



FOR HIGHGATE
HIGHGATE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Application for redesignation as a Neighbourhood Forum under the provisions of the Localism Act 2012

Highgate Neighbourhood Forum

Contact: Chair, Alicia Pivaro, email: info@forhighgate.org

1. History, the Neighbourhood Plan and Purpose

The Highgate Neighbourhood Forum (HNF) applied for and was granted designation as neighbourhood forum in 2012. The area straddles two local authorities both of whom were helpful in enabling the HNF to prepare London's first cross-borough neighbourhood plan (NP). The NP was adopted in July 2017 by way of extensive Consultation, Examination and a Referendum of voters in the Forum Area. The Forum was redesignated by Camden and Haringey in 2018.

The Forum wishes to be redesignated for a further five years - and also that the existing neighbourhood area be redesignated - to allow it to act on the contents of the adopted plan. Our purpose is to help Highgate be a vibrant place with a strong sense of community that protects its unique character and heritage, while embracing fresh ideas and beneficial change.

HNF continues with its overall goal of improving the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the Highgate area and to that end, has in mind the Plan policies under five headings:

- Social and Community
- Economic Activity
- Traffic and Transport
- Open Spaces and the Public Realm
- Development and Heritage

We are fortunate in Highgate that we have an active civic society - The Highgate Society - and two Conservation Area Advisory Committees (CAACs) (all of whom are represented on our current Committee) who undertake the day-to-day monitoring on planning applications and ensure that they meet the terms of the Neighbourhood Plan policies. HNF is therefore free to focus on larger or strategically important planning matters and on developing alliances with local organisations and neighbouring forums. The community also values our proactive relationship with Camden and Haringey's Planning teams, as



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well as our links to TfL and the GLA. We also collaborate with the two Councils on CIL spending in our area: helping local organisations to put together CIL bids and then working with Council officials and elected Councillors to ensure the projects are delivered.

Our recent and current activities include:

- Working with our two Councils to encourage cross-border working on best practice and consistent planning, transport and safety policies and implementation.
- Responding to Council consultations on emerging strategies
- A focus on biodiversity in Highgate by organising a meeting for our major landowners (eg Highgate and Channing Schools, Highgate Cemetery, the Golf Club, Waterlow Park, Omved Gardens, English Heritage, Heath Hands, Holly Lodge Estate,, Highgate Allotments) to enable them to share best practice and think about how our green spaces might be linked by wildlife corridors. A network has emerged from this meeting and in April we will be running a Biodiversity Brainstorm as a part of Earth Day celebrations in Waterlow Park.
- Initiation and continued focus on several CIL-funded projects i.e. street tree replacement, a natural play area on Parkland walk and an active play area on Archway Road (all in Haringey) + pedestrian signposting in both boroughs + proposed enhancements to the ex-271 area and Pond Square (see below) and community projects at the Holly Lodge Community Centre and Lauderdale House in Camden.
- Involvement over many years to enhance Pond Square and currently to make good use of the recently vacated 271 terminus next to the Square.
- Work with other local organisations to ensure the proposed social housing scheme at the Wellington Roundabout is fit for purpose.
- Participation in campaign to protect Shepherd's Cottage in Townsend Yard, as well as monitoring of and engagement with other large scale developments in Hampstead Lane and on North Hill and several proposed developments at Highgate School.
- Leadership of the Highgate Festival team which aims to celebrate and promote Highgate's cultural and historical offering.
- Support for local businesses and working with Councillors and officials to have Highgate designated as a Town Centre. Support for Interpretation Boards to enhance Highgate as a tourist attraction.
- Creation and continued support for Coffee and Computers, which provides tech support for older residents and thus promotes social and digital inclusion.
- Production of leaflet to encourage volunteering in a number of local organisations.



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In short, we believe that the HNF serves a useful purpose in enabling local organisations and activists (see current composition of Committee below) to share ideas and concerns and work together to make Highgate a lively and inclusive place to live and work. It also acts as an effective link between the community and the Councils, as well as our neighbouring areas. We can make sure Highgate is not overlooked in the corridors of power, be they in the Councils, GLA, TfL or the Boundary Commission. Thus the Forum accurately reflects the character of the area.

