

BAGC meeting 30 March 2017

Minutes

Present

Jane Smith, Robert Barker, Randall Anderson, Tim Macer, Bruce Badger, David Bradshaw, elected members; Graham Wallace, RCC; Christopher Makin, Speed; John Whitehead, Breton; Mary Hickman, Andrewes; Nadia Bouzidi, Gilbert; Hilary Sunman, Willoughby; Richard Collins, Lambert Jones; Helen Hudson, Defoe; Janet Wells, John Trundle; Gilian Laidlaw, Mountjoy; , Averil Baldwin, Thomas More; Lew Jackson, Shakespeare; Sue Cox, planning subcommittee

Apologies

Helen Kay, Tony Swanson, Sarah Hudson, Paul Clifford, Kai Virtanen, membership secretary; John Tomlinson, David Graves, Nigel Dixon, Jenny Addison, John Taysum, Mary Bonar, Gordon Griffiths, B

Welcomes

To new members Christopher Makin, Speed, and Nadia Bouzidi, Gilbert

1.Communications

See paper

Someone had expressed an interest in taking on the Newsletter and website content editor.

It was commented that Barbican Life should have authorship agreements. Randall Anderson volunteered to join the communications group suggested in the paper.

The course of action suggested – putting a call out for a new editor and drawing up a brief – was agreed.

2.AGM

People had received their AGM papers.

Volunteers needed to help the membership desk rush at 7.30: Nadia Bouzidi and Graham Wallace volunteered.

Roving Mike: Bruce Badger

Notes: Helen Hudson

Elected members were encouraged to stand again. Robert Barker said he would not be standing again.

Wine: Pat Spicer and Helen Hudson would carry the wine and glasses from the cupboard to the school.

3.Low Emissions Neighbourhood

See paper from Ben Kennedy

Mary Hickman asked for more financial information in future reports

Robert Barker asked about the impact of the Bank junction closure on emissions on London Wall and Beech Street.

Hilary Sunman had had a meeting with Ben Kennedy, the LEN project manager, on the proposals for a pop up garden (one of several across the LEN area) in Moor Lane, where the Heron hutch had been.

There was concern about wasting money before the full works to Moor Lane were done. Randall Anderson suggested that the works could be done as phase 1 of the full Moor Lane works rather than discarded. Some doubted the impact it would have on air quality. Others thought that if it cost little and provided some greening and some absorption of pollution, it was something residents would like.

Agreed: Hilary Sunman would get more information about the definitive works from Iain Simmons, who was speaking at Willoughby's AGM. Randall and David Bradshaw would pursue the phase 1

proposal within the streets department. The chair would find out how much the pop up garden would cost [information after the meeting: £5k, and the planters and flowers would be used elsewhere once they had finished at Moor Lane].

4.Planning update

See paper.

Sue Cox highlighted

Bernard Morgan House – going to the planning committee in May.

Randall Anderson suggested establishing “no noisy work on Saturdays” as a condition for this site because it is so close to residences – and then campaign for it be widened out to all residential areas.

Turret. There were no objections in principle and the objections were met by conditions (eg not to use the terrace except for maintenance).

The chair will write to the BEO and say we assume that estate hours will be followed for noisy work
Conservation area

It was agreed that being a conservation area would add additional protection to simply being listed. The chair said that the chief planning officer had commented to her that she hadn’t realised the size of the petition in favour of this and would look at it again.

Tim Macer agreed to propose a motion at the AGM to establish a conservation area

21 Moorfields

News reports that Deutsche Bank has taken the lease but wants some design changes.

Helen Kay, who leads the 21 Moorfields group, to follow up with Land Securities

5. London Underground

Richard Collins had appeared before a London Assembly committee on noise caused by London Transport. He and other residents from other parts of London had had a good hearing. It all helped but we had to keep the pressure up.

6. Accounts

The treasurer would have the audited accounts ready for the AGM

7. Membership update

John Whitehead reported on the outcome of his attempts to find the members still paying into Santander. All had in addition been contacted by the membership secretary and he saw no clear value in extending the exercise to other blocks.

What might be more useful would be to drop of a membership invitation and enrolment form to the 73 flats (out of 111!) where there is no member - emphasising local discounts perhaps. He was happy to volunteer to deliver.”

John was thanked for his efforts and the suggestions passed on to the membership secretary.

It was pointed out that Blake Tower will start to be occupied in May – so we should start recruiting. The chair will speak to Kai about a tailored membership letter to them.

Graham Wallace suggested we should extend the invitation to the residents of Golden Lane. The chair pointed out that we would have to change the constitution, though she fully supported collaboration with GLERA and other residents groups around when there were issues affecting this part of the City.

8. Management of future podium works

The chair reported that she and Graham Wallace, chair of RCC, had talked to Michael Bennett about the City governance of the future phases of the podium works. Although it was City money that

would pay for these, the project was being run by Paul Murtagh. That meant, according to the protocol that any working group of residents would be appointed by the RCC. In practice, said the chair the resident representatives would come from the houses near where the work was being done. There was a strong feeling that the BA should be represented on any such group because of its experience in coordinating such groups. Graham Wallace said that the RCC would get updates – but he wanted to keep any RCC discussion strategic. If there were smaller issues to deal with they should be taken up with the project team. He was also keen to focus the RCC on service charge issues.

Robert Barker pointed out that no one had yet seen the lessons learnt document from the previous works.

9. Police meeting

For info. A meeting of all residents is planned in July

10. Meeting on Cultural hub

A meeting is due with the BA's Cultural hub working group – with Nick Kenyon and Peter Lisley – at which they will update us.

11. Other subcommittees

David Bradshaw reported that Brian Parkes had replaced Jonathan Dawid on the security committee

12. AoB

Nadia Bouzidi raised the fact that the arts centre had not consulted on the Sound Unbound weekend. The chair said that Sean Gregory had apologised profusely but said it should be on the next quarterly meeting agenda

Nadia Bouzidi also said that Gilbert had some suggestions about St Giles Terrace, which amounted to signage. It was suggested she should write to Michael Bennett and ask to present the problem at BOUG

Bruce Badger asked for the URL of the London Assembly session on TFL. The chair said she would link to it from the BA's website.

Date of next meeting

AGM 27 April

3 May (election of officer meeting)