

## **THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 21 July 2021**

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held online via Zoom, Wednesday 21 July 2021

### **Present**

Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Liz Winder (Treasurer), Mary Tollow (Membership), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Anna Koor (Secretary), Rob Wood (Deputy Lord Mayor & Ward Councillor), Bob Stewart (Spice Island).

### **1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Graeme Swinburne (Planning), Ann Wilson (Social Secretary), Chris Attwell (Ward Councillor), Ian Holder (Ward Councillor).

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

### **3 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting on 16 June 2021 were approved by the Chair, having been circulated to all the Committee via email.

### **3 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

**Ineos / BAR Building** – Gail gave the committee an account of her and Cllr Rob Wood's meeting with BAR Technologies on 24 June 2021. They met with CEO John Cooper and Facilities Manager Mark Rogers to establish what the current status of the BAR building is, who is using it, and the utilization of the BAR carpark. It was confirmed that BAR has moved out and a subsidiary, BAR Technologies, is understood to be leasing the building. Mark Rogers stated that they plan to fill the building with businesses, letting it as office / research workspaces. Cllr Rob was advised by Tom Southall, PCC's Assistant Director Property & Investment, that the terms of the BAR lease permit sub-letting. In this respect, they calculate that the carpark will continue to be needed for their sole use. Their work in the community was severely curtailed by Covid, however they are in the process of resurrecting links with local schools and community groups. Gail had an assurance from John and Mark that FOOPA members would be welcome for a tour and a talk. She has emailed them to request possible dates.

**Speak Up Pompey World Café and Operation Nautical (ON)** – This revived police and community initiative, along with the launch of ON by Sgt Andy Dolan, was aired via an online event with stakeholders on 17 July 2021. The focus of ON is community safety along the waterfront, part of which is the Hotwalls/Camber area owing to its history of anti-social behaviour during warm weather and summer school holidays. A comment was made that there seems to lack of clarity as to its aims. The Police were given the strong message that there needs to be more of a police presence, not patrolling in vehicles, but genuine on-the-ground engagement and communication, rather than just looking to the community to come up with solutions.

### **4 Correspondence and Communications**

**PGS Deliveries and St Jude's School Streets initiative** – Steven Flynn (PCC, Principal Traffic & Development Planning Engineer) will be meeting with the bursar at PGS to discuss the hazards and nuisance caused by their HGV deliveries that use the rear entrance to PGS.

**University of Portsmouth Sports Centre** – Fiona Bell, Director of Estates, was not able to make attend but will forward information to Gail to share with residents. Cllr Rob expressed his disappointment and will contact them in this regard to emphasise their need to engage with the community.

### **5 Treasurer's Report**

Liz confirmed she is gradually moving forward to becoming a signatory. She had a meeting with the bank on 15 July and all relevant forms were posted off. She thanked Alistair for continuing to put bank statements through her door in the meantime.

### **6 Membership Report**

Mary reported no membership movements this month and no correspondence.

### **7 Planning Report**

Graeme was unable to attend, however did assure the committee that no further news was forthcoming regarding 12 A 'Becket Court and 29 Pembroke Road.

**8 Social Programme** – Ann was unable to attend but has made some tentative event bookings which she has discussed with Gail and Liz. When confirmed, news and invitations will be emailed / posted to all members. Alex Hibbert, who was lined up to speak at the FOOPA AGM 2020 which was cancelled, has been in touch offering to deliver his talk that never happened. The Committee agreed it would be good to invite him to speak at the next AGM in March 2022.

## **9 Environment**

**Camber Right of Way** – Applicant Ken Bailey had been prepared to address the Full Council meeting on 19 July 2021 to draw attention to the unsatisfactory delays with proceeding the Order to the Planning Inspector for a final decision and asking for a deadline as to when this matter will be progressed. The Full Council meeting was cancelled owing to an elected member having been in close contact with a positive Covid case. The meeting will not be reconvened and the next one is in October. Cllr Rob suggested that the applicants write to Council Leader Gerald Vernon-Jackson to provide an answer to the question Ken submitted.

**Oyster Mews** – Residents have raised concerns over emissions from a newly installed wood burning stove. It is understood that PCC's Environmental Health Department has been alerted.

**10 Website** – Keep your news and views coming in so that Gail can upload links and updates.

## **11 Traffic**

**PGS deliveries** – Mike will follow up with Steven Flynn on this matter.

**Speeding** – Mike commented on the worsened speeding along Old Portsmouth's residential streets, particularly late at night and early morning when drivers believe they can get away with it. The lack of police enforcement gives these drivers the opportunity to act with impunity.

**Ward Councillors' Traffic Survey** — Our ward councilors have been knocking on doors and leaflet dropping in order to survey local opinion regarding the need for road crossings. Cllr Rob assured Mike that this was not a scientific survey but a straw poll to give residents an opportunity to give them feedback on some of the recommendations made in the Old Portsmouth Area Traffic Study. Councillors plan to focus on pedestrian crossings initially and then apply for funding from PCC Traffic & Transportation in order for the work to get underway in the current tax year. Liz commented that she is encouraged by this news and fully supports these measures. Other committee members agreed.

**University of Portsmouth Victoria Park** – Mike attended the University's online presentation. It is planned as a car-free development of bold architectural design with facilities for 200 cycles. He commented that what is needed is improved cycle and walking infrastructure in order to get there.

**Southsea Coastal Scheme** – Mike has yet to hear back from a lengthy email he sent to ward councilors regarding pedestrian access and sign-posting/wayfaring of the long distance paths that coincide with the Southsea Coastal Scheme works, namely the Solent Way, Pilgrims Trail and Shipwrights Way. Way-markers for these routes have been obliterated by the sea defence works, without diversions put in place.

## **13 Ward Councillor Reports**

**Shipwrights Way** – Cllr Rob has met with PCC's Safer Travel Manager Michelle Love to discuss how they could accommodate these requirements.

**Wightlink** — Cllr Ian Holder has been liaising with Gunwharf residents and Wightlink to try and resolve the long-standing issue of lighting and noise disturbance from the ferry terminal which negatively impacts on residents.

**Dog Training Enclosure** – Cllr Chris Attwell orchestrated this project and he attended a photo shoot this morning.

**Moat Steps** – Residents have commented on the poor state of the wooden steps up the bank from the moat. PCC is investigating.

**14 Committee Admin** — None.

## **15 AOB**

**Safer Streets Fund (SSF)** – At the Hampshire Constabulary Independent Advisory Group meeting on 21 June 2021, Anna raised some concerns with Chief Inspector Rob Mitchell regarding the SSF. He agreed to draw attention to these issues when he meets Lisa Wills from PCC's Safer Portsmouth Partnership team.

**16 Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 15 September 2021, 7.30pm venue TBC.

