

THE FRIENDS OF OLD PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, 10 June 2026

Website: foopa.org.uk

Email: foopacontact@gmail.com

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting on 10 June 2026, 7.30pm Pembroke Gardens Bowling Club.

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

1 Apologies — Bob Nield (Treasurer), Eileen Measey (Environment), Ann Wakelin (Environment), Mike Dobson (Traffic), Ward Councillors Mark Jeffery, Ian Holder.

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 May meeting were circulated to the committee by Anna and agreed by the Chair.

4 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - See below.

5 Correspondence and Communications

Portsmouth Society Events - Gail received an email from Portsmouth Society Committee Member Celia Clarke (also a FOOPA member) offering Portsmouth Society events to FOOPA members. The Committee welcomed this proposal and agreed to reciprocate. FOOPA members will be prioritised for FOOPA events and offered tickets before being advertised to other organisations / general public.

Feltham Row - An email was received from residents who live adjacent to Feltham Row, voicing continued concern over use of the footpath by cyclists/scooters. While Councillor Chris said this is a police matter, Anna offered to revisit deterrents such as staggered barriers, which do exist on footpaths elsewhere in the city. She will send details/photos to Chris.

Stakeholder meeting - To be held on 15 June at Square Tower, FOOPA has been invited by the Hotwalls Artist Studios manager following the safety/security issues and policing operations over the bank holiday period.

6 Treasurer's Report — At end May 2026 there was £720.43 in the current and £8154.46 in the savings accounts. There were 2 membership subscription payments: one from a new member, and one settling their 2026 dues. There remains 9 members who have not yet paid for 2026 - Gail will send an email terminating their memberships. Bar the recurrent outgoings, Gail made a donation of £50 to speaker J J Marshallsay - see below.

7 Social Programme

Gail gave an online donation of £50 to John 'JJ' Marshallsay, the speaker at the FOOPA AGM, to put towards his Memories of Bygone Portsmouth project. The committee agreed it is a valuable community asset worth supporting. Gail has found a speaker, James Doherty, who would like to deliver a talk about Queen Victoria's forgotten Navy and a date is set for 21 July. He is a member of the Palmerston Forts Society. A further speaker has been contacted by Anna: Alan Smith is a volunteer at the Dockyard and has written a book on Balchen's Victory: The Loss and Rediscovery of an Admiral and His Ship. He also has a talk about HMS Invincible.

8 Membership Report – There are currently 158 households, comprising 243 members. A new member joined on 1 May, from Drayton. They are a 3-person household. Another member settled their subscription on 13 May. The full and redacted membership records have been updated. Gail has looked at the issue of some members not receiving her membership-wide emails. It likely stems from the recipients' firewall systems rejecting FOOPA emails.

9 Traffic

BAR and Business Parking Permits – Eileen has provided data to Mike monitoring utilisation of both the BAR carparks.

Pembroke Road - No reply from Cllr Candlish regarding Sharon's concerns about BAR business permit holders using Pembroke Road for parking.

Hover Terminal - Sharon to forward her unanswered correspondence to Cllr Chris about pedestrian safety outside the terminal due to the new road layout, one-way system and crossing.

Pavement bollards - New bollards have been installed along High Street (past John Pounds church) and at Point. The Penny Street and Peacock Lane installation is awaiting further inspection.

10 Planning - Nothing new to report. Cllr Chris is no longer on Planning Committee, he is now a cabinet member on Licencing.

11 Heritage & Conservation

Grand Parade improvements - Eileen confirmed that the collapsed wall render and orange barriers have been removed.

Saluting Platform Paving - Mark Collings, Seafront Operations Manager is awaiting a response from Colas regarding the work involved and when it is scheduled.

Neighbourhood Forum - Sharon attended, she was disappointed with the two presentations on Portsmouth 100 and the City of Culture bid. Culture does not appear to include heritage as a significant component of Portsmouth's offer. Gail agreed that heritage and the built environment is noticeably missing. Anna thanked Cllr Chris for organising the speakers. He would have liked the senior officers to be there.

12 Environment – Eileen thanked the team for digging up one of the sea cabbages that had spread. Sharon commented on the recent severe pruning of the two large trees at the MOD houses on St Nicholas St. Perhaps permissions should have been sought as they are mature trees? It appears work was halted owing to a bird's nest, as a result the tree shape is very odd.

13 Website – Gail has posted all the latest updates and news.

14 Ward Councillor Report – See above. Council Leader Steve Pitt was in Liverpool last week at a meeting to discuss the City of Culture bid, only two of the other cities on the longlist turned up.

15 Committee Admin – The Nisa noticeboard now displays the FOOPA QR code.

16 AOB

Local Government Reorganisation - The Libdems continue their fightback, however next May will see the introduction of a shadow authority working alongside the current structure. The legislation has still not been laid down in the House of Commons.

17 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 15th July 2026, 7.30pm, Pembroke Gardens Bowls Club. *Post-meeting note: rearranged for Wednesday 29 July 2026 due to too many clashes.*