

THE LONDON FORUM

of Amenity and Civic Societies

Founded 1988

Charity Registered Number 1093134



25th ANNUAL REPORT
2012 - 2013

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013

Notice is given to members that the

AGM of the London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

will be held on

Tuesday October 15th 2013, 6pm for 6.30pm

at

The Gallery

Alan Baxter and Associates,

77 Cowcross Street, London, near Farringdon Station, EC1M 6EL

AGENDA

- 1. President's welcome and introduction**
- 2. Minutes of the AGM of 17 October 2012**
- 3. Chairman's Report**
- 4. Financial Report**
- 5. Approval of Annual Report and Accounts for 2012-13**
- 6. Election of Honorary Independent Examiner**
- 7. Election of Officers and Trustees**
- 8. Any Other Business**

After the AGM there will be drinks and light refreshments

followed by a

Celebration of Members' achievements

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Constitution

The London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies is an unincorporated association founded in 1988 and was registered as a charity in 2002. It is governed by a constitution last revised in 2008. The aim of the organisation is the protection and improvement of the quality of life of people living, working in or visiting the area of Greater London. The objects of the London Forum can be summarised as the promotion and encouragement of:

1. High standards of planning, design, infrastructure and transport;
2. Conservation and heritage protection;
3. Improvement to the built environment, open spaces, waterways and amenities;
4. Knowledge of, and interest in, the aims of the London Forum by members, Non-Government Organisations and others;
5. Civic pride and community involvement;
6. Sustainable development.

Activities of the London Forum are summarised on page 24 of this report.

Organisation structure

The London Forum is administered by the Executive Committee of up to 15 trustees, which meets quarterly. The trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting by the voting members of the London Forum, which are amenity and civic societies in the Greater London area. Matters of detail are delegated to the Planning and Transport Committee, which reports to the Executive Committee. All the work of the London Forum is carried out by volunteers.

Review of the year ended 30 June 2013

A major task in the early part of 2013 was the preparation for the London Forum's 25th anniversary. The Mayor, Boris Johnson, generously offered to host a celebration for members at City Hall in London's Living Room just after the end of this report period and full details were published in a subsequent edition of Newsforum.

One of the Forum's chief concerns this year has again been the continued stream of changes to planning laws and the Government's conviction that reducing the 'red tape' involved in getting planning permission would be a major step towards kick-starting the economy and solving the housing shortage. Ministers seem not to have considered how relaxations will undermine local plans and work against the interests

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of town centres, small businesses and the amenities of local residents. The Forum has therefore been much occupied in preparing consultation responses on both national and London legislation.

2012 saw the latest of the Forum's surveys of its members. 51 member Societies responded, indicating that developer-led planning and high density housing were amongst the most serious challenges they were facing, others being traffic and road safety, the decline in the number of local shops and excessive street clutter. The results of the survey were presented at an open meeting in September 2012, and have informed a redesign of the Forum's brochure.

Legislative changes

Further relaxation of planning rules included increasing the amount of development that is allowed without the need for planning permission, data connectivity, the ability of free schools to open in any building, and putting new hurdles in the way of the registration of Town and Village Greens. The Planning Minister, Nick Boles, also hinted that houses will have to be built on Green Belt land and he criticised the cost to developers of producing application reports on archaeology and other subjects. It is feared that Government's encouragement to developers to renegotiate on grounds of non-viability of agreements with local authorities to pay Section 106 contributions for affordable housing may lead to a reduction in the supply of such housing.

A briefing paper was issued as part of a campaign by societies for MPs to support the House of Lords amendments to the Growth & Infrastructure Bill giving local authorities the opportunity to opt out of some relaxations of planning controls. Almost all London boroughs applied for exemption from some changes but most were refused. Peter Eversden wrote to Boris Johnson urging him to oppose the planning changes which the London Forum considers are contrary to localism, and would harm London. The Forum's view is that the Mayor should be allowed to implement the London Plan as approved by the Secretary of State. An encouraging response was received from Sir Edward Lister, the Mayor's deputy for planning. The Mayor then secured exemption of conversion of offices to flats in the Central Activities Zone.

Proposals to change the judicial review process were worrying.

We were able to welcome some Government policy changes, including the right to film Council meetings, the ending of costly, 'political' Council newspapers, guidance against translating Council documents and Nick Boles' speech against "unattractive" buildings.

No response has been supplied by Government on how percentages of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for neighbourhoods will be controlled and allocated despite the April 2013 consultation on further CIL reforms.

The Government published its intentions to ensure the Royal Mail service continues but omitted mention of the Post Offices. Peter Eversden wrote to Consumer Focus, the statutory consumer watchdog for the post office network, asking for clarification.

