

Queen's Park Community Council



On the Street

Your views and ideas about
the future of Queen's Park



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The Queen's Park Community Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for the area. This summer the QPGC was 'On the Street' to hear your views and ideas about the future of Queen's Park.

Why we did it

Because it's crucial to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan is created from the ambitions of the local community.

- 350+ Visits to the shop
- 160+ Comments on postcards and on an interactive map
- 15+ Events, workshops and meetings took place

How we did it

Between the 23rd of June and the 17th of July a small pop-up shop 'On the Street' opened on a previously vacant unit at 548 Harrow Road to hear and record people's views about Queen's Park. This builds upon previous comments and ideas gathered by QPGC councillors. Information about the history of the area, amenity and green spaces, the Harrow Road, transport and connections was on display.



What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding the future development and growth of an area. It may contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving the area or providing new facilities. It may also suggest sites for specific kinds of improvements or change.

Once a Neighbourhood Plan has been written and agreed through a local referendum it becomes part of the borough council's planning policy for the area.

For more information see locality.org.uk

On the Street programme

<p>Week one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Shop Opening, with ice cream and crafts (B) Neighbourhood Plan open studio, three days where Publica were based at the shop gathering opinions <p>.....</p> <p>Week two</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (C) Our High Streets workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Queen's Park Summer Festival Social • History of Queen's Park talk <p>.....</p> <p>Week three</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenity for the under 5s workshop • Full Council Meeting • Amenity for the over 50s workshop 	<p>Week four</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors held a meeting to discuss QPGC award scheme • Queen's Park Gardens and open spaces workshop • Accessibility and Sustainability workshop • Amenity for Young People workshop • Environment and Planning Committee meeting (D) Community Projects talk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLA High Street Regeneration talk • Closing party
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This is a summary of the 161 comments left on postcards in the 'On the Street' shop.

Assets & Opportunities

Civic amenity

- ▲ The Moberly and Jubilee sports centres
- Buildings of architectural merit
- Local arts facilities
- The Queen's Park Library
- Play areas
- Opportunity to improve Mozart Street and reinstate retail and community uses

Community

- The cultural diversity of the Harrow Road
- Friendly atmosphere and feeling of security when walking in the area

Environment & sustainability

- ▲ Queen's Park Gardens is a valued space, particularly for those with children, dogs and without a garden
- Opportunity to add to the existing amount of trees, green spaces and planting
- ▲ The canal is now much cleaner than it was, and has the potential to become a valuable asset identified with the area

High street and shopping

- Maida Hill market is valued and some people thought more could be made of it

Transport

- Good location with diverse and reliable transport links, especially to central and east London

Walking and cycling

- The canal towpath provides a walking and cycle route with potentially pleasant links to the wider area
- The area is easy to walk around, residents can walk from their homes to shops and local amenities
- Some children said they feel safe enough to ride on the roads in the area
- The 'blue bridge' provides a valuable link but could be greatly improved
- The possibility of a new canal bridge at the continuation of Fifth Avenue to provide a direct link between Queen's Park and the workspaces and residential areas in Kensington & Chelsea

Challenges & Issues

Civic amenity

- There are not enough safe places for children to play
- Poor/insufficient street lighting, for example along Half Penny Steps bridge and on Bravington Road
- ▲ Not enough for children and young people to do in the area, and not enough organisations supporting these groups
- Lack of events for families
- Lack of pubs

Community

- ▲ High levels of antisocial behaviour
- ▲ Perception that Queen's Park has high levels of crime, which is associated with a widespread sense of insecurity/lack of personal safety, particularly at nighttime
- Lack of a sense of civic life and tension between different social groups
- ▲ Inadequate police presence in the area and insufficient CCTV cameras monitoring problem areas

▲ Indicates high number of comments

- Conflict about where dogs can be walked and the cleaning up of dog waste
- Poor communication and a lack of awareness of the community services available to residents

