

# **THE LONDON FORUM**

## of Amenity and Civic Societies

Founded 1988  
Charity Registered Number 1093134



# **27th ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2014 - 2015**

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015**

Notice is given to members that the

**AGM of the London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies**

will be held on

**Tuesday November 17 2015, 6pm for 6.30pm**

at

**The Gallery**

**Alan Baxter and Associates,**

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

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and introduction**
- 2. Minutes of the AGM of October 14th 2014**
- 3. Chairman's Report**
- 4. Financial Report - Subscription rates for 2016**
- 5. Approval of Annual Report and Accounts for 2014-15**
- 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**

**The announcement of the results and awarding  
of prizes of**

**The London Forum Media Awards**

**In memory of Walter Bor, London Forum's first President  
and an**

**Open meeting for Members**

## 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 every two months. 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 2015*

It has been a year of tumultuous changes to the planning system. Since the General Election the Government's drive to relax planning controls has continued and the planning system is increasingly portrayed as a constraint to growth and on the provision of housing, rather than a democratic way of reconciling different objectives - providing certainty for developers while ensuring that we leave to our descendants a London to be proud of. The Forum has continued tirelessly in putting the case for proper planning, but, like the many other concerned bodies trying to modify these changes, has had little success.

### **Government post-election**

London Forum grasped opportunities since the general election to establish relationships with MPs and Members of the House of Lords who are on Select Committees and All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPG) for subjects covering planning, housing, the built environment, civic and civil society and transport. The initiative to establish an APPG of MPs for London, for the first time, was welcomed and they have been briefed on London Forum's concerns, particularly DCLG's planning proposals, as below.

### **Legislative changes**

Much of the Forum's Planning and Transport Committee's (P&T) time has been consumed by the so-called 'Technical Consultation on Planning' which the Forum considered made proposals which further eroded provisions in the Localism Act, interfered with the implementation of the London Plan and Local Plans in the Capital, and were totally unacceptable in the relaxation of planning controls.

Other major legislation, the Infrastructure and Deregulation Acts and other Planning Reform measures covered a wide range of subjects such as provision for strategic highways; the funding of transport services; nationally significant infrastructure projects; town and country planning; Mayoral development corporations; and more permitted development. The effect of these measures was to remove many of the powers which enabled local authorities to manage change with the participation of their communities; it could almost be said that they were deconstructing planning.

London Forum continues to oppose the Government's proposals to extend permitted development rights (PDR) of offices to residential use, and to withdraw exemptions that boroughs had achieved. They would cause significant harm to the economy of London. Businesses were being evicted; the rental costs of remaining offices had increased considerably; parts of Central London were being left without sufficient offices; and the homes delivered after conversion were not of the type to help local authorities to meet their housing needs. Boroughs which tried to use Article 4 Direction to prevent office conversion in some areas were opposed by the Government.

The merging of functions by boroughs was continuing but the problems that might arise on changes in political control had not been thought through.

### **The Mayor and Assembly**

The most significant event of the latter part of 2014 was the two month Examination-in-Public of the further alterations to the London Plan. London Forum made extensive comments on many aspects of the Plan and the Chairman and Michael Bach participated in the hearings. It was a deeply unsatisfactory experience; the Inspector had not addressed the issues raised by the Forum and other organisations in the sector. The Inspector reported in January 2015 and the latest March 2015 edition of the Further Alterations to the London Plan was published. It is available to download as one large PDF file, or separately in chapter format from the GLA website.

Mr. Eversden continued during the year as a member of the Mayor's Outer London Commission, which worked particularly on the development of policies for town centres of the outer boroughs; and investigated parking standards in outer London in response to the Government's requirement to relax the Mayor's standards. It was found that such changes would cause more car usage and could reduce the amount of affordable housing delivered. The London Forum considers such changes are not necessary as the NPPF provides by its policies the flexibility that boroughs can apply on the subject..

The London Forum has supported the London Plan's policy of making the best use of potential housing sites with the most appropriate density, depending on location, public transport accessibility and the local setting. We have fought to prevent the abuse of exceeding the maximum densities specified, especially where public transport and access to amenities is poor, such as in several of the Opportunity Areas. It is clear that developer viability on affordable housing in new developments is going to become an increasingly contentious issue and continuing pressure for raising density and overloading local infrastructure was of great concern.