The Mayor and Assembly

The Forum continued to be closely engaged with the work of the London Assembly in scrutinising the activities of the Mayor, and especially those concerned with planning, housing, regeneration, transport and the environment. Members were encouraged to provide input to Assembly scrutiny committees.

The Forum was involved for several months in the Mayor's Early Minor Alterations proposed for the London Plan, caused by the publication of the Government's affordable rent model, the Localism Act and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Michael Bach and Peter Eversden responded to the changes and gave evidence at an Inspector's public examination of the alterations, objecting to the new Government definitions of 'affordable' housing, based on 65% to 80% of market rents, which would cause problems for London. There must be more really affordable housing and social housing. That has not been resolved but more amendments to the London Plan are due and they will have to take account of the significant increase in population revealed by the 2011 Census. The rate of house building has fallen well short of requirement.

The Forum welcomed the Mayor's draft Planning Statement, which set out some principles of fundamental importance for the planning system in London, but made a number of criticisms and comments; no final version has yet appeared.

The next revisions to the London Plan should include the aims in the statement and the key objectives and pledges of the Mayor in his '2020 Vision' document issued this year. The Forum is monitoring the implementation of the actions proposed in it. One of the Mayor's proposals is to consider tunneling the A4 from Barons Court to Chiswick. Peter Eversden had written to him to request this as part of his Transport Strategy, in support of the plans prepared by campaigners in Hammersmith. The Mayor has also pledged to call in more planning decisions and introduce a 'use it or lose it' planning power to get more homes built where sites with approval are not being developed.

Input was made to the Mayor on the scope of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment to be conducted by the GLA and boroughs; on the draft Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG); on the draft Town Centres SPG; and on the proposals for additional East London river crossings, emphasising that, though the current levels of congestion around the approaches to the Blackwall Tunnel were unacceptable, there must be no overall increase in traffic levels, less pollution, shorter journey times and measures to avoid drivers diverting into London to make use of the new crossings for journeys currently made around London.

The Forum was involved in preparation of the Mayor's draft Character and Context SPG as part of the Greater London Authority (GLA) guidance on Shaping Neighbourhoods for assisting preparation of Local Plans and for use in development control for any area.

Support was given to the call by Clean Air in London for more stringent emission controls in the revision by the Mayor of the Congestion Charge scheme.

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Andrew Bosi gave evidence to the Assembly investigation into bus services. Peter Eversden provided details to the Assembly study of housing density which was found by Duncan Bowie of the University of Westminster, in his assessment of cases referred to the Mayor, to be way above that appropriate for their sites.

Michael Bach gave evidence to a hearing on offices to housing.

The Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks are challenged too often by developers' applications before the policies are finalised. This was a problem in Earls Court and White City, so plans for other areas are being monitored.

The Mayor's funding scheme for pocket parks was promoted to members.

The London Enterprise Panel published a jobs and growth plan in April 2013 which is useful now that the Mayor can establish Development Corporations for key areas under GLA control.

Consultations

The Forum has established a system for looking through all the consultations initiated by national government or the Mayor, identifying all of particular relevance to the Forum's concerns, and responding to them.

Input was made by Michael Bach for the Forum's Planning and Transport Committee to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on their proposals to make changes to Use Class Orders, extending permitted development rights and offices to housing; to Lord Matthew Taylor for his group working on rationalisation and reduction in Government Guidance documents; to the Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) on Listed Building Consent options; and to the Ministry of Justice on the proposed changes to judicial review .

Objection was made to proposals that applicants for planning permission can apply directly to the Planning Inspectorate for a decision, by-passing communities and their Councils under Planning Performance rules, if the local authority has not met time targets for dealing with applications or has had several appeals lodged against its decisions. It is expected that special measures should be applied to assist any such borough to improve its performance without taking away its development management responsibilities.

Planning and development

The Forum was much concerned at the reductions in funding of local authority planning departments, reducing their ability to make well-informed and balanced decisions, and at the growing tendency for more and more decisions to be delegated to council officers, thus reducing democratic oversight.

Support was given to London Councils on their call for more financial deregulation for Local Planning Authorities to help house building, and their concerns about the impact of welfare reform and the difficulties in achieving enough school places. Forum Patron Tony Travers led the London Finance Commission and also recommended more financial freedom for London.

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Concerns were raised with the GLA about the bulk and quantity of enabling development that the Brentford Football Club says is necessary to make viable the building of a new stadium at Lionel Road in West London. The Mayor's first response after considering the application was suitably critical.

The London Forum continues to oppose over-large basements because of the impact on neighbours. Councils have been urged to implement policies to control the size of such developments and to implement suitable assessment procedures.

