

THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 16 February 2022

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 16 February 2022

Present

Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Anna Koor (Secretary), Liz Winder (Treasurer), Bob Stewart (Spice Island), Mary Tollow (Membership), Graeme Swinburne (Planning).

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Ann Wilson (Social Secretary), Ian Holder (Ward Councillor), Rob Wood (Deputy Lord Mayor & 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, which was agreed.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 19 January 2022 were approved by the Chair, having been circulated to all the Committee via email.

4 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Charity donations – Payments are on hold pending completion of the External Examiner's assessment of the FOOPA accounts for calendar year 2021, prior to presentation at the AGM.

5 Correspondence and Communications

Jane Smith – The author of The Story of Nelson's Portsmouth has been in touch with FOOPA regarding involvement in a local project. Gail will follow up.

6 Treasurer's Report

An External Examiner was appointed to review the FOOPA accounts for the calendar year 2021 and a report is being prepared. An executive summary will be circulated to the executive committee for perusal and follow-up actions. Liz confirmed she will be meeting the External Examiner to discuss the accounts in more detail.

7 Membership Report

Mary's figures for year ending 2021 total 199 households, of which 102 contain 2 or more household members, which means that FOOPA is reaching 297 individuals across Old Portsmouth and Southsea. Of the 199 households, 165 are paying by standing order and 32 by other means.

8 Planning Report – Nothing significant to report, however Graeme reminded the Committee that the Planning Department is under considerable strain at present and use of agency staff has been necessary owing to severe recruitment difficulties.

9 Social Programme – Ann was unable to attend but is in the process of putting a programme together for 2022.

10 Environment

Clean Air Zone signage – Graeme has taken up the matter of the intrusive and oversized signage in Old Portsmouth with PCC and is meeting Cllr Ian Holder to show him the specific concerns.

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

12 Traffic

Fatal Road Traffic Incident – Following the fatal collision on 17 January 2022, police confirmed that the elderly resident killed on High Street was Hildegard Lowe, a much respected and familiar figure to us all in the community. FOOPA has requested information regarding the circumstances such as the speed the motorist was driving. However the case may be pursued in the courts and therefore more details cannot be divulged. Anna has been in email contact with Inspector Louise Tester (Portsmouth South Sector), who has assured her that she or her Acting Police Sergeant Jon Stapenhill, will attend a future FOOPA meeting.

Trial of Private Hire Vehicles in Bus Lanes – Mike is concerned that this decision by PCC is founded on invalid and unsafe assumptions and that it has not fulfilled its statutory duty, which requires a study to be conducted in order to establish if there is evidence to justify a change of policy. Ultimately, this trial puts cyclists' safety at greater

risk. He reminded the committee that as the highway authority, PCC has a statutory duty under the Road Traffic Act 1988 section 39 to maintain a duty of care for all road users.

Enterprise Car Club – FOOPA has been approached by Enterprise Car Rental Company. We understand the Council is in the process of setting up a city-wide Car Club scheme by the summer with on-street parking pick-up/drop-off spots in every neighbourhood. Enterprise has set up a trial scheme in Southsea in which 2 Car Club vehicles are parked and available for use at Wimbledon Park Sports Centre. Enterprise Car Club is offering FOOPA members a discounted introductory offer of £10 subscription for the first year's membership, as well as £10 driving credit when you book a vehicle. Please take a read of information in these links.

<https://www.enterprisecarclub.co.uk/gb/en/about/how-car-club-works.html>

<https://www.enterprisecarclub.co.uk/gb/en/about/environment-community-shared.html>

<https://www.enterprisecarclub.co.uk/gb/en/programs/regions/south-east-england/portsmouth.html>

Sign up by clicking on the link below and using the Promotional Code: PORTSMOUTH10. Members of FOOPA can click [here](#) to join Enterprise Car Club for £10 and receive £10 driving credit.

Changes to Highway Code – There remains a lack of publicity regarding the changes that came into force on 29 January 2022.

School Streets Initiative – Anna has not received a response from Kevin McKee, PCC Parking Manager requesting an urgent review of parking fees on Pembroke Road, which should be suspended during school drop-off and pick-up times to enable St Jude's parents to park for free.

13 Ward Councillor Reports – None present.

14 Committee Admin – None.

15 AOB

AGM and Annual Review – Gail thanked those members who have submitted their articles/reports for the Annual Review and urged those outstanding to finalise their contributions promptly. There was a lengthy discussion regarding arrangements for the AGM, which will be held at 7.30pm on 22 March 2022 at the Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club. The agenda will include a speaker. Proposed constitutional changes were discussed, which will need approval at the AGM.

15 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 9 March 2022, 7.30pm, Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club.