



QUINTA VILLAGE GREEN

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

Local Residents Association Granted Rule 6 status in 2025 Public Inquiry for applicant's appeal against Council's refusal for change of use of Mays Lane green belt for stationing of caravans.

Our local residents association has been resurrected following a number of threats to the local green belt. The recent sale of the Brethren's paddock, land and meeting house - on green belt adjacent to our Village Green - to a landowner who wishes to change the use of the green belt for stationing of caravans and to The Centre for Islamic Enlightening who intend to significantly extend their new community centre and intensify the use of the building (potentially doubling the capacity from its current maximum of 1,000), has raised huge concern from the residents about the integrity and the openness of the beloved green belt surrounding our village green. Our renewed residents association now proudly bears the name of the Village Green whose preservation was our original purpose – Quinta Village Green Residents Association (QVGRA)ⁱ

The planning applicationⁱⁱ for change of use for stationing of caravans received over 1300 objections from members of the public and was refused by the Council on 21st December 2023. However, the applicant has since appealed to the Planning Inspectorateⁱⁱⁱ and a Public Inquiry is due to take place on 21st January 2025 to examine and test his appeal.

The Council continue to make their case objecting to the planning application on planning merits, but as the organisation responsible for representing the community who want to protect the local green belt, we were tasked by our members to apply for Rule 6 status, in order to secure a position as a main interested party in the appeal and to take an active role in the public inquiry representing community opinion and conveying the harm caused to our local green belt and wildlife. This week our request for Rule 6 status was granted by the planning inspectorate and we are now preparing our statement of case before the case management conference in November.

We set up the original residents association in 2007, to prevent a football club from taking over our prized 7.5 acre playing field at the heart of our community, for their own private use. After a long fight against the London Borough of Barnet to register our field as a Village Green to stop the takeover, we finally won at a Public Inquiry^{iv} in 2010, where Quinta Village Green was born. Along the way, we fought attempts by the Council to convert it into a meadow^v and nearby inappropriate planning threats for the attached building and surrounding green belt.

QVGRA now has over 170 members and is open to members within the locality^{vi} recognised in the village green registration but also to those outside of our area who support our aims, and has a remit to preserve, protect and enhance this locality (including the local green belt); encourage a community spirit and sense of responsibility for the area and its residents; and keep local people informed about local issues.

We welcome membership from both those within the neighbourhood and those outside who have either already commented on the original planning application or wish to do so, and who want us to represent them in the appeal. We are also fundraising for the significant costs of legal representation in the appeal, so we would be very grateful for any donations towards this work.

Please see website for further details: www.QuintaVillageGreenResidents.org.uk

Gina Theodorou
Chair, Quinta Village Green Residents Association (QVGRA)

NOTES

ⁱ www.QuintaVillageGreenResidents.org.uk

ⁱⁱ <https://publicaccess.barnet.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S0IBU3JIIDE00>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?caseid=3346789>

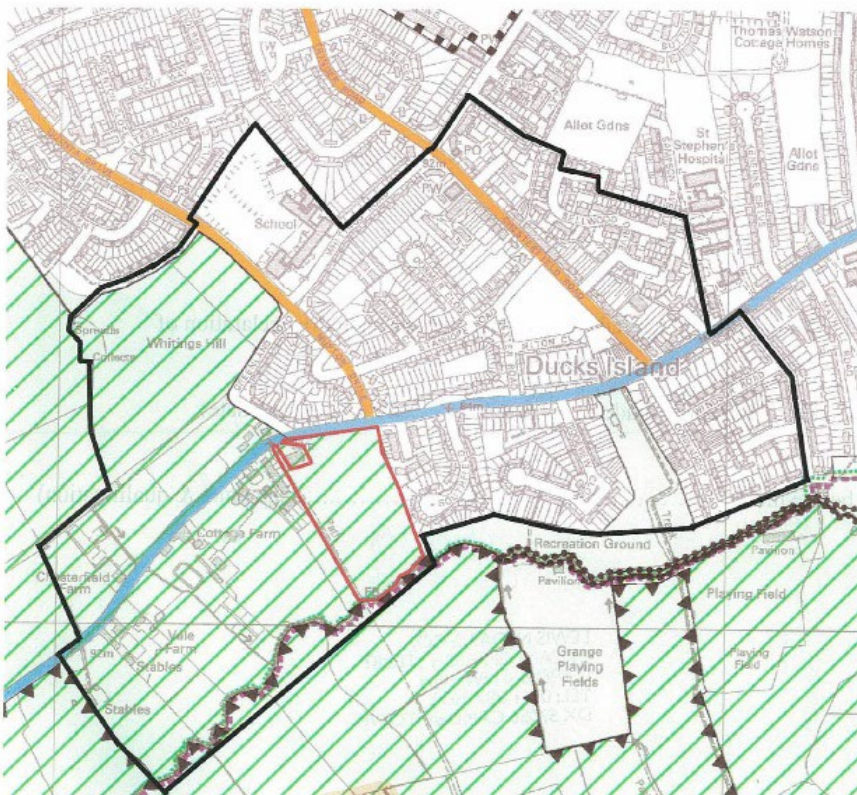
<https://publicaccess.barnet.gov.uk/online-applications/appealDetails.do?previousCaseType=Application&keyVal=SHQZ29JI01T00&previousCaseNumber=23%2F3816%2FFUL&activeTab=summary&previousKeyVal=S0IBU3JIIDE00>

^{iv} <https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/Data/Planning%20and%20Environment%20Committee/201010201900/Agenda/Document%202.pdf>



^v <https://greenpartypoppy.wordpress.com/2015/04/06/dont-downgrade-quinta-village-green/>

^{vi}

Locality Map



Legend:

-  Locality (about 1/2 mile radius around Quinta Public Open Space)
-  Quinta Public Open Space boundaries (not including building & car park)