

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held at Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club

Tuesday 22 March 2022, 7.30 pm

The meeting was chaired by Gail Baird with attendance from 5 other committee members and 41 members.

Committee Present:

Gail Baird (Chair and Website), Anna Koor (Secretary), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Liz Winder (Treasurer), Ann Wilson (Social Secretary), Mary Tollow (Membership). In attendance: Councillor Chris Attwell, Councillor Ian Holder.

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

Gail welcomed everyone and thanked the Bowling Club for opening their doors to us for FOOPA events and accommodating our needs. She ran through the Club housekeeping, amenities and Health/Safety/Fire instructions. She informed members that paper copies of the annual review are available to those attending, however members will receive a copy by email, if they would prefer to only have a digital copy. Paper copies will be posted to those members who do not use email or internet.

Gail explained the order of business and that questions would be welcome once AGM business is completed. She introduced the committee – particularly newer members Liz and Mary and their respective roles, thanking them all for their continued hard work. She reminded members about upcoming social events, thanking Ann Wilson her for organizational efforts. Special appreciation was given to Independent Examiners: Angus Ross who scrutinized the accounts for 2021, and Janis Loose who recently completed her assessment. Reference was made to the sad news that David Clark recently passed away—he acted as FOOPA's Independent Examiner for several years in the past. Gail reminded members that, following the AGM, they will be hearing a talk from architect and author Mike Underwood, who will explore the history of Gunwharf Quays, from its origins and evolution to its transformation into a contemporary waterfront residential, dining and retail destination. The bar will be open for a complimentary drink and nibbles. Lastly, Gail reflected on the shocking news of the death of local resident Hildegard Lowe, who was struck down by a hit and run driver while crossing the road outside the Duke of Buckingham on 17 January. She emphasized that FOOPA had been urging the Council to install a crossing here for the last 7 years and that funding has now been approved for 2 crossings: one in this vicinity and another at Broad Street.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from committee members Graeme Swinburne (Planning) and Bob Stewart (Spice Island). Anna thanked the following members, who also sent their apologies: Steff & Dave Robinson, John Young, Janis Loose, Myra Allen, John & Chrissie Avery, Antonia Bennett, Jan Mayes, Andrew Williams, Sarah & Brian Davies, Sue Chequer, Elaine Bevis, Hilary Thomas, Jude Badham, Ken & Lorna Bailey, Sheila Besant, Alistair McIntosh.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes AGM 2021

Apologies, minutes, correspondence and actions of the previous AGM held by Zoom on 24 March 2021, were agreed by a majority show of hands. Draft copies had been circulated to members by email (posted to those not on email) and on the Noticeboard.

4. Matters Arising – None.

5. Treasurer's Report – Liz Winder

Liz reported that figures for income and expenditure for FOOPA during the last year, in comparison with the two previous years, can be examined in the *Annual Review* and on the FOOPA website. They show a surplus of £190.12 and a reserve of £9216.70. She explained that membership revenue is slightly lower than in previous years but a saving has been made on committee room hire. Covid caused several meetings to be held by Zoom, which cost less than previous room hire, and the alternative use of Portsmouth Bowling Club facilities also resulted in a considerable saving. She reminded members that the donations to charity agreed during 2020, were paid out in Spring 2021. Two payments of £250 each were made to the Roberts Centre and the Portsmouth Family Welfare Association. Liz thanked Ann for organising the social events in 2021, which produced a small surplus to be donated to local causes. Liz thanked Alistair Wilson, who handed over the account documents for 2020, which proved very useful, and Janis Loose for her detailed scrutiny of the accounts this year. She reminded members of the rules regarding subscriptions, due on 1 January each year, and urged more members to pay by standing order, thanking Mary for her diligence in tackling this and other Membership tasks.

6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee

Executive Committee - Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Anna Koor (Secretary), Liz Winder (Treasurer) and Mary Tollow (Membership) stood down from their positions in order to be re-elected – all 4 of them wished to be re-elected. Gail handed over proceedings to Mike Dobson, who asked if anyone would like to stand in the place of any officers. There were no contenders. He asked for a proposer and seconder for all four of them — proposed by Eileen Measey and seconded by Sonia Banks.

Other Officers – Gail asked existing officers Mike Dobson (Traffic), Bob Stewart (Spice Island), Graeme Swinburne (Planning), and Ann Wilson (Social Secretary) to step down. All were proposed for re-election by John Worley and seconded by Diana Hayden. Two members, Sharon Morris and Eileen Measey, have volunteered to join the Committee to work on Heritage / Conservation and Environment issues respectively. Sharon Morris was proposed by Fi Rosen and seconded by John Tollow. Eileen Measey was proposed by Jo Vernon and seconded by Mary McDermott.

7. Amendments to FOOPA Constitution

Gail briefly explained the amendments proposed to Clauses 4 and 9. Copies of the revised rules had been circulated to all members in advance. The amendments were adopted by a majority show of hands.

8. Any Other Business – None.

9. Date of next meeting: To be confirmed by the Chair.