

THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 14 January 2026

Website: foopa.org.uk

Email: foopacontact@gmail.com

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting on 14 January, 7.30pm Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club

Present - Sharon Morris (Planning, Heritage & Conservation), Robert Nield (Treasurer), Gail Baird (Chair, Website, Membership), Ward Councillor Chris Attwell, Anna Koor (Secretary), Bob Stewart (Spice Island).

1 Apologies – Eileen Measey (Environment), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Ann Wakelin (Environment), Ward Councillors Ian Holder and Mark Jeffery.

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

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the 14 Dec 2025 meeting were circulated. Agreed by Chair and rest of committee.

4 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - See below.

5 Correspondence and Communications - None.

6 Treasurer's Report — This is Bob's first committee meeting so he briefed everyone about his intentions. He will continue balancing the accounts in same vein as his predecessor, using the existing templates. With the monthly movements usually being small, it is straightforward. He has also completed the year-end figures to 31 December 2025, and these will appear in the Annual Review. He is comfortable with the system he has in place, which he recently upgraded. At 31 December 2025 there was £3587.73 in the current and £5135.77 in the savings accounts. Gail forewarned Bob that January will be busy with annual subscriptions. Anna will forward Bob relevant receipts / invoices to complete the last few months. Gail has made the donation to the 1st Sea Scouts of £54, this being proceeds from the last social event.

7 Social Programme – The AGM will be on 18 March 2026 at the Bowls Club with a pay bar. There will be 1 free drink per attendee. There was a discussion regarding potential speakers. It was decided that Cllr Chris will contact James Daly at the National Museum of Royal Navy in Dockyard. Other suggestions included conservation architect Deniz Beck and local historian J J Marshallsay.

8 Membership Report – Gail has shared a redacted 2026 membership record with Bob so he can keep it updated in accordance with bank statements.

9 Traffic - Mike is unwell but will submit an update.

Temporary tarmac paving at A Bar - No news but Cllr Chris will chase.

Changes to Parking in Pembroke Road - The rationale for equalising parking restrictions with seafront isn't clear. Should other seafront areas such as Grand Parade be included? It is not good news for local businesses who thrive on early evening custom.

BAR and Parking Permits - Cllr Chris has emailed Parking Manager Denise Bastow for an update. He is hoping for a resolution by the Neighbourhood Forum on 10 February (see AOB).

School Streets - Despite new signage, Cllr Chris, Sharon and Bob all attested to the road restrictions being completely ignored by parents. Cllr Chris is meeting with the St Jude's head within the next 2 weeks, the school needs to be more proactive. Until the law allows local authorities to use ANPR camera systems, it is very difficult to enforce.

10 Planning

RAYC - Sharon thanked Cllr Chris for forwarding her concerns regarding the incorrect statements made by PCC Regulatory Services regarding the most recent applications. Stephen Baily has taken this matter onboard.

Buckingham Cottage - Sharon has alerted former Jack House Gallery proprietor to this application.

Update to Local Plan - Due to Tipner West mitigation measures PCC was required to update the plan. However the new version now includes proposals for 200 properties on Clarence Pier. Sharon has enquired why this site is now developable when it was not previously.

Fullers site, Point - It's a year since Fullers responded to Eileen's enquiry. Anna will ask her if she'd like to email them for an update.

11 Heritage & Conservation - see above.

Sea Scouts Boat Shed - Bob (Stewart) is concerned about what might be planned for the building and will talk to Cllr Attwell separately about this matter.

The Lodge, 11 Pembroke Road - Still no reply from Ben Cracknell concerning the dilapidated state of this listed dwelling. Terry Halloran at Portsmouth Society has raised this with Stephen Morgan.

Portsmouth 100 - There are events all year, however there will be a civic service on 21 April 2026, the date the centenary falls on.

12 Environment - Eileen is away.

13 Website - Nothing to report.

14 Ward Councillor Reports – As above.

15 Committee Admin

FOOPA Newsletter – The second member newsletter will be going out shortly.

Annual Review - Gail reminded everyone about writing articles.

16 AOB

OPGQ Neighbourhood Forum - At the Square Tower on 10 February 2026. Flyers will be delivered shortly. Council Leader Cllr Steve Pitt and Cabinet Member Peter Candlish will be speaking about parking issues, mayoral elections and local government reorganisation plans. Southern Water's Clean Rivers and Seas Taskforce will also give a presentation.

Old Portsmouth Living - The recent edition features an article by the Camber Building manager, who states that 250 people now work there. This explains the increase in traffic volumes down to point.

PCC City of Culture survey - Runs until 18 January 2026 (see link on PCC website).

Portsmouth Bookfest - Upcoming events during February and March 2026.

17 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 18 February 2026, Pembroke Gardens Bowls Club.