The loss of school playing fields to new development has become serious and a more critical response by the GLA to the effect of proposed schemes was requested.

The Forum encouraged members to contribute to Sir Terry Farrell's request for evidence for his independent National Review of Architecture and the Built Environment, established by the DCMS. Members were also urged to take advantage of local listing of assets of community value.

Michael Coupe summarised guidance for World Heritage Sites following publication of the NPPF.

Michael Bach persuaded Kensington & Chelsea Council to refuse a large number of BT/JC Decaux advertisement panels with a telephone on the back. Others have been advised of the approach taken. The appeal decisions are awaited.

The Forum expressed frustration that the Government and the Mayor were ignoring UNESCO rules relating to the setting of World Heritage Sites, and allowing obtrusive developments near the Tower of London, the Palace of Westminster and the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew. Objections were raised to a particularly harmful development, the bulky and tall buildings on the Elizabeth House site by Waterloo station, but the Mayor and the Secretary of State decided not to intervene. The City of Westminster is challenging the approval decision.

The Thames and other waterways

The Forum was much involved with issues relating to the Thames and other waterways, and in particular with the need to safeguard wharves if the Thames was to continue to be used for freight and to remain a serious contributor to the success of business and industry in London.

Peter Eversden has worked with Lady Dido Berkeley of the organisation Thamesbank, in seeking full implementation of the policies for the Blue Ribbon Network in the London Plan and a single authority for the Thames. The case for the latter was put by Lady Dido to Richard Benyon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at DEFRA, with a positive response.

The Thames Tideway Tunnel seems likely to proceed, despite its cost and serious effect on important stretches of the Thames bank, and despite the evidence from Philadelphia that there are much better ways of dealing with the problem of the capacity of the present sewerage system. The point was made that sustainable urban drainage, the use of permeable surfaces and greening of the city

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could avoid the overloading by rain storms of the sewerage system and the treatment plants, and increase the water table for future water extraction. The planning inquiry for the tunnel is about to begin.

The West London River Group, Thamesbank and the London Forum objected strongly to the planning application by Fulham Football Club to an extension out on to the Thames foreshore.

Transport

Dick Allard continues to monitor aspects of the effects of freight on the environment of London and the interests of Londoners. Protection of transfer stations and other facilities on London's canals was sought for freight purposes.

Andrew Bosi publishes news on transport in the capital. He raised issues on London's Rail services with TfL and led on London Forum's response to the consultation on Crossrail 2 and High Speed 2. The potential for overloading of Euston station, by terminating HS2 there, is a problem. So too is the likely destruction of some existing housing nearby. Dispersal of HS2 passengers to their destinations using Crossrail 1 from Old Oak Common could avoid adverse impact on Underground services at Euston.

Issues have been raised with Assembly Members about the method of implementing Cycle SuperHighways following problems in Grosvenor Road on the Embankment. Transport for London has reported that two other cycle highways planned will have "negative impacts" on other traffic, pushing it above capacity at strategic points. The Mayor plans 15 miles of segregated bike lanes running in an East-West direction.

Civic Voice

The Forum has continued close links with Civic Voice, and one of its Trustees, Helen Marcus, is also a trustee of Civic Voice. Civic Voice is proving its value in making the views of the civic society movement known to the Government and Members of Parliament, and in keeping civic societies across the country well informed. Of particular importance is the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies chaired by Laura Sandys MP. Peter Eversden and Helen Marcus attended the launch in May.

Civic Voice is in the process of conducting a review of its structure and activities. Useful consultation meetings were held with regional representatives; Peter Eversden, Helen Marcus and Bill Linskey attended.

However, the subscription rate is well above that which seems reasonable to most societies and as a consequence the number of members is way below what it ought to be. It is to be hoped that these difficulties will be resolved in the future.

Communications

The renewed website, redesigned by Mike Roden, has proved to be easy to maintain and is an invaluable way of making the Forum widely known. It is now being used

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increasingly to communicate with members and keep them informed of Forum responses and activities, particularly the 'News Updates' and 'What we've said' sections, where responses to consultations are posted. The London News page of the web site is set to receive the latest news feeds from Government departments, the Mayor, Transport for London and the London Assembly. Other RSS (Rich Site Summary) feeds are being considered, such as those from the Assembly committees working on planning, housing, transport, economy, environment and regeneration. Statistics for the web site show that accesses are increasing with over 2,000 visits recorded in one month.

In addition frequent communication is also provided through Twitter, and the chairman's regular e-bulletins have kept community groups informed of the changes to planning policies and rules that the Government is introducing and given them opportunities to respond or to work with their local authority to implement suitable local policies.