2. Review of Neighbourhood Plan and Potential Updating

The HNF Committee has discussed with other local organisations and Council officials whether the Neighbourhood Plan could and should be updated. We are particularly concerned about the lack of policies directly addressing the Climate Emergency and other environmental issues within our area + the lack of provision for social housing (we were advised at the time of writing the Plan that Government regulation only allowed us to call for 'affordable housing').

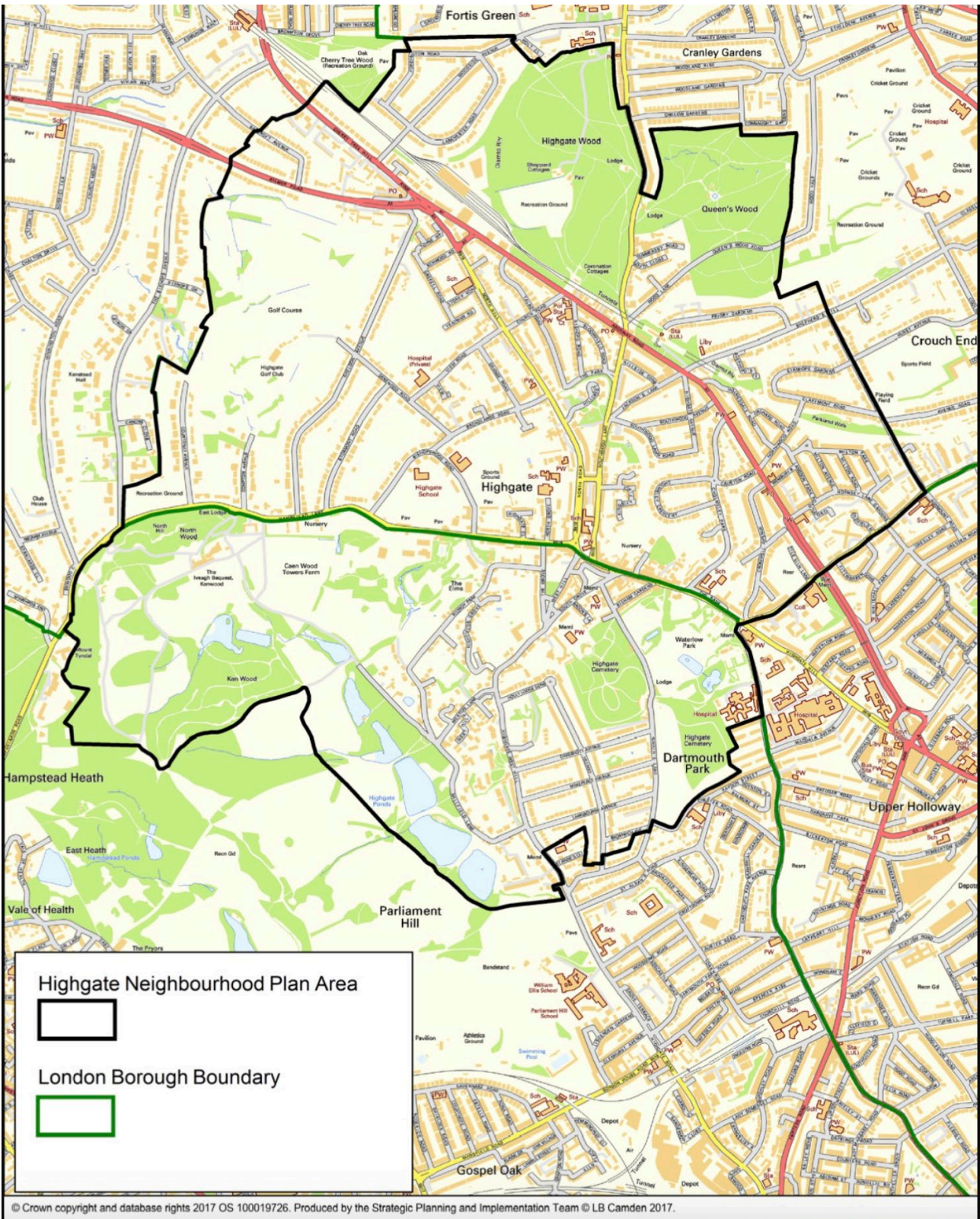
However, mindful of the huge amount of work involved with rewriting and consulting on a new Plan, we have concluded that it would be prudent to wait for the Councils own Emerging Local Plans to be finalised, as we will have, in any case, to conform to these. We think that our efforts can best be focused on influencing emerging Council policy and, to that end, we have already had some useful and encouraging discussions with Council officials. We will continue to study other neighbourhood plans as they emerge, as well as fast moving policy in these areas, so we are fully prepared to update our Plan when the time is right to do so.

