THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH, 15 March 2017

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Portsmouth Sailing Club, 15 March 2017

Present:

Hilary Tyler (Chairman), Rob Wood (Ward Councillor), Anna Koor (Secretary), Ryan Brent (Ward Councillor), Laurie Higgins (Treasurer), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Gail Baird (Deputy Chair, Website), Bob Stewart (Spice Island),

1 Apologies – Alistair Wilson (Membership), Terry Halloran (Planning), Tom Wood (Ward Councillor), Anita Stepnitz (Defibrillator Project), PCSO Michelle Slater (St Thomas Ward Police Team)

2 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15 February were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3 Matters arising

FOOPA Annual Review – Gail confirmed it is ready. An initial print run of 200 copies was agreed as more can be printed later if required, at no extra unit cost. Anna had retrieved missing bank statements, receipts, and transaction information from Alistair who is still unwell. This was passed to Laurie to prepare the final accounts but as there is no time to include full accounts in the Review, Laurie will issue Gail a simple cash in/out summary for the year. At the AGM there will be a separate printed sheet with the full accounts detailed. There are three advertisers, a total of £125 income, which will help towards printing costs.

AGM at Cathedral House – Anna to liaise with Alistair to produce up-to-date list of members and membership subs due, in order to tally with Members who attend and need to pay. Rob and Anita will assist with membership subs on the door. Anna to advise speaker to bring laptop loaded with presentation, as well as a memory stick. Cllr Rob assured Anna that there would be sufficient expertise there to activate wifi projector etc. and confirmed that wine is on a sale-return basis from Camber Wines – Terry to liaise with David at ABar Bistro and handle wine and nibbles in Alistair's absence. Hilary / Anna need to co-sign cheque for Terry for room hire when he picks up keys.

4 Correspondence

Sallyport Inn – there is a new owner group of investors who have taken over the project and are moving ahead with it. The previous owner remains part of this new group. Anna will liaise with their representative and invite them to the next FOOPA meeting.

Police – PCSO Michelle Slater confirmed she will be at the AGM to talk to residents and answer any questions regarding current policing issues in the ward.

Accounts – Janis Loose has been unable to examine the accounts because some documentation regarding the previous year's transactions had not been received yet. She has reported on this basis.

5 Treasurer's Report

The documentation from Alistair will be assessed tomorrow by Laurie who proposed that at every committee meeting, members submit receipts / invoices and keep a record of monies paid and received. Laurie will resend the pro forma entry sheet. As Hilary is stepping down, Anna will obtain forms from Lloyds to remove Hilary as a signatory and add Laurie and Gail. Gail to forward printer's invoice to Hilary and Anna, copied to Laurie, for payment. Janis is resigning as Auditor with effect from the AGM. Hilary will enquire whether former Treasurer Graham Brett will agree to replace her. Laurie commented that due to the illness of previous Treasurer and current Membership Secretary, finance paperwork has been considerably impaired. The Committee could have employed an accountant to do this, but it would have been difficult to justify the expense.

6 Membership Report

See above regarding AGM.

7 Planning Report

See separate report from Terry.

Becketts Southsea Ltd– residents at Pembroke Park have contacted Cllr Rob regarding the Premises Licence Application. The Committee noted that this has the potential to impact on Old Portsmouth because of proximity to Pembroke Park. Representations should be made by 24 March 2017.

Retrospective Planning Applications – Cllr Ryan reported that officers are looking at the Local Plan with a view to possible amendments in 2018 and that they are aware of the disquiet regarding what appears to be an increasing number of structures being built 'under the radar'. This is a main topic for discussion at the Spring OPGQ Neighbourhood Forum on 30 March 2017.

8 Social Secretary's Report
Cllr Rob has spoken to Vikki and she is willing to help out with events provided they are better organised and simplified. It was agreed that local visits and talks hosted at venues that do not incur room hire costs are preferable, and a few ideas that fit this bill: BAR, Ye Olde Spotted Dog, Cathedral, Mary Rose, Hotwalls/Canteen.