The GLA had issued Economics Working Paper 64 on Science and Technology, and a Business Plan for 2015-17.

The Forum maintains a close watch over Assembly scrutinies and participates in them as appropriate.

### **Other Planning and development issues**

There has been wide debate about whether Green Belt land should be used for new housing; some boroughs conducted Green Belt reviews as supported by the NPPF policies.

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea was successful in getting its new basement policy with increased restrictions through an Inspector's Examination and subsequent legal challenges, giving hope that other boroughs would follow suit and tighten up their policies.

The Town Centre Supplementary Planning Guidance issued last year was thought to be the best that could reasonably be hoped for and would be a major resource for planning and town centre management.

There was ongoing concern that World Heritage Sites in Britain were not getting the priority they deserved and that the UNESCO Committee would not have the courage to challenge the Government.

The Port of London Authority had published a Tidal Thames Vision Project.

Progress to a Thames Tideway Tunnel, massively destructive and unnecessary though it is, seems inexorable.

London Forum welcomes the initiative to set up an All-Party Parliamentary Group for London.

# London Forum Annual Report

## Consultations

The Forum's strengthened Planning and Transport Committee (P&T) has been able to make responses to a large number of consultations this year. Its Chairman, Michael Bach has also corresponded directly with Government and GLA officers and with MPs and Assembly members on several occasions.

The P&T committee members devoted a large amount of time working on responses to the Examination-in-Public of the Further Alterations to the London Plan referred to above. The subjects covered included: Duty to Co-operate, Housing, Transport, Living Spaces and Places, Employment, Climate Change, Opportunity Areas and Town Centres.

Other GLA and Mayoral initiatives that the Forum responded to were: the draft London 2050 Infrastructure Plan, the Cycle Superhighway, the Assembly's investigations on estate renewal, increasing density around town centres, the upgrading of the Tube, proposals for the Archway Gyratory system and the Draft Flood Risk Management Plans. The Forum also produced a critique of the new Routemaster, the so-called 'Boris Bus'.

The Forum commented on the Thames River Basin Management Plan and the London Riverside, and Old Oak and Park Royal draft Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks (OAPF); the TfL Consultation on the Ultra Low Emission Zone; the Silvertown Crossing; the Vauxhall Cross Consultation, and revisions to Westminster's City Plan.

On national legislation the Forum made input to the CLG Select Committee for the Devolution Bill, the Technical Consultation on Planning; Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2015, and the Environmental Audit Committee Report on Action on Air Quality (which contained many references to London Forum's contribution).

Responses were also submitted on English Heritage Tall Buildings guidance and the Airports Commission Consultation on the Short-listed Airport Options.

## Transport

Dick Allard and Andrew Bosi were joined by Daniel Instone and David Lewis in scrutinising transport matters, air quality, monitoring aspects of the effects of freight on the environment of London, and submitting responses for the London Forum. Andrew Bosi continues to circulate his Friends of Capital Transport email Newsletter on transport in the Capital. Matters dealt with amongst others during the year have included the Davies Report on Airport expansion, the cycle superhighway mentioned above and the HS2 rail project.

## Communications

Mike Roden continues to update many aspects of the London Forum website, providing an on-line subscription renewal facility, setting up a new Content Management System, which works very well, and looking at security and data protection aspects. He intends to develop an e-bulletin process.

## London Forum Annual Report

There is now a good hit rate on the News/Updates page of the web site.

The Chairman has published over 1000 entries in London Forum's Twitter site; re-tweets are being sent out on many items by people with many hundred followers of their own. Twitter postings - @london\_forum - are attracting increasing numbers of followers, some significant people, resulting in many re-tweets including by university lecturers at UCL (Bartlett), LSE and Westminster. There are over 400 followers and an estimated 400 more watchers.

News Forum appears three times a year (twice in print and once in electronic form only) with a wealth of informative articles. The Editor has been particularly pleased with the increasing level of comment and contributions from societies and committee members this year. These included recent contributions from Professor Jan Pahl Chair of the Canterbury Society, Roger Wright of Highbury Community Association and David Howard Chair of the Federation of Residents' Associations in Barnet.

The Chairman sends regular general updates by email alerting members to issues of interest or concern and drawing members attention to important GLA consultations and updates. These have included: Updates on town centres, and general planning and housing issues; Consultation on the Mayor's 2050 Infrastructure Plan; an Assembly call for evidence on living with a football stadium; the GLA consultation on proposed new Segregated cycle lanes; findings identifying problems arising from the introduction of Permitted Development Rights for conversion of offices to flats; and London Dashboard and London Datastore updates monthly from the GLA, and entries on Twitter or the web site.