Newsforum appears three times a year (twice in printed and once in electronic form only) with a wealth of informative articles. We continue to receive appreciative comment from members.

The *Planning in London* journal went digital in April-June 2013. London Forum took out a group subscription so that members can be advised by email how to access each issue.

Publicity was given to a New London Architecture (NLA) exhibition of housing in London. There was a very good catalogue about the housing issues on the NLA web site which was drawn to the attention of members.

London Forum collaboration with other bodies

The Forum has strengthened its relations with other organisations concerned with the well-being of London, and the list of other London organisations that London Forum works with continues to grow, providing invaluable information and mutual support for all involved. These now include New London Architecture, the Just Space Network, Centre for London, Future of London, the London Planning and Development Forum, Heritage Alliance, London Tenants Federation, London Green Spaces Friends Groups Network, New London Sounding Board, Urban Design London, Campaign for Better Transport, Thames Heritage Alliance, Thamesbank, University College London Bartlett School and the West London River Group.

The London Civic Forum, established by the GLA, closed after losing its financial support. Some work was taken over by London Voluntary Service Council and some by the Just Space Network. However there is now more for London Forum to cover. Contacts are being established with those representing tenants in London.

Planning Aid for London has had its grants and sponsorships reduced and London Forum has liaised with its management on what can be done to help them to survive. It has been a valuable service to our members.

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Events attended and talks given by the Chairman and other committee members

Peter Eversden continued to give freely of his time to talk to member societies and other organisations, and has attended a wide variety of meetings and events on behalf of the Forum. He has spoken to meetings of Planning in London, the York House Society and CASCH.

He continues to work on the Outer London Commission to which he was appointed by the Mayor and which has submitted two reports to influence London Plan policies. The Commission has been set an additional task of determining how outer London town centres should be helped to develop and thrive. Peter is liaising with Assembly Members who have produced a report on Town Centres for which he has sought comments by members.

Peter has attended London Sounding Board events at the NLA, the London Councils' annual conference and a Public Bill seminar on the processes operated in each House of Parliament for Bills; and has supported a London Tenants Federation event on gentrification and dispersement arising following estate regeneration.

Peter Eversden and Michael Bach have attended Select Committees in Parliament.

Comments were made to both the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Civic Society and the one on Civil Society and Volunteering about communities' issues with planning. Evidence was given to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee for their interview of Nick Boles on planning changes and their review of the effectiveness of the GLA Act.

Other Committee members have also covered conferences and meetings on behalf of the Forum including events at the NLA, one of which, on retrofitting buildings for energy efficiency, was attended by David Lewis. Guidance by Westminster City Council on the subject is being used to give advice. Michael Bach spoke at seminars of Urban Design for London on various subjects. Free places for member societies have been made available for those events. Helen Marcus attended the launch of a new All-Party Parliamentary Group on Green Belts set up by Chris Skidmore MP. Michael Hammerson and Michael Coupe liaise with various organisations on heritage.

Events for London Forum's members

This past year saw a packed programme of open meetings in the Gallery on a wide variety of topical subjects. These have been much facilitated by the Gallery's new audio-visual system. In addition to the AGM on 17th October 2012 seven open meetings were held, as follows:

2012, July: Basements, with officers from Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster and Camden boroughs. **September:** the results of the 2012 London Forum Survey of its members. **November:** Neighbourhood Forums and Neighbourhood Planning, as introduced by last year's Localism Act with speakers Jenny Frew, from DCLG, and Allison Borden from Planning Aid for London.

2013 January: John Walker of Westminster City Council covered the implications for London of the Government Planning Policy changes. **March:** the future of

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London's airports with speakers Daniel Moylan, the Mayor's aviation advisor, and John Stewart of HACAN. **April:** the implications for London of the 2011 census results with speaker Baljit Bains, a nationally recognized demographer. **June:** Air Pollution with speakers Dr Ian Mudway of Kings College London, Maria Arnold of Client Earth, Jonathan Callaway of the Putney Society, Lucy Saunders, Public Health Specialist from the GLA, and Daniel Instone from DEFRA (arranged by Diana Linskey, a new member of the Forum's Planning and Transport committee). The Putney Society described how they had convinced TfL to change the bus fleet to a modern type with lower emissions.

PowerPoint presentations given by speakers were sent out to members for information on meetings they missed or to help their representative at a meeting to write a report on it.

We are much indebted to our Patron Alan Baxter for the use of the Gallery.

