



FLDRA Chairman's Report 2018

2018 was another busy year for the association. On behalf of the committee, I thank members who have given time, effort and comments to help shape our activity and come together for debate and community spirit.

Priorities and Issues - the AGM agrees annual priority action areas for FLDRA to focus on. For 2018 these were:

- School Places
- Impact of Cycle Enfield and Related Issues
- Scrutinising the London Plan and Enfield Plan
- Ultra Low Emission Zone.

Primary school places - We continue to be active monitoring local school provision: Ashmole Primary now has its permanent building and Walker Primary is about to be rebuilt but, significantly, will not have an increase in its school roll. The additional Bowes Primary provision has been confirmed on the Broomfield secondary site (Bowes Southgate Green) but there will only be space for 30 pupils each year (in previous years 60 pupils were accepted). Developments around the Grovelands site are on hold at present.

Cycle Enfield Update - The only key development regarding Cycle Enfield in this area has been the junction of Hedge Lane/Bourne Hall and Green Lanes. This contains a Bus only lane linking Green Lanes South and Hedge Lane. No monitoring statistics are available on the usage of cycle lanes, though a good deal of informal or informed comment.

Quieter Neighbourhoods - In November 2017 residents were sent proposals for the Fox Lane Area Quieter Neighbourhood produced by Cycle Enfield. FLDRA sent out a letter to residents encouraging everyone to respond and pointing out some concerns. While the committee was in favour of creating a 20mph zone throughout the area there was concern that this did not apply to Aldermans Hill and Bourne Hill where traffic often exceeds the 30mph speed limit.

The amended scheme has been partially implemented to date. The committee has commented to the Council that it is curious that the area has not been designated a 20 mph zone. As part of the scheme planters have been installed in varying positions at both ends of several streets in the area, by way of a trial intended to slow down traffic passing through residential areas. FLDRA has received a number of residents' comments which have been passed to officers. These were mainly negative, noting in particular that the planters can be a safety hazard at night and there is no incentive to maintain a low speed after negotiating the planters.

London and Enfield Local Plans - the draft London Plan is now at the Examination in Public stage – detailed information on www.london.gov.uk. Consultation on the Enfield Local Plan closes on 28.2.2019. We have promoted awareness by advertising the ward forums on the plan and will be discussing it at our AGM. There is also a consultation session on 19 February at Palmers Green Library. The committee will be looking to make a submission following feedback from FLDRA members at the AGM and via our website. Residents can also send their comments direct to the Council.

Planning On a weekly basis, the committee planning lead scrutinises new planning applications which relate to the FLDRA area, together with all new appeals where planning permission has not been granted. These applications and appeals are then posted, either by email or on the website and members have the opportunity to respond. This can be done by contacting the committee or by writing directly to the named planning officer at the Council.

We have supported a number of residents in their objections to proposed or realised developments and planning permission has been refused or granted subject to specific conditions. However, we are aware that, although planning officers come and inspect new extensions/development and can make an enforcement order if there are breaches of planning, these are not always followed up by the Council.

The Fox pub and car park – A new planning application was put in by Lateral Property Group in March 2018 which increased the size of the new building on the existing car park to five storeys. It was approved by the Council largely because the developers stated that by including the fifth floor, they would be able to offer 30% 'affordable' housing. The Fox pub has been closed since the summer and, despite the temporary presence of a traveller group on the car park, the development does not seem to have started. A new development company now owns the site but as yet no new planning application has been made.

FLDRA facts and figures

The Association covers the area on the map. This covers parts of four wards (Southgate Green, Southgate, Winchmore Hill and Palmers Green) and Safer Neighbourhood (Police and CSO) teams.



Membership - We currently have 450 member households. Annual fee remains £5 per household, and has been kept at this rate for a number of years. Please help us to keep things simple by setting up a standing order for your payment.

Committee - The committee now meets 5 times a year, as well as running the open meetings. This year we now have both a Chairman and Treasurer. The Secretary role is currently shared across the committee.

Our current Planning lead (Sue Cook) is stepping down after providing many valuable years of service to the committee and association. Volunteers needed for these two key positions.

Communications - The website was redeveloped in Spring 2018 by Web-master Richard Mapleston, who also now handles email communications. 243 people are registered to receive emails from FLDRA. We strongly encourage members to sign up to receive emails, which can be done through the website. Hard copy notices are distributed with the help of several members, whom we thank for their contribution.

Social Events - We held a Summer Social and a very well attended Christmas event. We raised £760 for the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice with the help of local businesses and practitioners who kindly contributed items for auction such as vouchers for local eateries and personal fitness.

Area Forums and CAPE meetings - Committee members cover the forums for the four council wards within the FLDRA area. Don Arthur also covers the Community Action Partnership in Enfield (CAPE) meetings with the police. Key points from meetings are included in newsletters and on the website.

Federation of Enfield Residents' & Allied Associations (FERAA) – FLDRA ended its membership of FERAA in December 2018. FLDRA has good relationships with neighbouring associations. We continue to believe that there is a place for a strong, democratic, transparent network of residents' associations to help represent our views to Enfield Council.