Other email alerts to members included National Council for Voluntary Organisations comments on the implications of the Lobbying Act for charities, and Electoral Commission guidance on how the Act affects non-political organisations; London Forum's comments on the Davies Report on Airport expansion; English Heritage draft guidance on the use of the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance; a call for local groups and volunteers to be involved in its plans for Surveying Grade II listed properties, and a consultation by its successor body, Historic England, on Enhanced Advisory Services.

Members were also circulated with updates from London Forum Associates, such as the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces – including their UK Parks Petition 'Save Our Parks!'; a 'Protect our pubs' petition; the formation of a campaign group against Heathrow expansion, Save Britain's Heritage petition to stop King's College from demolishing the grade II listed buildings at 152-153 the Strand and regular press releases from the Open Spaces Society

Access to Planning in London magazine continues to be provided by email. The Chairman and Michael Bach are regular contributors.

### **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

## London Forum Annual Report

Forum works with continues to grow, providing invaluable information and mutual support for all involved. The Forum is concerned to establish a good working relationship with Historic England (the successor body to the present English Heritage).

Michael Bach attends the National Planning Forum on behalf of LF.

Michael Hammerson continues to represent LF at meetings of the Heritage Alliance's Planning Group, and to attend other Heritage Alliance events of significance such as the London Historic Environment Forum, 'Heritage & Government' - the Alliance's London Heritage Debate, and with Daniel Instone, the Heritage Alliance Event on effective PR.

The Chairman and Helen Marcus continued to attend Civic Voice's area representatives' meetings.

Helen Marcus attended The Open Spaces Society AGM - the 150th anniversary of its foundation.

Committee members regularly attend meetings and conferences of the Centre for London, Future for London, New London Architecture, Urban Design London, Just Space, the London Tenants Federation, the London Planning and Development Forum, the Campaign for Better Transport and West London River Group.

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

In addition to the above listed events a wide variety of meetings and events were attended by the Chairman and committee members in furtherance of London Forum's objects. The Chairman addressed the Greater London Assembly about the Mayor's planning decisions and Michael Bach addressed them on town centres and parking standards. The Chairman and Michael Bach had also met officials of the GLA on SPG development and liaised with the London Planning and Development Forum.

The Chairman had spoken with Richmond councillors about the effects in their borough of the latest planning relaxations especially offices to housing. He attended the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Civil Society and Volunteering; the launch at Parliament of 'Croydon Now' (Croydon was given new powers in the Autumn statement); an RTPI conference in February and a meeting at LSE on the housing shortage. The Chairman and Michael Hammerson attended the launch of Historic England.

The Chairman has kept a watchful eye on the development of the Old Oak Common Opportunity area, attending the launch of the Mayoral Development Corporation for Old Oak Common; a Park Royal Business Group meeting, and an Old Oak Common and Park Royal Tenants' Association event.

Amongst many meetings with members and other groups the Chairman had met the Kennington Oval and Vauxhall Forum, and the new Save Wormwood Scrubs group (which sought to keep it as a meadow not a theme park). He had



## London Forum Annual Report

helped Tom Ball to oppose Westminster Council's initiative on Churchill Gardens; had spoken at the AGM of the Beckenham Society; and had discussed Crystal Palace development proposals with representatives from the area.

David Lewis regularly attended London Assembly Environment Committee meetings. Michael Bach had attended a meeting of the APPG on Streetscape, and a round table organised by the Royal Town Planning Institute on attitudes to changes in the London Plan.

Peter Pickering and Michael Bach attended the Civic Voice Convention in Canterbury in October; the NLA conferences on Shaping growth across the South East; London's Town Centres and High Streets and a London Society meeting on the Green Belt.

Diane Burrige had been to an Open meeting on 'Smithfield - What Next?', and to a conference in February on the regeneration of Finsbury Park. She chaired a workshop and helped set up the Finsbury Park Station User Group.

### Events for London Forum's members - Open Meetings

This year saw a packed programme of Open meetings in the Gallery on a wide variety of topical subjects.