Committee and Officers

We were sad to hear of the death of Jocasta Innes, journalist and writer, the partner of London Forum's President, Sir Richard MacCormac. Sir Richard himself has been ill and is wished a speedy recovery. Also the death of Stephen Thornton of the Islington Society who was London Forum's Hon Sec between 2007 and 2010. One of London Forum's Vice Presidents, Harley Sherlock, who chaired the Planning and Transport Committee for many years, has been ill but is recovering well and attended the 25th anniversary celebrations. We are delighted to welcome the return to London of another Vice President, David Lewis of the Battersea Society.

Membership

We warmly welcome a new member, Ealing Fields Residents Association. We acknowledge and appreciate the work of member societies which influences local services, planning, policies and decisions and for members' feedback which guides our activities and provides news for 'Round the Societies' pages in Newsforum.

London Forum continues to receive generous extra donations from societies in addition to their membership fees. This year extra donations have come from Angel Association, Charlton Society, Crystal Palace Community Association, Culverley Green Residents Association, Enfield Society, Friends of St. George's Gardens, Hammersmith & Fulham Historic Buildings Group, Harrow Heritage Trust, Highgate Society, New Barnet Community Association, Paddington Waterways & Maida Vale Society, South East Bayswater Residents Association, Stamford Brook Residents Association, Twickenham Society, Victoria Drive Conservation Area Residents Association, and also from an individual member. We are most grateful for this additional support of our members and thank them warmly.

The London Forum has provided information and encouragement to member societies interested in establishing Neighbourhood Forums and having Neighbourhood Plans under the Localism Act. However, production of a full Plan is

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not proving necessary in some cases where a Neighbourhood Forum convinces their Council of changes that should be made to the Local Plan for policies relevant to the neighbourhood. Neighbourhood Forums have been established also in areas of major development, town centre decline and where a neighbourhood is covered by more than one borough.

Members are increasingly informing us of their own responses to government consultations and of their activities. Several members including the Culverley Green Residents Association, Woodside Park GS Residents' Association and the Tottenham Civic Society, sent emails describing their work on empty shops which were helpful to the P&T committee. The Friends of Greenwich Park sent us their response to the Consultation on superfast broadband networks supporting the retention of siting and planning arrangements in Sites of Special Scientific Importance (SSSI). The Pinner Association response on "Extending permitted development rights for homeowners and businesses" made clear their concerns about the proposed relaxation of the rules on permitted development and on the conduct of the consultation (only 6 weeks have been allowed rather than the usual eight weeks). The Greenwich Society objected to proposals relating to the Use Classes Order and to Listed Building Consent. The Richmond Society and the Kensington Society wrote to the Secretary of State, Eric Pickles, saying that permitted development rights for basement excavations should be removed from the General Permitted Development Order. The Enfield Friends of Parks Consortium raised serious concerns about encroachment on Green Belt.

Two societies suffered serious setbacks in campaigns: the Crystal Palace Community Association lost their challenge in the Appeal Court in April to the decision by the Secretary of State to approve the Crystal Palace Park masterplan. Darren Johnson, London Assembly Green Member said "I fear the Court's decision will set a precedent that will encourage inappropriate development on all public parks and green open spaces."

Following an Inspector's decision to allow a 25-storey building at 45 Hornsey Road, Islington, Roger Wright of the Highbury Community Association said it rides a coach and horses right through the London Plan Tall Buildings policy.

Helen Marcus represented London Forum at the London Society reception celebrating their centenary in October 2012.

The Camden Civic Society has emerged from a difficult time renewed, with eight new committee members.

Appreciation for Alan Baxter

London Forum warmly thanks Alan Baxter and Associates for their invaluable support in providing office and meeting space, facilities, and valuable networking opportunities with other organisations.

Finances for the year to 30 June 2013

Total income for the year was £4,426, little changed from last year (£4,576). Subscription income remains the principal source of revenue for the Forum. This was down 8% on last year, even though the number of subscribing members has remained broadly the same. Rather more members than last year donated generously to the Forum in appreciation of its work. Bank interest remained low with interest rates on all types of accounts continuing to fall.

Expenses for the year were £4,597 (2012: £3,396). This year these include the cost of preparing and analysing our members' survey, which was completed in September 2012, and sundry costs relating to the planning of our 25th birthday event, which took place in July 2013.

The net financial outcome for the year was a small shortfall of £171 (2012: surplus of £1,180).

The balance sheet of the London Forum at 30 June 2013 remains strong. Total net assets amounted to £23,125, almost wholly cash and deposits (2012: £23,239).

Risk management

The major risks to which the London Forum is exposed, as identified by the trustees, are reviewed regularly, and the trustees are satisfied that suitable action is being taken to manage those risks.