3. Forum Area

Please see below the map of the relevant area to be covered by the designation which was finalised after consultation with neighbouring community groups and residents' groups within the Area



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4. Constitution

A copy of the HNF constitution is attached to this application. The minutes of all our general and committee meetings, as well as information about the Forum and our activities are made available on our website: <https://forhighgate.org/>

5. Membership of the Forum

Everyone who lives and works in Highgate is automatically a member of the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum. Our Committee is elected each year at our AGM and we take trouble to encourage our affiliated organisations to nominate representatives to join the Committee, as well as to ensure that all parts of the area and diverse sections of the community are represented. As you will see below, prominent local organisations, local employers and arts organisations are well represented on the current committee.

Our current committee (elected in May 2022) is as follows:

Martin Adeney, resident, Chair of the Friends of Highgate Cemetery

Ian Brewester, resident and owner of four shops in Highgate High Street, Ponds Square Residents Association

Rachell Fox, Director of Communications, Channing School

Ian Henghes, resident, Chair of Waterlow Park Trust Advisory Group

Andrea Horth, resident, HNF webmaster

Katherine Ives, Director, Lauderdale House

Peter Jacobs, resident, Holly Lodge Estate Committee and CAAC

Anne Jamieson, resident, Highgate Literary and Scientific Institution (HLSI) committee, founder of Coffee and Computers

Steve Kennard, resident, architect and director of Highgate Cemetery Ltd

Louise Lewis, resident, member of Highgate CAAC and Friends of Waterlow Park committee



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Maggy Meade-King, resident, founding Chair of HNF, current Secretary, Highgate Allotments Lettings Manager, Trustee of the Friends of the Highgate Bowl, Chair, Cholmeley Lodge Residents Committee

Chanel Noel, Community Partnerships Director, Highgate School

Alicia Pivaro, resident, current Chair of HNF, architect and urbanist, founder of Highgate Festival

Peter Walton, resident (for 77 years!), leads Highgate Festival film unit

Richard Webber, resident, Secretary Bisham Gardens Residents Association, Trustee of Jacksons Lane Community Centre, Co- founder of Visit Highgate

Francis Wilkinson, resident, Secretary of The Highgate Society

Siri Zanelli, resident, architect, leading on Natural Play Area project.

Our local elected Councillors are also automatically members of the Committee and regularly attend meetings. Currently they are:

Camden:

Cllr Camron Aref-Adib
Cllr Sian Berry
Cllr Anna Wright

Haringey:

Cllr Nick DaCosta
Cllr Scot Emery
Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling

In addition to the activities listed above, members of our Committee are also active in residents associations, the parent communities of local schools, sports clubs, The Highgate Society, the HLSI and the Highgate Festival. Fuller biographies are set out in Appendix 1 and addresses of committee members (demonstrating that all parts of the Forum Area are represented) are available on request.