#### 2014

**September** The new CIC charitable status that societies might consider, with speaker Tim Rutherford, a Partner at the law firm StoneKing LLP, who has particular expertise in the field of Charity and Social Enterprise. Also in **September** there was a joint seminar with LAMAS on the historic environment with speaker David McDonald, a specialist in heritage training, urban design and building conservation. At the AGM on 14th **October** the chairman of Civic Voice, Freddie Gick, gave an update on Civic Voice activities nationally, and the project for conserving First World War memorials. **November**: New policies for Town Centres; speakers Jennifer Peters and Gerard Burgess from the GLA, and Stephen Kelly of the LB Haringey discussed how town centres might be affected by the Government's recent changes to the planning system.

#### 2015

**January** Transport: 'How Transport for London is planning to deal with the future requirements and London's population growth' with Geoff Hobbs and Helen Cansick of Transport for London. **March** the Hustings Meeting unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the difficulty of finding any MPs who were available to come and speak. **April** Housing - 'How do we house London's growing population?' with guest speakers Duncan Bowie (ex.GLA, University of Westminster and TCPA), and Mike Kiely (London Borough of Croydon and Planning Officer's Society). **June** John Walker director of planning, Westminster City Council and Ben Johnson of Islington Council assessed Government Planning Changes since 2010, further changes to come, and their implications for London

## London Forum Annual Report

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

### **Committee and Officers**

The P&T Committee has recruited several new members in recent years which has strengthened its ability to tackle a wider range of environmental matters more effectively. London Forum greatly welcomed the return of David Lewis as a Trustee and a member of the P&T Committee and is delighted to welcome Rosemarie MacQueen, BSc(Soc), AA Dip Urb & Reg plan, Dip Arch Hons, AA Dip Cons, DMS, MRTPI, FRICS, FRSA (lately with the City of Westminster) who has agreed to join our Planning and Transport Committee.

We were greatly saddened by the untimely death of Martyn Harman, former chairman of London Forum's P&T Committee and the loss of Harley Sherlock and Sir Richard MacCormack, as reported in Newsforum during the year. The Chairman and several other members had attended Harley's funeral, a moving occasion followed by a hog-roast. The Chairman had attended Sir Richard MacCormack's book launch which had taken place only a few days before he died.

The Committee has discussed how to increase membership. There were without doubt many organisations in London which could properly be described as civic or amenity societies which the Forum had not yet reached; its geographical coverage was patchy. There should be a project to identify these organisations, and how to bring them within the Forum's orbit.

### **London Forum Publicity sub-group**

Under Michael Bach's guidance the Publicity sub-group has been re-invigorated and was utilising the new forms of communication. While it was hard to engage the national press, the Forum's increased use of Twitter and blogging was beginning to have impact in making the existence of the Forum known more widely. 'London\_Forum' is top of the list for Twitter's pop-up suggestions if anyone types 'London' in any of their own tweets. That extends considerably the awareness of London Forum and helps its policies and aims to be understood. It is also the way the attention of members and others is drawn to the latest news affecting communities and to responses made to consultations.

The London Forum's campaign launched by Michael Bach just before the May election to urge the Government to redraft the proposed Statutory Instrument 596 giving freedom on permitted development to change offices into housing without requiring planning permission, was an excellent example of effective use of social media, blogs and Twitter. The Forum's campaign, supported by its members, reached a significant number of London MPs from all parties, the Mayor, London Councils, London Boroughs, the property, retail and town centre management/BIDs industries, and Government was persuaded to change its stance.

# London Forum Annual Report

## Membership

We warmly welcome four new full members - Spring Grove Residents Association; Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust; Belgravia Residents Association; and the Brompton Association (rejoining after a long gap) - and several individual members including Annie Redmile, Helen Collingridge and Linda Zilkha.

London Forum continues to receive generous extra donations from societies in addition to their membership fees. The Forum is most grateful to SEBRA, Brompton Association, The Seven Dials Trust, The Enfield Society, Stamford Brook Residents Association, Westcombe Society and one individual subscriber for their generous contributions.

