

## THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 18 May 2023

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 18 May 2023 at Pembroke Gardens Bowls Club.

**Present** - Gail Baird (Chair, Website), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Sharon Morris (Planning, Heritage & Conservation - Minutes), Bob Stewart (Spice Island), Mary Tollow (Treasurer and Membership).

**1 Apologies** - Anna Koor (Secretary), Eileen Measey (Environment), Cllr Chris Attwell.

**2 Declarations of Interest** – All were reminded to confirm their declarations of interest should any matters of that nature arise during the course of FOOPA business.

### 3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting on 19 April 2023 had been circulated via email. Status to be confirmed on Anna's return/at next meeting. Those present were not aware of any issues.

### 4 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

**Defibrillator at The Still and West** – Paperwork regarding costs has been passed to Mary and a cheque for £100 has been passed to Julia Hender at the W.I., as an annual contribution towards the defibrillator's upkeep (the battery and pads need changing periodically).

### 5 Correspondence and Communications

**Long Curtain Moat** – Brought forward from the previous minutes: debris and sand are blocking the flushing exit to the moat - work is expected soon. Work on the interpretation panels was expected to be done in May.

**6 Treasurer's Report** – The Bowls Club invoice has been paid for April's committee meeting room hire. Mary is awaiting their invoices for May's meeting and for the £50 Christmas 2022 lunch venue booking. Change of Treasurer bank forms (from Liz to Mary) is in progress. Mary is following-up on the bank's FATCA declaration form (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act). At 30 April, the current account balance is £4564.24 and savings account balance is £5001.71.

**7 Membership Report** – 169 households (246 members) as well as two honorary members. Possibly need to confirm their status.

### 8 Planning

**Fontenoy House** – This looks to be a resubmission of an earlier application which was about to expire.

**Battery Row** - Replacement (weather proof) glazing for a house in Battery Row.

**Chimney pot cowls** – Application by one of the listed houses in High Street.

**Conversion of Pembroke House into government (MoD) offices** - Sharon to raise comment on the application.

**Mary Rose/Gloucester Hotel, St Georges' Road** - Tesco has applied for an alcohol sales license. Sharon to raise request for a history information panel concerning its previous name and Cogswell input.

**Camber Right of Way** – Details of the Public Inquiry have been issued by the Planning Inspector – it starts on 21 November and is expected to last 4 days.

**9 Heritage & Conservation** – The Morris Dancers were in action on May Day as usual. An early start on the seafront, followed by a session at The Pembroke Arms around 8am. The planning application for Pembroke House raises a question over the railings, gates and gateposts and walls around Pembroke Park which we believe to be in the Conservation Area as they are a key part of the history of Old Portsmouth.

**10 Social Programme** – A first email for Mike Underwood's talk has been sent out, and a tranche of bookings received. Mary to send a follow-up, clarifying the topic. Extend the invitee details to Cathedral Friends and W.I. via Gail, and Mike to contact Gunwharf Gate and Gunwharf Quays groups. A quiz (with fish and chips) was suggested for September.

### 11 Environment

**All bfwd from last meeting:**

**Nelson Statue planting** - Eileen has invested in a range of salt-resistant edible plant seedlings for the raised bed at Nelson's Statue in Grand Parade, which has been designated FOOPA's responsibility. FOOPA volunteers were out planting the seedlings this morning along with Hannah Thompson, PCC Countryside Officer and the team from Parks, Gardens & Open Spaces. The outlay is £253.27, which Eileen has provided receipts for. The committee

agreed reimbursement to Eileen. This sum includes £44.99 for a mobile water bowser. It has been agreed with Hotwalls Studios that this can be housed in their storeroom, which will facilitate access during business hours.

**Pembroke Park Hedgerow demolition** – Anna has written again to ward councilors with contact information for the estate management maintenance contractors with responsibility for Pembroke Park. Not aware of any reply.

**Bees** – Eileen has been in contact with one of the Garrison Church volunteers who is meeting ward councilors on Friday to discuss the potential for bee keeping in the Garrison Church gardens along with a community orchard.

**Long Curtain Gates** – There are two new gates with stepped access to the beaches along Long Curtain. FOOPA has enquired about public access. Southsea Coastal Scheme are still considering how to manage the beach access. These gates are for escape from the beach.

**12 Website** – Nothing new to report. Any items, please pass on to Gail to promote.

### 13 Traffic

**St Jude's School Streets** – This has gone quiet and Sharon will ask for an update via Cllrs. A further unpleasant incident happened recently, which has been reported and involved an angry motorist making hazardous manoeuvres and endangering pedestrians.

**Car Club** – It is not certain when it will go live, however the designated parking space will be on High Street, near the Cathedral. Asked for update via Cllrs.

**High Street/Broad Street Crossings** – Asked for progress update via Cllrs.

**Shipwrights' Way** – Mike is seeking confirmation of routing (in conjunction with new crossing).

**Measurement of Speeding** – Mike needs a face-to-face meeting with appropriate PCC officers to discuss the interpretation of vehicle speed measurements. Speeding is a significant problem in Pembroke Road, High Street and Broad Street.

**14 Ward Councillor Reports** – None in attendance. Separate email sent.

### 15 Committee Admin

**Annual Review Extra copies** – *Post-meeting note:* Gail organized the printing of 20 extra copies and delivered to Mary and Eileen for distribution.

**Tokens of Appreciation** – Thanks received from departing FOOPA officers Liz (Treasurer) and Graeme (Planning).

**Notice Board** – Mary shared some examples of new headings for the notice board. Sharon suggested including a QR code (provided post meeting).

### 16 AOB

**Restorative Communities Meetings** – Eileen went to the last meeting, which was also attended by some Spice Island residents concerned about late night noise nuisance and speeding by motor cyclists who gather near the BAR building. Residents have regularly reported this ASB to the Police via 101. BAR managers undertook to investigate their CCTV and monitor incidents so that they can liaise with the police. It seems that BAR is keen for its facility to be a resource for the community and ideas are being discussed for events on the apron area. Pompey in the Community has set up a gym in the BAR building and recently offered an 8-week exercise programme for local residents. Gail and Eileen are continuing to alternately attend future fortnightly meetings.

**Pembroke Road / Water Main Issues** - The road was fully closed for about five days and remains partially closed. It is not known for how long. Some update is needed on the problem/works. Request via Cllrs.

**Point – Tributes/Memorials** – Request via Cllrs for tidy-up.

**Recycling Bins** – Mike suggested that the recycling bins should be on a better surface. Request via Cllrs.

**Call for Volunteers** – Specifically for planting/support. Reminder that there should be an induction activity to raise awareness of H&S, risk assessment and so on. (All documents on the website.)

**17 Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 14 June 2023, 7.30pm, Pembroke Gardens Bowls Club.