

## THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 19 January 2022

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 19 January 2022

### Present

Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Anna Koor (Secretary), Liz Winder (Treasurer), Bob Stewart (Spice Island), Mary Tollow (Membership), Chris Attwell (Ward Councillor).

### 1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Ann Wilson (Social Secretary), Ian Holder (Ward Councillor), Rob Wood (Deputy Lord Mayor & Ward Councillor), Graeme Swinburne (Planning).

**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 December 2021 were approved by the Chair, having been circulated to all the Committee via email.

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

### 5 Correspondence and Communications

**Mutual Gain/World Café** – This police-funded organization, which was working with the Old Portsmouth community to work out ways of tackling local anti-social behavior prior to the pandemic, have been in touch again recently, seeking individuals and partners to find solutions for the community and improve the area. The first meeting is on 26 January 2022 by Zoom, contact by Email: [antigua@mutualgain.org](mailto:antigua@mutualgain.org). Cllr Chris plans to attend and will report back. Some in the community are disillusioned with how this will resolve problems. Anna will raise this with Police to establish what direction this is going in and what value it might have.

### 6 Treasurer's Report

Liz reported £9026.58 as opening reserve and closed with a balance of £9216.70. Provisional proceeds of £191.12 have been made on the recent social events. Owing to Covid-related cancellations of previous events, there is a sum of £90 paid by members who requested this be donated to a local charity of FOOPA's choice, bringing the total donations to £281.12. There was a discussion about which local charities to donate to. Ann, who was unable to attend, proposed The Roberts Centre and Portsmouth Family Association. It was agreed that FOOPA would contribute £118.88 from its reserves so that £100 can be donated to each of the charities below. Liz and Anna will liaise over cheque donations, after Janis Loose has completed her audit.

QA Hospital Charity (non-profit organization) [www.porthosp.nhs.uk/charity](http://www.porthosp.nhs.uk/charity)

Solent Protection Society (Charity No 236539) <https://solentprotection.org>

The Roberts Centre (Charity No 1066611) [www.robertscentre.org.uk](http://www.robertscentre.org.uk)

Motiv8 (Charity No 1069085) [www.motiv8.org.uk](http://www.motiv8.org.uk)

### 7 Membership Report

In her round up for the year 2021, Mary reported there were 200 members (that is households). Of those, 166 paid by standing order and 32 paid by cash or cheque.

### 8 Planning Report

**Fontenoy House** – Graeme has responded to the Secretary of State following the applicants' appeal after PCC's revised planning application refusal.

**9 Social Programme** – Ann was unable to attend but submitted a round-up of her Autumn and Christmas events, which were hugely successful. She plans to book 'The Triangle Girls' for April and another speaker (that had to be cancelled last year) for June. She is awaiting confirmation of dates from the venue. By popular demand she will look at organising another Quiz in September. She hopes to arrange another speaker for November and a repeat of the Xmas lunch, provided someone else is able to take over managing the bookings in her absence.

### 10 Environment

**Southsea Coastal Scheme** – Work on the next phase along the seafront starts on 22 January and a section of the promenade will be closed off. Mike reminded the Committee and Cllr Chris of the failure by Coastal Partners (formerly ESCP) and the Council to ensure long distance paths are kept open, accessible and adequately

signposted. He delivered a presentation to the local Friends of the Earth group about this problem and Councillors present offered to take the matter up.

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

## **12 Traffic**

**Fatal Road Traffic Incident** – Old Portsmouth residents have expressed shock and sadness at the death of an elderly resident on High Street in a hit-and-run collision at approximately 06.42 on 17 January in the vicinity of the Duke of Buckingham pub. This is in the precise location that FOOPA has been campaigning for a crossing, for the last 7 years. FOOPA has requested further details from the police once they have completed their investigation. Mike reminded members that the Council has a statutory duty to investigate road traffic incidents and ensure the safe movement of people and goods on the highway. The recently published Old Portsmouth Area Traffic Study highlights the community's calls for a crossing here. Mike has persistently challenged the Council's methodology of assessing speeds and their modelling for crossings. *Post meeting note:* a further pedestrian fatality on St George's Road on 30 January 2022 brings the city's total pedestrian deaths to 7 over the last 6 months, compared with between 2017 and 2019 when six people (drivers, pedestrians and cyclists) died on Portsmouth's roads.

**Traffic Regulation Orders** – Difficulty in recruiting a new PCC officer to administer TROs following the departure of Nikki Musson, is causing a hold-up in implementing works, including Highbury Street double yellow lines and road crossing consultations. Cllr Chris was asked to provide an update on the situation and whether the work can be outsourced to prevent further delays.

**Changes to Highway Code** – There has been a lack of publicity regarding the changes that came into effect on 29 January 2022. Cllr Chris said that PCC had decided not to publicise the changes until after parliamentary approval.

**School Streets Initiative** – St Jude's and nearby residents have raised the issue that parents are having to pay parking fees on Pembroke Road when there had previously been an agreement by PCC to suspend fees during school drop-off and pick-up. Anna will write to Kevin McGee, PCC Parking Manager to request this is reviewed urgently.

**Pavement Parking** – A growing number of PGS parents are obstructing narrow footways along High Street without any consideration for residents or the hazards caused to pedestrians, including their own children. PGS continues to ignore the problem. Although the issue of pavement parking was recently highlighted in Flagship, there needs to be targeted action to tackle residents who park in their driveways but encroach onto the pavement.

## **13 Ward Councillor Reports**

There is a decision meeting on 8 February 2022 regarding funding for crossings and Councillors hope this will be voted through.

**14 Committee Admin** – None.

## **15 AOB**

**Annual Review** – Gail reminded members to submit their articles/reports for the Annual Review by mid-February, ahead of the AGM which is planned for 22 March 2022.

**15 Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 16 February 2022, 7.30pm, Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club.