Members are increasingly informing us of their own responses to government consultations which complement the activities of the Forum Committee; and of their activities which influence local services, planning, policies and decisions. We greatly appreciate members' feedback which guides the work of London Forum. Amongst those we have received are: Finchley Society's response to the DCLG Technical Consultation; Ealing Fields Residents' Association Response to Social Infrastructure Draft SPG Consultation - part of the GLA guidance on 'Shaping Neighbourhoods'; Covent Garden Community Association response to the clauses to relax alcohol licensing and residential letting in the Deregulation Bill. Culverley Green Residents' Association objected to the London City airport proposals to allow the introduction of Area Navigation (RNAV), on grounds of noise. PRACT (Paddington Residents' Active Concern on Transport) were very active in responding to the Mayor's Cycling 'Superhighway' proposals. Following strong campaigns by Kensington and Chelsea Societies the Council's new guidelines on basement developments set limits on their scale.

Wimbledon and Kensington Society were among many members who supported London Forum's campaign objecting to the proposals in the Technical Consultation on Planning for permitted development to convert offices or shops to housing by protesting to their MPs.

Bill Linskey Chair of Brixton Society and London Forum Committee member had a letter published in the Evening Standard deploring Tesco's conduct in ignoring opposition to their opening stores in historic buildings.

Many societies now regularly send details of their activities and email copies of their newsletters to London Forum which provides news for the 'Round the Societies' pages in Newsforum. Society activities have included: Hammersmith Society Environment Awards awarded annually for excellent schemes, presented by the Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham. The Enfield Society published its fourth Volume of the History of Enfield, "A Time of Change", written by Monica Smith (the three previous volumes were written by David Pam). The Bedford Park Society hosted a talk by Simon Thurley, before he stepped down as Chief Executive of English Heritage. The Angel Association sent their Aims and Priorities 2014/2015 and also notice of their AGM; Central Ealing Neighbourhood Forum reached its second round of consultation on 'Issues and Options' last July 2014.

## London Forum Annual Report

### **Appreciation for Alan Baxter**

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

### ***Finances for the year to 30 June 2015***

Total income for the year was £7,355, a large increase on last year (£4,306).

Current year subscription income received has been lower than expected, almost entirely as a result of the introduction of a new system of requesting payments. Our new online membership and subscription payment system is now working well, but we overestimated the number of our members who are active online. As a result the first wave of payments in the early 2015 was very disappointing, and we had to resort to issuing email and/or paper reminders to the majority of our members. As at 30 June only 80 subscriptions had been received compared to 93 in 2014. This nevertheless is a good turnaround from a disastrous start.

Thank you to all those members who have taken the trouble to work with our new system, which reduces our costs significantly, and enables members themselves to maintain and update their membership and contact details.

We continue to communicate with members who have not yet paid this year, and expect that by the end of this calendar we will have achieved a similar number to last year. However, since we account for subscriptions on a cash received basis, we must show only those subscriptions paid on or before 30 June 2015

The reduction in subscriptions levels was more than offset by a large bequest to the London Forum from the estate of Mr Bernard Selwyn, a member of the London Forum for many years, through the Erelca Trust, which he managed. We were very sorry to hear of Mr Selwyn's death, and are extremely grateful for this unexpected gift. The executive committee has resolved to use this amount for special projects as they arise (see note 5 below). We also identified that a bank account thought to be dormant had been used by a small number of personal members. A mix up at the Bank meant no statements have been issued for four years. This has now been rectified. The amount of prior year subscriptions included in the total is £480.

Bank interest remained low, with interest rates on all types of accounts at negligible levels.

Expenses for the year were £2,784 (2014: £3,479). This reflects lower printing

## London Forum Annual Report

costs. We continue to reduce the print run of NewsForum, which is increasingly being circulated electronically, so that our costs continue to fall.

The net financial outcome for the year was a surplus of £3,981 (2014: £827).

The balance sheet of the London Forum at 30 June 2015 continues to be strong. Total net assets amounted to £28,523, almost wholly cash and deposits (2014: £23,952).

### **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  
25th August 2015

## London Forum Financial Report

### The London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

#### Statement of financial activities for the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 £	2014 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>			
<i><b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b></i>			
Subscription income		3,737	3,585
Donations		3,537	621
Investment income – deposit interest		81	100
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources		7,355	4,306
 <i><b>Resources expended</b></i>			
<i><b>Cost of charitable activities</b></i>			
Newsletters		1,132	2,045
Public meetings & events		0	0
Support costs		1,652	1,434
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	2	2,784	3,479
 <b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year</b>			
		4,571	827
		<hr/>	<hr/>
General fund at beginning of year		23,952	23,125
General fund at end of year		28,523	23,952
		<hr/>	<hr/>