HNF keeps in touch with its wider membership via a monthly e-newsletter with nearly 1000 subscribers and a twitter feed with 1,602 followers. The newsletter is also cascaded on to many more residents via our **affiliated organisations**. These are:



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Residents' Associations:

Bisham Gardens Residents Association
Brookfield Mansions Residents Ltd
Cholmeley Lodge Residents Ltd
Cromwell Area Residents Association
Fitzroy Park Residents Association
Fordington Road Residents Association
Goldsmiths Court Residents Association
Highgate Residents Association (Highgate Estate)
Highpoint Management Board
Holly Lodge Estate Committee
Kingsley Place and Somerset Gardens Res Assoc
The Miltons Residents Association
Northwood Hall Residents Association
Priory Gardens Residents Association
Pond Square Residents Association
Southwood House Estate Residents Company
Southwood Lane Residents Association
Southwood Park Residents Association
Summersby Road Residents Association
West Hill Park Management Co Ltd
Hillcrest Residents Association
Wembury Area Residents Association

Action Groups and Amenity Societies:

Fitzroy Park Allotments Association (Camden)
Friends of Highgate Library Shepherds Hill
Friends of Parkland Walk
Friends of Queens Wood
Friends of Waterlow Park
Harington Scheme
Highgate Allotments (Haringey)
Visit Highgate
Highgate Conservation Area Advisory Committee
Highgate Cemetery Trust
Highgate Choral Society
Highgate Literary and Scientific Association
Highgate Safer Neighbourhood Panel (Haringey)
The Highgate Society
Holly Lodge Conservation Area Committee
Hornsey Historical Society
Kenwood Estate (English Heritage)
Kenwood Ladies' Pond Association
Transition Highgate



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Faith Groups:

Highgate Synagogue
Murugan Hindu Temple
St Michael's Church
United Reformed Church, Pond Square

Arts and Community Centres

Holly Lodge Community Centre
Jacksons Lane
Lauderdale House

Schools:

Channing School
Highgate Primary School
Highgate School
St Michael's Primary School

As you may have noted, our affiliated organisations represent associations living in all types of housing tenures (both private and social) in both Boroughs, as well as all the local organisations and large employers, faith groups and organisations working in specific areas, such as The Harington training scheme for young people with learning difficulties.

The Highgate Neighbourhood Forum has from its inception made great efforts to be as inclusive of all groups within our community as possible and – as you will have seen from our activities – we see it as a large part of our remit to work with other organisations and enable them to find common ground with each other.

April 2023



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Appendix 1

Highgate Neighbourhood Forum Committee 2022-23

Martin Adeney has lived in the area for over forty years with his family. A former journalist, he currently chairs the Friends of Highgate Cemetery and the Friends of the Highgate Bowl. He was a founder member of the Forum committee and was active in the public consultation on the Plan. He is a current committee member.

Rachell Fox, Director of Communications, Channing School, was born and raised in North London and has lived here all her life, apart from an exciting year in France when a student! Following a successful career in the media working in commercial radio and then for the BBC, Rachell spent time in the third sector leading marketing and communications for several well known national charities before moving into the education sector. She is now Director of Communications, Marketing and Development at Channing School where she leads on Admissions, Marketing, and Alumnae Relations. Rachell is looking forward to nurturing deeper connections between Channing and the local community.

Ian Henghes is a visual communications specialist. He founded a Soho video facilities company and has headed an interactive design division of a TV production company. Ian has produced a wide range of projects especially in the heritage and arts sectors. He is also one of the moving image artists represented by Lux. He now works primarily in online development, and enjoys a range of activities including photography. Current activities in the Highgate community include being Chair of the Waterlow Park Trust Advisory Group, as well as involved with the Highgate Society and other local organisations.

Andrea Horth has lived in Highgate for 25 years. An active participant in Highgate life, she lends her professional communication skills to producing websites for businesses and organisations, including the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum, and the Highgate Festival. She is enthusiastic about regenerating the High Street, helping it to match the needs and aspirations of the Highgate community. Andrea is eager to support the work of Highgate Neighbourhood Forum in making the most of the amenities Highgate enjoys, both to improve residents' experience of living here and to attract visitors to the area.

