PARKSIDE MALVERN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Alexandra Road, Hornsey Park Road, Malvern Road, Park Ridings, Ravenstone Road and The Avenue, N8 - <u>www.PMRA.co.uk</u>

(Reply by email to parksidemalvernra@googlemail.com or by post c/o 137 Hornsey Park Road, N8)

Haringey Rivers Forum

This inaugural meeting is open to delegates from all Haringey friends and voluntary groups and to professional observers.

Wednesday, 7th February 2018 6.00 - 7.30 pm Big Green Bookshop, 1 Brampton Park Road, N22 6BG.

Key note presentation on the Moselle Brook by John Bryden, Senior Programme Manager, Thames 21 http://www.thames21.org.uk/

Organised with the approval of Haringey Friends of Parks Forum to agree terms of reference for an ongoing campaign to champion and improve all the borough's watercourses.

Organised by PMRA and Sustainable Haringey with support from the Big Green Bookshop. For information contact John Miles 07817 424356.

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Draft statement of Intent

16/01/2018

In December 2017 Haringey Friends of Parks Forum agreed to set up a rivers forum. The Haringey Rivers Forum will bring together all bodies with a direct responsibility and a relevant interest. It will be part of a national movement to recover the country's waterways, to release their potential as environmental assets and achieve substantial benefits for public health and well-being.

All the water-courses in Haringey will be represented and all current activity reflected. The foremost strategic concern will be the Moselle Brook, no. five of the 23 waterways in the GLA's blue ribbon network. The Moselle flows from Queen's Wood in the west and ends, via Pymmes Brook, in the River Lea. A significant tributary, the Lesser Moselle, joins it at Tottenham Cemetery.

For most of its course the Moselle is trapped in a culvert. The Forum must end the perception that Haringey's principal river is merely a drain, or, worse still, a sewer. It is true that the water quality urgently needs to be improved and that authorities and individuals have a poor record over the last 20 years in dealing with the misconnected drainage from homes and businesses. But it is not true that it represents a major health hazard or an insurmountable nuisance. These are matters that everyone with an interest can now work to overcome. The Forum will champion the restoration of the river in keeping with national policy and help resolve practical conflicts of interest wherever they arise.

The Environment Agency has identified several locations where the culvert is at risk of collapse: a partnership with Haringey to repair these section is in its early stages. Meanwhile, major opportunity to deculvert the brook - identified in the Haringey Strategic Plan - exists in Wood Green. The Moselle passes through several sites scheduled for redevelopment in the 2017 version of the Wood Green Area Action Plan (AAP): SA6 Mecca Bingo; SA10 Mall East; SA11 Iceland site and SA18 Clarendon Road. The appendices to the AAP consultation identified concerns with disrepair and encouraged developers to consider deculverting.

This statement follows a successful event held at Big Green Bookshop on June 19th 2017. Development of the Forum has been taken forward by Parkside Malvern Residents Association, Sustainable Haringey and Thames21 with Lordship Rec Community Hub as an observing partner.

The group expects to report progress to the Friends of Parks Forum in February 2018 and then to hold a delegate meeting to establish its membership and programme.