

THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 13 January 2021

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held online via Webex, Wednesday 13 January 2021

Present

Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Bob Stewart (Spice Island), Anna Koor (Secretary), Ann Wilson (Social Secretary), Graeme Swinburne (Planning), Chris Attwell (Ward Councillor), Rob Wood (Lord Mayor & Ward Councillor)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Alistair Wilson (Membership), his laptop is being overhauled so unable to tune in.

2 Declarations of Interest – Gail asked all to confirm their declarations of interest should any matters arise during the course of FOOPA business and all agreed.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 25 November 2020 were approved by the Chair, having been circulated to all the Committee via email.

3 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Donations – There was scant feedback from the membership survey, however on balance it indicated that the 2020 membership subscription proceeds of £1046 should be split 50/50 between donations to a local charity, and subsidizing a future FOOPA event. The Committee discussed potential difficulties deciding what events to support financially because not all members take part in the social programme. It was agreed to review this again in the summer when potential outdoor events may be permissible.

There was agreement that any event contribution should not be spent on food and wine but might be helpful to cover other costs such as venue hire, technology, speaker expenses. However Ann's preference is to organize her events along the lines she has already established, as this has proven successful. This was agreed. Gail suggested considering a one-off outdoor community-wide event that would reach out beyond members.

There was a vote among all present to make equal donations to the Roberts Centre and the Portsmouth Family Welfare Association. Anna will make contact with the 2 organisations and arrange payments.

4 Correspondence and Communications

Infrastructure Delivery Plan – Intrinsic to PCC's development of a new Local Plan, public consultation on an Infrastructure Delivery Plan is in progress and comments should be submitted by 12 February 2021, see link: <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/development-and-planning/planning-policy/the-local-plan/>

5 Treasurer's Report

In Alistair's absence, carried forward to February's meeting.

6 Membership Report

Carried forward to February's meeting.

7 Planning Report

Graeme referenced a few applications that appear uncontroversial, including 27 Bath Square which has been approved and Feltham House, modification of doorway adjoining Buckingham House. An application by 11A Grand Parade for a roof terrace appears to be on hold.

Records Office Building – Discussions over the future of the site continue, in particular the relative merits of keeping the building intact or not.

8 Social Programme

Nothing further to report by Ann until April earliest.

9 Environment

Southsea Coastal Scheme – Gail is sharing the weekly update page to the FOOPA facebook page.

Memorial Flowers at The Point – Bob has observed that floral tributes have mounted up at The Point, which is often the case around Xmas. Cllr Chris agreed to look at how best to sensitively contain the memorials so they remain tidy and do not create a hazard.

Camber Right of Way – A detailed update on the public right of way was featured in The News on 5 January 2021, which quoted from a Council spokesperson that, following approval of the reconstituted definitive map on 9 December 2020, preparations can now proceed for the planning inspector to hold a public inquiry.

10 Website – Nothing to report other than keep an eye out for the usual links and updates.

11 Traffic

Traffic Volumes – Mike was keen to hear the Committee's views regarding traffic volumes during the latest lockdown period. All agreed that it is far busier than the first lockdown last March. However it is not as busy as it was pre-Pandemic. PCC is monitoring daily traffic flows and Mike asked Cllr Chris if he could obtain the data on this to compare with a normal year. All agreed that vehicle speeding remains hazardous to other road users and the current free-flowing traffic conditions (due to lockdown and schools only partially open), enable drivers to take advantage, creating noise nuisance to residents particularly during unsociable hours.

OPATS – The long awaited Old Portsmouth Area Traffic Study report is ready, according to Cllr Rob, who suggested that FOOPA contacts Steven Flynn to try and push this across the finish line.

Penny Street Bollards – Mike enquired with ward councillors how the process of accessing and awarding CIL money (Community Infrastructure Levy) works. It was CIL money that funded the 3 bollards on Penny Street to discourage pavement driving / parking. Cllr Chris agreed to put FOOPA in touch with the PCC officer who manages the CIL programme.

13 Ward Councillor Reports

Cllr Rob reported that officers are midway through budget discussions following the public consultation regarding spending priorities in the city. The results of the consultation may be published by the end of the month and debated at the next Full Council meeting. Cllr Rob continues to have discussions with Gunwharf Quays residents who remain unhappy with Wightlink due to the lighting issues at the ferry terminal. He is also engaged with Pembroke Park residents who feel they are often ignored in discussions about Old Portsmouth, in particular regarding parking issues.

14 Committee Admin – None.

15 AOB – None.

16 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 17 February 2020 at 7pm.