Environment & sustainability

- The canal is dirty, the water is polluted and people throw rubbish in it
- ▲ Widespread problem of waste dumping and not enough bins which leads to piling up of rubbish on the street. Some commented that Westminster Council doesn't collect rubbish fast enough
- ▲ Fly-tipping takes place, particularly in the Avenues and on Bravington Road
- Not enough bins for owners to dispose of dog waste
- ▲ Noise pollution on Harrow Road
- The levels of traffic along the Harrow Road contribute to poor air quality
- The insulation of the houses on the Avenues is very poor, resulting in residents incurring large energy bills in the winter

Governance

- Lack of communication by Westminster Council

High street and shopping

- ▲ Lack of diversity of shops along the Harrow Road, not enough cafés and restaurants to sit in
- ▲ Some residents said the Harrow Road lacks 'high quality' shops
- Clutter from the retailers encroaches the pedestrian space on the pavement
- There is a high number of vacant units on the high street
- Some of the shop owners take little pride in the appearance of their shops

- Retail to residential conversions are detrimental to the high street

Housing

- More social housing is urgently needed in the area. Some residents expressed concern that local people are not prioritised for social housing resulting in families being moved out of the area
- The houses in the Avenues have poor sound proofing which leads to tension between neighbours
- Some front gardens are not well kept

Transport

- The digital displays which show bus arrival times at the bus stops have been removed, making it harder for people to plan travel
- Buses on the 36 and 18 routes are reported to be old and in need of repair
- Speeding along the Harrow Road is a problem
- Some residents said loose slabs and poor paving in the area is unsightly and could cause accidents
- Lack of parking attendants to police parking
- The road tarmac has been poorly maintained, leading to holes in the surface and concerns that driving and cycling is unsafe

Walking and cycling

- The Ladbroke Grove/Harrow Road junction needs a safe pedestrian crossing
- There is a lack of facilities for storing bicycles across the area
- People cycle along the pavement on the Harrow Road, which reduces space for pedestrians

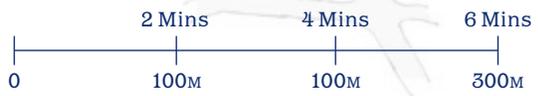
Work and business

- There are not enough entry level jobs for young people in the area

- Assets
- Issues
- Opportunities
- See page 9–10 for the list of the community's top priorities/areas



Approximate walking time



On the Street Workshops

Priority projects were identified during six workshops that took place in the pop up shop. The workshops were themed around issues identified from previous community consultation exercises (e.g. at previous Summer Festivals, through online surveys, etc). A total of 78 people attended these sessions.

● 1 July – Theme: Our High Streets

We asked you:

What do you use the Kilburn Lane and/or Harrow Road high street for?

What would you improve about the Harrow Road or Kilburn Lane?



● 7 July – Theme: Community amenity for the Under 5s

We asked you:

What services for under 5s do you currently use?

How would you improve services for the under 5s in the area?



● 9 July – Theme: Community amenity for the Over 50s

We asked you:

What services for over 50s do you currently use?

What improvements would you like to see in the area?



● 13 July – Theme: Queen’s Park Gardens & Open Spaces

We asked you:

What improvements would you like to see within the following green and open spaces;

- A. Queen’s Park Gardens?
- B. Harrow Road Open Space?
- C. Any other open space (or potential open public space) in Queen’s Park?

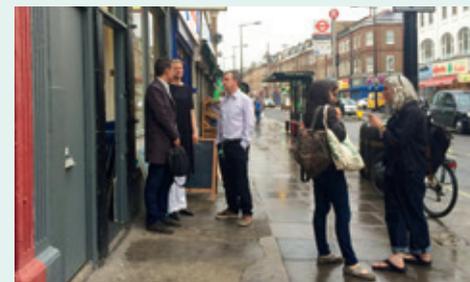


● 14 July – Theme: Accessibility & Sustainability

Contributions from guest speakers from the charity Living Streets and a WGC waste officer. We asked you:

How can the streets of Queen’s Park be more pedestrian and cycle-friendly?