Katherine Ives, Director of Lauderdale House, has worked in Highgate at Lauderdale House since 1998, where she is Director having guided the organisation through a £2.5million refurbishment. Over the years she has felt privileged to be part of the committed and active Highgate community. She has produced theatre and cabaret shows at Upstairs at the Gatehouse, has been involved with the Waterlow Park Trust Advisory Group since its inception and runs the local 'Breakfast Network' of Highgate venues and organisations. Katherine started out as a solicitor in the City and West End, and having 'served' eight years decided arts management was a more interesting career. She is on the Board of Pursued by a Bear Theatre Company and Above the Stag Theatre. She is excited at the potential the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum offers for bringing together arts, cultural, educational and heritage organisations and local businesses to benefit Highgate and improve the lives of local people.



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Peter Jacobs and his wife have lived on the Holly Lodge Estate for 46 years, his daughters starting their education at St Michaels. He was a Marketing Researcher and on retirement in 2000 busied himself for twelve years as the treasurer of an international sports federation. He has been a member of the Holly Lodge Estate Committee for some seventeen years, having served as its treasurer from 2008 to 2019 and as a trustee for ten years until 2020 when he retired on term. He has been a member of the Holly Lodge Consultative Conservation Committee for over a decade. He is a co-opted current member of the HNF committee.

Anne Jamieson, a retired social science academic, has lived in Highgate for 18 years. She was a founder member of the HNF and chaired the Social and Community group through its work for the HNF Plan. She is keen to develop Highgate as a community, to involve those socially excluded, and to promote closer intergenerational relations. She set up and volunteers for the HNF Drop-in service 'Coffee & Computers', engaging the Highgate Society, Jackson's Lane and the Highgate School in what has become popular, regular events for the digitally excluded. She volunteered at the Mary Feilding home and the Highgate Literary & Scientific Institution, where she is Chair of the Education Committee.

Steve Kennard is an architect who has lived in Highgate for +35 years. He has wide ranging experience in and has been primarily focused on large scale urban regeneration projects in London in roles at commercial sector organisations such as Land Securities as well as public sector organisations including the London Development Agency. He has been a trustee of Highgate Cemetery for the last 3 years and has been leading the implementation of the Conservation Plan approved in 2019.

Louise Lewis has lived in Highgate for nearly 20 years and been involved with The Highgate Neighbourhood Forum from the start. She is a member of the local Conservation Area Advisory Committee and is membership secretary of The Friends of Waterlow Park. She is also a member of The Highgate Society. She is very involved in local affairs and always ready to support local projects. For the past five years she has been monitoring all the tree applications in the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum Area. She has made sure that Officers are aware of the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum Plan and have noticed a slow but steady change in Haringey's approach to tree applications.

Maggy Meade-King is a former journalist and broadcaster, who ran her own successful small publishing business, as well as undertaking senior roles in the public and voluntary sectors. She has lived in Highgate for more than 20 years, was the founding Chair of the HNF and led it through the consultation on and production of the Neighbourhood Plan. She is also a Trustee of the Friends of the Highgate Bowl and an active member of the HLSI and the Highgate Allotments Association Committee. She currently leads North London forums groups campaigning for a local hopper bus and mapping bio diversity corridors, as well as safe walking and cycling routes.



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Alicia Pivaro has lived in Highgate for 15 years and has been chair of the HNF since 2017. After training as an architect, she has spent the last 30 years working in the field of architecture and urbanism in several key roles at organisations including the Arts Council, RIBA and the Architecture Foundation and as an independent cultural producer and writer. Her career has focused on initiatives that engage the public in issues about the built environment and supporting community involvement, including Architecture Week. She is an advocate for the importance of community-led regeneration and is a convenor for Neighbourhood Planners London. As well as making art, she teaches architecture at the Bartlett School UCL and the London School of Architecture. She helped to establish the Highgate Festival in 2018, and is involved in other local initiatives including Pink Plaques, Highgate Stories and the Highgate Eco Network.