9 Environment Report
Hotwalls – Dr Bev Lucas has left PCC and the person responsible for the Hotwalls Studios moving forwards is Josie Dalling - josie.dalling@portsmouthcc.gov.uk who manages the council's Seafront Services Team.

10 Defibrillator Report
Anita emailed to confirm that, following a meeting with Julia Hender, the cost of the defibrillator is less than expected. FOOPA's contribution is now £127.50 as the total bill is £1,627.50 and not £2,500 as originally quoted. Invoice received and a cheque for this amount was handed to Anna for Anita to pass to Julia. Work was due to take place to mount the box for the unit on Friday and then South East Ambulance Service will come and link the defibrillator up to their systems, anticipated in the next fortnight. There is scope for Portsmouth W I and FOOPA to jointly support another defibrillator unit in Old Portsmouth. Carried forward to next meeting.

11 Website
Phil has confirmed that the FOOPA website is dysfunctional on many levels. The Committee agreed that the sensible way forward is to move to a Wordpress based website. Gail will talk to Phil about the cost implications. Gail will also talk to her contacts regarding a quote for setting it up and ongoing maintenance.

12 Traffic – Mike
Old Portsmouth Traffic Area Study – clarification sought over more parking spaces proposed for OP reported in Portsmouth News which generated cries of protest. Told that it was either The News getting it wrong, or PCC press announcement being wrong.
Parking – Traffic & Transportation Cabinet Decision to reduce free visitor parking in KA Zone from 2 hours to 1 hour. FOOPA deputation was in support of proposal, as were deputations from Community SpeedWatch, Spice Island Association and individual support from Tony Davenport. FOOPA is heartened by common cause among community representatives in recognition that we can't keep pandering to demands for more parking. No verbal deputations to oppose and Cllr Fleming was supportive of residents.
Parking Restrictions in OP - summary uploaded on website, but a query remains over RPP and post-1800.
Speeding - Mike expressed disappointment with Neighbourhood Police Team input at December OPGQNF so is seeking clarification from Chief Constable over police enforcement of speeding and policy regarding 20mph limits.
OPT&RSWG – Mike and Anna were invited by PCC's Senior Road Safety Officer Ollie Wilcocks to share information regarding metrics that PCC have been using to establish whether or not speeding on HS is a problem. There was a discussion over the shortcomings of using average speed as a relative measure because it does not reflect different volumes or spread of traffic. Data has been requested for other roads in the city so that Mike can conduct similar analysis and look at extenuating factors. PCC's summary table for OP contained an error – total traffic count for 2015 was given as 55k when in fact over 100k.
School Crossing Patrol - Will be reinstated for Pembroke Road. PCC hope to have someone by end of March 2017.
Wightlink – Work continues on site. Concerns that traffic issues for disembarking vehicles have not been addressed and that Wightlink's modelling was unrepresentative. The fundamental worry is that longer queues will cause backlog in St Georges Road and block Cambridge Road Roundabout. What happens when road movement is paralysed and emergency services cannot get through? If PCC is wrong in accepting modelling and discounting FOOPA concerns then it is not only a huge cost to rectify but also a risk to public safety.

13 Policing - PCSO Michelle Slater submitted a report for the FOOPA Annual Review and will be attending the AGM and available to update residents and answer questions.

14 Ward Councillors' Reports - Nothing further to add.

15 Committee Admin - Nothing further.

16 AOB - The former FOOPA website address has been hijacked and fallen into disreputable hands. Cllr Rob has submitted an instruction to Wikipedia to update the entry with the correct website address. He will monitor this over the coming weeks to ensure it is implemented.

17 Date of AGM and next Meeting - FOOPA AGM – Thursday 23 March 2017, 7.30pm, Cathedral House, followed by Talk by Captain Bill Oliphant and drinks reception. Next Committee Meeting - Wednesday 19 April 2017