How can recycling and waste management be improved in Queen’s Park?



● 14 July – Theme: Provision for Young People

This session was co-facilitated by the director of The Avenues Youth Project. We asked you:

What are the best and worst things about the area?

What improvements would you like to see in Queen’s Park?



Your top Priorities

From a large number of ideas discussed, up to five top priority areas or potential projects were identified at each workshop. Some of the same priorities came up in different workshops. Some ideas will be easier to achieve than others, but all will be considered and further tested in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan. These ideas are not ordered by importance.

- Our High Streets
- Under 5s
- Over 50s
- Queen's Park Gardens and open spaces
- Accessibility & Sustainability
- Young People

- ① ● Make the canal a real asset that can help shape the identity of Queen's Park
- ② ● ● ● Encourage the opening of pleasant cafés and restaurants by the canal-side
- ③ ● ● Transform the western flank wall of Canal Terrace and the Harrow Road Open Space e.g. with a planted wall and/or a small café pavilion or moored narrow boat café
- ④ ● Install a boardwalk behind Canal Terrace
- ⑤ ● Make Queen's Park an area with a distinctive visual identity
- ⑥ ● ● ● Establish guidelines for allocated retail space on pavements outside shops and ensure enforcement by a WCC/QPCG high street warden
- ⑦ ● Identify appropriate locations for public realm improvements including shared spaces, benches and planting
- ⑧ ● Explore options for the reconfiguration of the Harrow Road carriageway and public realm to reduce traffic speed and provide a more pleasant pedestrian environment
- ⑨ ● ● Designate a 20mph speed limit zone (to include the Harrow Road)
- ⑩ ● Install a new pedestrian-controlled crossing at the Ladbrooke Grove and Harrow Road junction
- ⑪ ● Make streets more cycle friendly to prevent cycling on pavements
- ⑫ ● Provide more cycle parking across the ward e.g. bike hub and sheffield stands
- ⑬ ● ● Pursue aim to establish play streets
- ⑭ ● ● Explore opportunity to re-instate community uses at 17-23 Third Avenue and improve the eastern entrance of Queen's Park Gardens
- ⑮ ● Ensure more have access to the wildlife area in Queen's Park Gardens
- ⑯ ● Consider employing a warden/keeper for Queen's Park Gardens
- ⑰ ● ● ● Install a café and toilet in Queen's Park Gardens
- ⑱ ● Explore options for outdoor cinema events
- ⑲ ● ● Encourage the establishment of a baby / breastfeeding friendly café in the area
- ⑳ ● Improve the advertising of services that are currently available e.g. set up a directory of local child-minders
- ㉑ ● ● ● Develop more programmes and activities for young people particularly during school holidays and a regular social evening event
- ㉒ ● Extend the route of the Notting Hill Carnival along the Harrow Road
- ㉓ ● ● ● Develop a strategy for dealing with fly-tipping and litter e.g. organise community collections of bulky waste items for a small contribution
- ㉔ ● Improve the awareness of waste collection times and develop a positive marketing and educational campaign run by the community
- ㉕ ● ● Install more bins for dog waste and test new types of recycling bins



This isn't the end!

Please get involved and share your ideas

Producing a Neighbourhood Plan involves several stages:

- ✓ Identifying the neighbourhood area
- ✓ Forming a qualifying body
- ✓ Engaging the community
- ✓ Building the evidence base

Next steps

Using previous engagement ideas and what came out of these four weeks 'On the Street', the QPCC will be:

- Writing the Neighbourhood Plan
- Consulting the community with developed ideas and the Neighbourhood Plan
- Submitting the Plan to Westminster City Council for a local referendum

Visit the QPCC at:

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