Statement of the Executive Committee's responsibilities for financial statements

Charity law requires the Executive Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the London Forum and of the income and expenditure for the year then ended. In preparing the financial statements, the Executive Committee is required to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently, make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the London Forum will continue in business. The Executive Committee has responsibility for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the London Forum and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with charity regulations. It also has responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the London Forum and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. On behalf of the Executive Committee

P. Eversden,
Chairman

9th September 2013

London Forum Financial Report

The London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 30 June 2013

	Notes	2013 £	2012 £
Incoming resources			
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>			
Subscription income		3,610	3,915
Donations		558	413
Public meetings and events		0	35
Investment income – deposit interest		258	213
Total incoming resources		<u>4,426</u>	<u>4,576</u>
<i>Resources expended</i>			
<i>Cost of charitable activities</i>			
Newsletters		1,578	1,229
Public meetings & events		675	0
Support costs		2,344	2,167
Total resources expended	2	<u>4,597</u>	<u>3,396</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year		<u>(171)</u>	<u>1,180</u>
General fund at beginning of year		23,296	22,116
General fund at end of year		<u>£22,125</u>	<u>£23,296</u>

London Forum Financial Report

The London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

Balance Sheet at 30 June 2013

		2013	2012
		£	£
	Notes		
Fixed assets-tangible assets	4	38	57
Current assets			
Investments – bank deposits		18,863	18,608
Cash at bank and in hand		6,123	6,388
		<hr/> 24,986	<hr/> 24,996
Current liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year			
Creditors & accruals		1,899	1,757
		<hr/> 23,087	<hr/> 23,239
Net current assets			
Total assets less current liabilities		<hr/> £23,125	<hr/> £23,296
Funds			
General fund	5	<hr/> £23,125	<hr/> £23,296

Approved by the trustees on 6th September 2013
and signed on their behalf by

P. Eversden – Chairman

A.S. Allen – Hon Treasurer

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

1. Accounting policies

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards (including the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities published in March 2005) and on a going concern basis. The London Forum is an unincorporated association founded in 1988 and became a charity in July 2002.

b. Income and expenditure

Income for the year is brought into the financial statements when received or when there is certainty of receipt. Income received in advance is carried forward. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

The Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities requires that costs be allocated between direct charitable expenditure, fund raising, and management and administration. For those categories of expenditure where direct attribution is not applicable, apportionment has been applied on the basis of the effort estimated to have been devoted to each activity.

c. Fund accounting

All of the London Forum's funds are unrestricted. The Executive Committee has designated a certain amount of the funds to be used for special projects.

d. Subscription income

Subscriptions are recognised when received.

e. Services provided

The Society benefits from the provision, without charge, of a variety of skills and other services by committee members and friends of the London Forum. The benefit is not reflected in these accounts since it is not regarded as practicable to estimate its value.

London Forum Financial Report - Notes (continued)

f. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Fixed assets, which comprise office equipment, are depreciated on a straight-line basis over 4 years.

2. Total resources expended

There are no staff costs and the majority of costs comprises direct costs. The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his examination of the accounts of the London Forum.

3. Transactions with Members of the Executive Committee

No trustee or person defined by Accounting Standards as "related to them" received any remuneration for services as a trustee or in a management capacity during the year or any reimbursement of expenses other than for expenditure incurred as agent for the London Forum.

4. Fixed assets

	£
<i>Cost of office equipment</i>	
At 1 July 2012	1,276
Additions	-
	<hr/>
At 30 June 2013	1,276
	<hr/>
<i>Depreciation of office equipment</i>	
At 1 July 2012	1,219
Charge for the year	19
	<hr/>
At 30 June 2013	1,238
	<hr/>
<i>Net book value</i>	
At 30 June 2013	38
At 1 July 2012	57
	<hr/>

London Forum Financial Report - Notes (continued)

5. General fund

The general fund, which is unrestricted, contains an element of funds that has been designated by the Executive Committee for use in special projects:

	Designated £	Undesignated £	Total £
Balance brought forward at 1 July 2012	2,917	20,379	23,296
Net incoming resources for the year		(171)	(171)
Transfers	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance carried forward at 30 June 2013	<u>2,917</u>	<u>20,208</u>	<u>23,125</u>

The trustees are satisfied that the reserves are sufficient to finance the existing level of activities, and to support business plans for the foreseeable future.

