

## THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 20 July 2022

Website: [foopa.org.uk](http://foopa.org.uk)

Email: [foopacontact@gmail.com](mailto:foopacontact@gmail.com)

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 20 July 2022

### Present

Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Liz Winder (Treasurer), Graeme Swinburne (Planning), Anna Koor (Secretary), Bob Stewart (Spice Island), Mary Tollow (Membership), Sharon Morris (Heritage & Conservation), Eileen Measey (Environment), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Ward Councilor Chris Attwell. Guest attendee: Steve Rolls, Portsmouth Mediation Service.

### Steve Rolls

Steve has been asked by the Council to look at the ongoing anti-social behavior at the Camber and Hotwalls to determine if restorative justice principles could be adopted to help the community tackle it, taking a more consistent and long-term approach. He explained that restorative justice works very differently from the conventions of retributive justice we see applied in the criminal penal system. He is working with Lisa Wills is Strategy & Partnership Manager at PCC and a member of the Safer Portsmouth Partnership ([www.saferportsmouth.co.uk](http://www.saferportsmouth.co.uk)). He cited some successful examples elsewhere in the city where this approach has worked. Steve has set up a Restorative Steering Group which meets fortnightly and invited FOOPA to take part.

### 1 Apologies

Apologies from Ann Wilson (Social Secretary), and Ward Councilors Ian Holder and Mark Jeffery.

**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, which was agreed.

### 3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 15 June 2022 were approved, having been circulated to the Chair and all the Committee via email.

**4 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes** – None.

### 5 Correspondence and Communications

**Member Email** – Mary received a member email offering ideas for tackling noise nuisance from vehicles and motorbikes. It is understood that in Paris, an automated sensor scheme picks up noise and vehicle registration details from offending drivers which means they can be penalized. Mike will research this and respond.

**6 Treasurer's Report** – Liz received a letter from the UK Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal thanking FOOPA for its generous donation of £546. The Quiz and Fish 'n Chips event on 21 June was very successful and Liz thanked Ann for her hard work. The event made a small surplus and Liz has not yet completed the final reconciliation for this. She will report back in September.

**7 Membership Report** – Mary reported another 2 new members have joined, which gives a current total of 180 household memberships, and a grand 265 members in total.

**8 Planning** – Graeme reported no new applications. The case of 4 Highbury St (22/00527/HOU) was approved by Planning Committee, however the rooftop terrace element of it was rejected. It was noted to Cllr Chris that Mike's offer to Ian Maguire, Assistant Director, Planning and Economic Growth to remove the erroneous Planning Notice (which has been replaced by a new one) concerning 2 Farthing Lane has not elicited a response.

### 9 Heritage & Conservation

**Local Listings** – Sharon reiterated the committee's concerns regarding the state of the Local Listings document and reminded Cllr Chris that she has offered her expertise as a free resource to make the document legible so it can be used by the heritage working group and wider public. She has not yet had a response from PCC Planning's Ian Maguire, and asked Cllr Chris to follow this up.

**Wiley's Beach, Tower Street** – Bob raised this again and Cllr Chris said he will speak to the city solicitor.

**Scooter Racks** – Cllr Chris confirmed that he has met with Cllr Lynn Stagg, Cabinet Member for Traffic & Transportation. They have agreed the proposed location on Broad Street outside Seagers Court is wholly inappropriate. However the consultation engagement will run its course according to the Notice details. FOOPA will submit comments so that the community's concerns are officially recorded.

**10 Social Programme** – Ann is away. There was a discussion regarding the Jazz evening in November and problematic content. It was unanimously voted to cancel it. The September talk will shortly be advertised.

## **11 Environment**

**Long Curtain Wildflower Planting** – Eileen has met with Doug Gray, PCC's Manager of Parks, Gardens & Open Spaces. He has agreed to plant wildflowers on the upper grassed slope next Spring. Resident Vanessa Peters, who has worked with St Jude's, will liaise with teaching staff to try and elicit the pupils' involvement. The lower slope is too steep for the rotavator machinery, so Eileen will contact Hannah Thompson, PCC's Countryside Officer for Culture, Leisure & Regulatory Services regarding this challenge.