## London Forum Financial Report

### The London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies

#### Balance Sheet at 30 June 2015

		2015	2014
		£	£
	Note		
<b>Fixed assets-tangible assets</b>	4	0	19
<b>Current assets</b>			
Investments – bank deposits		23,217	18,959
Cash at bank and in hand		5,318	4,974
		<u>28,535</u>	<u>23,933</u>
<b>Current liabilities: amounts falling due within 1 year</b>			
Creditors & accruals		12	0
		<u>28,523</u>	<u>23,933</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>28,523</u>	<u>23,952</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
General fund	5	<u>28,523</u>	<u>23,125</u>

Approved by the trustees on 25th August 2015  
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 2014

#### 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

	<b>£</b>
<i>Cost of office equipment</i>	
At 1 July 2014	1,276
Additions	-
	<hr/>
At 30 June 2015	1,276
	<hr/>
<i>Depreciation of office equipment</i>	
At 1 July 2014	1,257
Charge for the year	19
	<hr/>
At 30 June 2015	1,276
	<hr/>
<i>Net book value</i>	
At 30 June 2015	0
At 1 July 2014	19
	<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:

	<b>Designated £</b>	<b>Undesignated £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Balance brought forward at 1 July 2014	2,917	20,208	23,952
Net incoming resources for the year	3,106	875	3,981
Transfers	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance carried forward at 30 June 2015	<u>6,023</u>	<u>21,035</u>	<u>27,933</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.

**0-0-0-0-0**

#### *Bankers*

CAF Bank  
COIF Deposit Fund  
Lloyds TSB  
Scottish Widows Bank

#### *Independent examiner*

P J Egan,  
Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers  
68 Elfort Road  
London N5 1AZ

### **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 2014, 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.

P J Egan,  
11 September 2015

## THE LONDON FORUM COMMITTEES AND PATRONS

### **Patrons**

Alan Baxter CBE  
Dame Jennifer Jenkins, DBE  
Professor Tony Travers

### **Vice-Presidents**

Tony Aldous, LLB, FRSA  
Marion Harvey, MBE, BA, MSc, FRSA  
Judy Hillman, MA, FRSA  
David Lewis MA, DPhil, FRSA  
Bill Tyler, RIBA, AADipl, IHBC

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013-14**

#### **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

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*  
Membership Secretary

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  
Brixton Society  
Bromley Civic Society  
Brompton Association

Camberwell Society  
Camden Civic Society  
Carshalton Society  
C.A.S.C.H. (Crouch End)  
Charlton Society  
Chelsea Society  
Chislehurst Society  
City Heritage Society  
Clapham Society  
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  
Enfield Society  
Finchley Society

Forest Hill Society  
Friends of Battersea Park  
Friends of Brockwell Park  
Friends of Greenwich Park  
Friends of Jubilee Gardens  
Friends of Richmond Park  
Friends of St. George's Gardens  
Fulham Society

Gidea Park and District Civic Society  
Greenwich Environment Forum  
Greenwich Society

Hackney Society  
Hammersmith & Fulham Historic  
Buildings Group  
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

Kensington Society  
Kew Society  
Kingston-upon-Thames Society  
Knightsbridge Association

Ladbroke Association  
Lambethan's Society  
Lee Manor Society

## LONDON FORUM MEMBERS

Lewisham Environment Trust  
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

New Barnet Community  
Association

Newington Green Action Group  
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

Richmond Hill Terrace Residents  
Association

Richmond Society

Seven Dials Trust  
Smithfield Trust  
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  
Sutton and Cheam Society  
Sydenham Society

Teddington Society  
Telegraph Hill Conservation Society  
Tewkesbury Lodge Estate  
Residents Association

The Environment Trust  
Thorney Island Society  
Tottenham Civic Society  
Twickenham Society

Victoria Drive Conservation Area  
Residents Association

Waltham Forest Civic Society  
Wandsworth Society  
West Hampstead Amenity and  
Transport Group

Westbourne Neighbourhood  
Association

Westcombe Society  
Westminster Society  
Wimbledon Society  
Woolwich & District Antiquarian  
Society

Worcester Park Residents  
Association

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 River 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)  
SAVE  
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:** [membership@londonforum.org.uk](mailto:membership@londonforum.org.uk)

#### **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](mailto:london_forum@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Together we can make a better London**