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Bankers

CAF Bank
COIF Deposit Fund
Lloyds TSB
Scottish Widows Bank

Independent examiner

S Baddeley, FCA
Chiswick
London W4

London Forum Report of the Independent Examiner

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Executive Committee of The London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

I report on the accounts of The London Forum for the year ended 30 June 2013, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit responsibilities of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act") does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 43(2) of the 1993 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

S Baddeley FCA

Chiswick

6th September 2013

THE LONDON FORUM COMMITTEES AND PATRONS

Patrons

Alan Baxter CBE
Dame Jennifer Jenkins, DBE
Tony Travers

President

Sir Richard MacCormac, CBE,
PPRIBA, MA, RA

Vice-Presidents

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Marion Harvey, MBE, BA, MSc, FRSA
Judy Hillman, MA, FRSA
David Lewis MA, DPhil, FRSA
Martin Simmons, MA, Dip.TP, MRTPI
Harley Sherlock, RIBA, AA, Dipl FRSA
Bill Tyler, RIBA, AADipl, IHBC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011-12

Trustees

Peter Eversden 020 8747 3281
Bedford Park Society
Chairman

Derek Chandler 020 8455 3822
Hampstead Garden Suburb RA
Honorary Secretary

Michael Bach 020 7937 3825
Kensington Society
Chair Planning & Transport Committee

Tony Allen 020 8467 2748
Chislehurst Society
Honorary Treasurer

Haydn Mylchreest 020 7720 2429
Battersea Society
Membership Secretary

Helen Marcus 020 8450 8864
Heath&Hampstead Society
Editor Newsforum

Peter Pickering 020 8445 2807
Finchley Society
Minutes Secretary

Diane Burridge 020 7226 0650
Highbury Community Association

Michael Hammerson 020 8341 1437
Highgate Society

Martin Jones 020 7226 2145
Highbury Fields Association

Bill Linskey 020 7274 3835
Brixton Society

Co-opted

Marion Harvey 01873 890 321
Bill Tyler 020 8883 2006

LONDON FORUM MEMBERS & ASSOCIATES

Amwell Society
Angel Association
Balham Society
Barnet Society
Battersea Society
Beckenham Civic Society
Bedford Park Society
Bexley Civic Society
Blackheath Society
Brentford Community Council
Brixton Society
Brockley Society
Brompton Association
C.A.S.C.H. (Crouch End)
Camberwell Society
Camden Civic Society
Canonbury Society
Carshalton Society
Charlton Society
Chelsea Society
Chislehurst Society
City Heritage Society
Clapham Society
Covent Garden Community Trust
Crystal Palace Community Association
Crystal Palace Foundation
Culverley Green Residents Association
Dulwich Society
Duncan Terrace Residents Association
Ealing Civic Society
Ealing Fields Residents Association
Earl's Court Society
East Dulwich Society
Eltham Society
Enfield Society
Finchley Society
Finsbury Park Action Group
Forest Hill Society
Friends of Battersea Park
Friends of Brockwell Park
Friends of Clapham Common
Friends of Great North Wood
Friends of Greenwich Park
Friends of Jubilee Gardens
Friends of Peckham Rye Park
Friends of St. George's Gardens
Friends of Waterlow Park
Fulham Society
Gidea Park and District Civic Society
Greenwich Environment Forum
Greenwich Society
Greenwich Waterfront Community
Forum
Hackney Society
Hammersmith & Fulham Historic
Buildings Group
Haringey Federation of Residents
Associations
Hammersmith Community Trust
Hammersmith Society
Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents
Association
Harrow Heritage Trust
Harrow Hill Trust
Heath and Hampstead Society
Herne Hill Society
Highbury Community Association
Highbury Fields Association
Highgate Society
Hyde Park Estate Association
Isleworth Society
Islington Society
John Innes Society (Merton)
Kensington Society
Kew Society
Kingston-upon-Thames Society
Knightsbridge Association
Ladbroke Association
Ladywell Society
Lambethan's Society
Lee Manor Society
Lewisham Environment Trust

LONDON FORUM MEMBERS

London Society
Marylebone Association
Metropolitan Public Gardens Association
Mill Hill Preservation Society
Mortlake and East Sheen Society
Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association
Netherhall Neighbourhood Association
Newington Green Action Group
New Barnet Community Association
Northolt & Greenford Countryside Park
Society
Norwood Society
Old Chiswick Protection Society
Paddington R.A.C.T.
Paddington Waterways and
Maida Vale Society
Penge Forum
Pinner Association
Putney Society
Queen's Park Area Residents
Association
Richmond Hill Terrace Residents
Association
Richmond Society
River Thames Society
Save Environment of Alexandra Park
and Palace
Seven Dials Trust
Smithfield Trust
Society for Protection of London Squares
Soho Society
South East Bayswater Residents
Association
South End Green Association
Southgate District Civic Trust
St. John's Wood Society
St. Mary Cray Action Group
St. Marylebone Society
Stamford Brook Residents Association
Stanmore Society
Strawberry Hill Residents Association
Streatham Society
Suncroft Residents Association
Sutton and Cheam Society
Sydenham Society
Teddington Society
Telegraph Hill Conservation Society
Tewkesbury Lodge Estate Residents
Association
Thorney Island Society
Tottenham Civic Society
Tower Hamlets Environment Trust
Twickenham Society
Vale of Health Society
Vauxhall Society
Victoria Drive Conservation Area Residents
Association
Waltham Forest Civic Society
Wandsworth Society
Waterloo Community Development
Group
Westbourne Neighbourhd Association
West Green Residents Association
Westcombe Society
Westminster Society
Wimbledon Park Heritage Group
Wimbledon Society
Woolwich & District Antiquarian Society
York House Society

LONDON FORUM ASSOCIATES

ASSOCIATES

Over the years the London Forum has enjoyed the support of many professional and commercial organisations, some of whom are Associate Members.

