elderly and housebound.

e) The following statement from the written constitution of Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum shows that:

“Membership of The Neighbourhood Forum shall be open to all residents living in the Area and all businesses operating in the Area and all people wanting to live in the Area”.

f) Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum has more than 21 members; on 14 October 2012 the Forum had 216 signed-up members who live and/or work in all parts of the Forum Area. A committee of 15 was elected at

the AGM and a Team of 13 Advisors (planners, architects and other specialists) has been appointed. All 9 ward councillors from the three wards in the Forum area are honorary members of the Forum.

g) Our members are drawn from different sections of the community within the Forum Area. We have consulted and had meetings with:

i) The Somali Youth organization – Family and Young People’s Centre (SYDRC). This resulted in the Director Ibrahim Isse joining the Forum’s team of Advisors.

ii) Crossroads Women’s Centre – two of the organizers at Crossroads are members of the Forum.

iii) Kennistoun & Willingham Tenants and Residents Association – one member is a member of the Forum Committee.

iv) Kentish Town Community Centre – two of the Forum’s committee members are trustees of the Community Centre.

v) Caversham Elder People’s Organization (CEPO) – one Forum committee member is an active member of CEPO.

vi) St Luke’s – One Forum committee member is vicar of St Luke’s. Two Advisors are members of the congregation.

vii) Safer Neighbourhood Team – Sgt. Peter Ryan is a member of the Forum.

viii) Transition Kentish Town – One member of Transition Kentish Town is on the Forum Committee. One member is a Forum Advisor.

ix) The Forum set up a working group to liaise with GP surgeries.

x) The Forum has set up working group to liaise with youth groups and schools.

xi) The Forum is encouraging and working with local shops and businesses to set up their own support group.

xii) The Forum supports and is supported by the following Local Associations:

Kentish Town Road Action – KTRA

Kentish Town Business Association – KTBA

Highgate Road Residents Association

Leighton Road Neighbourhood Association – LRNA

Bartholomew Area Residents Association - BARA

Bartholomew and Kentish Town CAAC (Conservation Area Advisory Committee)

Inkerman Area Residents Association – IARA

Prince of Wales Residents Association – POWRA
Kelly Street Residents Association – KSRA
Hadley Street Residents Association
Torriano Cottages Residents Association
Kennistoun & Willingham Tenants and Residents Association
North Kentish Town Association

The Forum supports these Local Associations when they are concerned about planning issues and need information and back up. Members of all these associations are supporting the Forum by signing up as a minimum. Most of the associations do far more than that in support of the Forum, ie. members attend Forum meetings, offer the Forum advice and help and join in with Forum activities.

6) Engaging with the local community:

a) A weekend of walkabouts took place on 21 and 22 of April 2012. Four walks were repeated four times throughout the weekend. There were leaders for each walk and all walkers had record sheets to fill in. The idea was that anyone or everyone in the Forum Area could go on all four walks during the weekend and that, as a result of these walks, we would develop ideas for our Neighbourhood Plan. 70 people took part, including local councillors, and all the comments on the record sheets were collated onto the map Annex A.

A further walkabout weekend in North Kentish Town took place on 6 and 7 October 2012. One walk was repeated twice and 55 people from all over the Forum Area took part. The comments have been added to the map Annex A.

b) We began working with the Prince's Foundation in April 2012. The work they are doing with the Forum is to help us to formulate a Neighbourhood Plan.

c) On 27 May 2012 the Forum had a stall at the Alma Street Fair. We talked with dozens of people; explaining what KTNF is all about, signing up people to our members' list and talking about the street engagements and workshops to come.

d) Local people ran a week's Street Engagement in Kentish Town from 27 June – 3 July 2012. Over 20 local people, including one councillor, took part and helped and we talked to hundreds of people and gathered ideas and opinions. These all fed in to:

e) the 3-day Planning Workshop that took place from 03 – 05 July 2012. About 80 local people attended on the first day. The second was a Stakeholder Workshop day attended by about 40 local stakeholders, including representatives from residents' associations, local businesses and restaurants, community groups, Camden Council (both officers and councillors), Kentish Town Police, Transport for London, Transition Kentish Town, local landowners (including the Director of Murphy's - the construction company that occupies the industrial area to the north of the railway) and more. On the evening of the third day the Prince's Foundation reported the results of the workshop to roughly 75 members of the public.

f) The Forum is engaging with the Helen Hamlyn Creative Citizens' Project. This aims to help local organizations to connect better with their communities.

Caroline Hill and John Nicholson

Chair and Secretary of Kentish Town Neighbourhood Forum

17 October 2012