**Community Orchard** – Eileen has met with Trish Bell, Area Co-ordinator, Portsmouth & Southsea Tree Warden's Group [www.portsmouthtree.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthtree.org.uk) about planting 7 trees on the small patch of grass in front of Garrison Church. They will need to discuss this with Simon Pearce, PCC's Arboriculturist, because of potential salt tolerance issues. If planted, volunteers will be required to water the young trees on a weekly basis. Trish may be able to provide a couple of water bowsers, and Eileen proposes using the public water tap at the Camber and perhaps asking St Jude's for bower storage / water use.

**General Street Greening** – Eileen met with Cllr Kimberley Barrett, PCC Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment, along with ward councilors and Mike Dobson. Cllr Kimberley suggested FOOPA contacts Zoe White, PCC's Green & Healthy Streets Co-ordinator. Eileen is awaiting a response from her.

**Garrison Church English Heritage site** – Eileen has written to Peter Richard to ask if EH would plant wildflowers in the Church meadow, once restoration work is completed. Her request is being considered.

**Solent Seagrass Project** – Eileen is meeting with the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to discuss use of the Long Curtain Moat for seagrass planting [www.hiwwt.org.uk/seagrass-restoration](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk/seagrass-restoration). Besides its biodiversity benefits, seagrass plays an important role in carbon capture – it can store carbon 35 times faster than rainforest. This spot is also ideal for monitoring and getting schools involved as it is closely accessible.

**Fullers Construction Site** – Eileen has written to Asahi, the new owner of the Fullers Brewery chain, about greening this part of The Point which has been behind hoarding for nearly 20 years.

**12 Website** – No update.

## **13 Traffic**

**Private Hire Vehicles Bus Lane Trial** – Mike has been largely engaged with the fall-out from this PCC proposal and its negative impact on cyclists.

**Shipwrights Way** – no further progress.

**Hildegard Lowe inquest** – Mike has made a formal request to the Coroner to give evidence at the Inquest.

**Long Distance Paths** – the obliterated signage caused by the Coastal Scheme works is not yet rectified.

**Wightlink** – Mike continues to hear tales of woe from the Gunwharf Quays Residents Group regarding light/noise/air pollution. Cllr Chris confirmed that he has a meeting fixed with the Wightlink CEO shortly.

**Portsmouth Car Club** – Anna reminded Cllr Chris that PCC committed to issuing a tender this summer in aid of a city-wide car club scheme. This has yet to happen and concern is that it might be forgotten.

**Highbury St Double Yellow Lines** – Graeme has been advised by PCC that a works order has been issued to Colas.

**Pavement Bollards** – Anna thanked Cllr Chris for his efforts to secure the additional bollards on High Street to prevent pavement parking.

**14 Ward Councillor Reports** – Cllr Chris announced that PCC is operating additional bus services from 23 July - 31 August to encourage sustainable travel. The First Bus Solent Southsea Coaster 50 open-top bus offers an all-day ticket, hop-on hop-off service from The Hard to South Parade Pier, and its Southsea Skipper 25 between Hayling Ferry and The Hard is extending evening services, aligned with the ferry schedule. The last bus departs from Hayling at 20:05. <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/2022/07/22/from-bus-to-beach-in-one-easy-trip/>

**15 Committee Admin** – None.

**16 AOB** – The Committee has received complaints regarding the proliferation of dogs on beaches. Cllr Chris was asked if he could look into more conspicuous signage, raising penalties as a greater deterrent, and increasing the number / hours of Dog Warden patrols. There was a brief discussion regarding other options, in particular, offering dog walkers early morning and/or late evening use of beaches with their pets. It was agreed to continue monitoring the situation while Cllr Chris takes this matter up with officers.

**17 Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 14 September 2022, 7.30pm, Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club.