Peter Walton has lived in Highgate for 77 years and his parents and grandparents lived here before him. He is one of eight members of his family to have attended St Michael's Primary School. His career has been in teaching, then in the British Council, the BBC, and now as an independent TV, radio, and audio-book producer. He has been involved in movements to protect and develop Highgate since playing a role in the action to stop the Archway Road becoming a motorway. He is a member of almost all the local amenity and support groups and especially the HLSI and the Highgate Society. He is particularly keen on improving Pond Square for the use and pleasure of Highgate residents and visitors. Peter is also a member of the small group that organises the Highgate Festival and leads the festival film unit.

Richard Webber has lived in Highgate for 37 years, first in Highgate Avenue, then in Broadlands Road and now in Bisham Gardens, and has been involved in community affairs only for last ten of these. His longest standing campaign has been to persuade TfL to relocate the terminus for the 271 bus. His main other contribution has been to write, illustrate and publish a series of ten booklets, each describing a self-guided walk in the area between Camden Town, Alexandra Palace and Hampstead Garden Suburb. This has been supplemented by a history of the Highgate Society, probably the most comprehensive and authoritative account of planning and transport issues in N6 over the past 50 years.

Francis Wilkinson: retired as a barrister in 2020, and for the previous 20 years he specialised in family law. Before that he was a police officer for 30 years. He has particular interests in licensing, the regulation of drugs and the effects of air pollution on health. He is Secretary of the Highgate Society and previously chaired the community organisation which saved what is now Whitehall Park School. His interests include pollution, climate change, licensing, traffic and walking and cycling.

Siri Zanelli is a Norwegian architect and partner with Collective Works, an award winning RIBA chartered architecture and design studio. She became a Londoner in 2006, and has lived in leafy Highgate since 2014, and can often be seen running in Highgate Woods and Hampstead Heath. She is a member of the Highgate Society with experience from Council, is involved with the planning committee and runs the Society's Instagram account. Her local passions centre around the quality of the built environment as well as



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the green spaces, sustainability and community engagement. Her architectural practice worked closely with the Highgate Society and the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum to support the Contractor Yard scheme for Omved Gardens through planning, and she is currently working with Haringey Council on a CIL funded HNF project for an outdoor playspace along Parkland Walk. She has two boys attending local Highgate schools, and a new puppy will lead to lots of walks and becoming even more familiar with Highgate.

Co-opted:

Ian Brewster has lived in Highgate for over 40 years, owns two buildings with 4 shops in the heart of the village and has three children at local Highgate schools. He has a passion for the Village and its survival as a community, which depends on a thriving High Street for both retail and F&B. He has also owned a creative agency for the last 25+ years that prominently works in retail in the West End. It helps brands big or small on our high streets with their visual marketing on and offline. Ian also works with large retail landlords and agents in Central London and has a very good understanding of the changing commercial landscape.

Chanel Noel, Community Partnerships Director, Highgate School, has joined Highgate School as Community Partnerships Director in May 2022. In this role Chanel is one of many staff working to keep Highgate School (staff, students, grounds, and initiatives) connected to local community. Her role includes overseeing the extensive Partnership Teaching programme in which Highgate staff deliver specialist academic provision and support to neighbouring and pan-London schools year-round, an annual summer school for year 4-5 (primary) and year 10 and 12 (senior school), community engagement projects and initiatives, Highgate pupil volunteering and fundraising, and the school's flagship partnership with London Academy of Excellence Tottenham in the east of Haringey and Chanel is also an active participant of Highgate Schools Environment committee.

Prior to joining Highgate school Chanel has worked in the Third Sector leading programmes that support community engagement, health and wellbeing inequalities, career support for underrepresented groups, interfaith community connection, soft skills and leadership development, and social mobility initiatives. Prior to this, Chanel worked in education as a secondary and sixth form teacher and dual department leader of religious education and PHSE. Chanel is excited to work with the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum to support the amazing impact already being made by the HNF.