Adams Loxton Partnership Ltd
Age Concern London
Alan Baxter and Associates
Association of North Thames
Amenity Societies
Bio Regional Development Group
CPRE London Branch
Campaign for Better Transport
Campaign for the Abolition of Residential
Leaseholds
Civic Design Partnership
Coin Street Community Builders
Crystal Palace Campaign
Environmental Law Foundation
Frederick Stafford Planning
Friends of Islington Museum
Friends of the Earth London Region
Georgian Group
Groundwork Foundation
HACAN (Heathrow Association
for Control of Aircraft Noise)
Highgate Conservation Area
Advisory Committee
International Design Eco Awards
Islington Archaeology & History Society
Lambeth Public Transport Committee
Lea Rivers Trust
Learning Through Landscapes
in London

Living Streets
London Cycling Campaign
London Green Belt Council
London Parks & Gardens Trust
London Planning & Development Forum
London Research Centre
TravelWatch
London Voluntary Service Council
London Wildlife Trust
London & Middlesex
Archaeological Society
Muswell Hill Friends of the Earth
Open House London
Open Spaces Society
Planning Aid for London
RIBA London Region
Ramblers Association (Inner London)
Society for Protection of
Ancient Buildings
South London Link Travellers Association
Sustainable London Trust
Town and Country Planning Association
Trees for Cities
Twentieth Century Society
Urban Design Group
Urban and Economic Development
Victorian Society
Wandle Industrial Museum
West London River Group



About the London Forum

The LONDON FORUM helps civic societies, residents' associations and other community groups to work together to protect and improve the quality of life in London.

Since its foundation in 1988, under the auspices of The Civic Trust, it has grown in strength and influence derived from the participation of over 130 local societies with a combined membership of tens of thousands of Londoners, plus around 50 Associate Groups and individual subscribers.

The LONDON FORUM

Represents

. . . . its members on London-wide issues, liaising with the Mayor's office and Greater London Authority Assembly members, national and local government, government agencies and bodies influencing planning, the environment, road management, transport and regeneration in London. It has been a member of the development team of London Civic Forum that works with the GLA.

Supports

. . . . local community and civic societies, and channels their views and concerns to other relevant London-wide groups.

Responds to

. . . . key consultation papers, draft strategies, reports, and other policy documents, as they arise, regarding London's ever changing issues and concerns.

Publishes

. . . . "Newsforum", a regular newsletter aimed at keeping member societies informed and providing a platform for their views and for mutual support. All major London professional and environmental groups, Borough Chief Executives and Leaders, the Mayor, GLA members and officers, London MPs and MEPs and the media receive copies.

Organises

. . . . meetings, events, seminars, award schemes and exhibitions on topics of importance to those who live and work in London and publicity for the achievements of its member organisations.

The LONDON FORUM's responses

. . . . are based on surveys of member societies' views. These have shown a remarkable consensus on a range of London-wide issues. Feedback shows that the priorities are

- **strategic planning and control for sustainable development with context sensitivity and sufficient local infrastructure,**
- **development of an integrated London-wide public transport and traffic policy,**
- **efficient, safe and affordable transport, of adequate capacity,**
- **addressing issues related to**
 - traffic, rat-running and pollution
 - parks, open spaces, sports fields and Green Belt
 - regeneration of local shops and town centres
 - good urban design
 - protecting Conservation Areas
 - retaining and developing local amenities
 - proliferation of licensed premises - the 24 hour society
 - personal safety
 - graffiti, litter and vandalism
 - lack of resources and cuts in borough front-line services
 - entirely different standards of public engagement among London Boroughs

Membership

Full Members are civic and local amenity societies across London.

Associates are businesses and professional organisations London-wide and single interest groups.

Individuals can also join.

Details: Haydn Mylchreest 020 7720 2429

Principal address of the charity is

The London Forum, 70 Cowcross Street,
London EC1M 6EJ tel 020 7250 0606
E-mail: london_forum@blueyonder.co.uk

Together we can make a better London