Minutes of the Barbican Association General Council meeting Monday 11 May 2020 6.30 pm by 'Zoom'



1 Present:

 Jane Smith, Christopher Makin, Richard Collins, Helen Kay, David Kirkby, Tony Swanson, Ian Dixon, Fred Rodgers Hilary Sunman, Helen Hulson, Adam Hogg, Mary Bonar, Humfrey Brandes, Randall Anderson, Tim Cox, David Bradshaw, Sue Cox, David Graves, Mark Bostock, Jim Davies Andy Hawkins, Helen Hudson, Lionel Green, Hugo Dinis.

Apologies:

· Mike Bristow, Jenny Addison, Lionel Meyringer

2 Minutes: Approved

3 Matters arising:

- · Members to provide contact details for use on the BA website and in its magazine
- An initial meeting had been scheduled to assess any potential to use the Police office at the base of Shakespeare Tower as a space for residents - subject to costs/ approvals. This is on hold due to the lockdown

4 BA AGM - should we hold it by Zoom?

- Members recommended that an AGM should be held by Zoom, subject to obtaining a Zoom licence for many attendees and compliance with the BA's constitution
- Votes at the meeting may need to be held be a different technology to Zoom

5 BA Accounts and future editions of Barbican Life:

- The Treasurer said that last year's accounts were satisfactory
- The Q1 accounts show a £14,000 profit, but there are concerns over Q2 profits from Barbican Life. Will advertisers wish to continue for the summer edition?
- However, a slimmer publication will be cheaper to print so there is some offset
- Agreed to continue to keep Barbican Life going for as long as possible to maintain momentum and its community function

6 Planning:

- Sue Cox provided an update on current planning issues including:
- City of London Planning Committee meetings to start being held virtually
- 1-12 Long Lane will not go to committee until June earliest. Height is the issue for residents
- 150 Aldersgate. A planning application has been submitted following consultation earlier this year. If approved, this will match 160 Aldersgate in height and will affect Seddon House in particular. Sunlight/daylight assessment awaited
- Randall Anderson said that the new Local Plan has useful words on cumulative impact that could be helpful for the height issues of 150/160 Aldersgate Street
- The Turret, Aldersgate Street, owned by the City, is back for planning approval as the prior approval has lapsed. Nothing has changed in the design, but there has been a change of policy with the introduction of the conservation area. The plans also use non-Barbican materials (Corten Steel) in the external design
- Listing is another issue as the Turret is part of the Landscape and Grade II*

7 Moor Lane Greening:

 Plans have been developed for some additional greening at the north of Moor Lane near the lift to the highwalk/opposite the existing planting.

7 Moor Lane Greening (cont):

- The plans have been developed with input from residents. Response to questions raised will be made available.[sent out after meeting].
- The feedback from neighbouring blocks is that Willoughby residents were enthusiastic, but the response from Speed was mixed

8 Building sites/ Light pollution:

- 21 Moorfields work is ongoing. The contractor tries to keep residents informed
- The Local Plan should have more information on light pollution. At present it is difficult to challenge, need to work with the on site team in the building
- Helen Kay to speak to Hugo Dinis re 1 London Wall (new occupier is in place)
- Ian Dixon advised that supply chains for builders are tight with a shortage of materials, so timelines may extend. There was a fear that construction might be allowed 24 hours, but neither of the members present had heard any suggestion of that
- COLPAI, Golden Lane, is behind time, but no additional work hours proposed, yet

9 Arts Centre and the fountains:

- The fountains are not operating as a cost saving action by the Arts Centre. There is an invisible 'flow maker system' that is designed to keep the water quality OK and is working
- The timings of the Waterfall have been variable due to another control room leak.
- A residents' group is looking at Waterfall timing options with the Arts Centre.
- · Lack of communications by the Arts Centre noted
- Christopher Makin agreed to ask about the cost of the Waterfall. Do we pay half? Now clarified that we pay for the 'flow maker system' not the fountains or Waterfall.
- Will the Arts Centre share their plans for re-opening? Ask at next Arts Centre meeting on 8 June
- Arts Centre Board meets on 20 May, there may be a YouTube facility to view it

10 | RCC/BEO Update and issues:

- The BEO advised that it has limited power to stop noise from building works in neighbours' flats. The system relies on goodwill and guidelines
- BA to write to major contractors who work on refurbishment projects on the Estate to remind them of the need to act responsibly and with care for neighbouring flats
- A number of approvals for refurbishments have been given. Sue Cox has a list of flats with planning approvals [circulated after the meeting]
- A paper regarding the Barbican redecorations contract is expected shortly. David Bradshaw speculated that the decision would be to let the contract

11 Volunteers and vulnerable people on the Estate - any issues:

- · Volunteers are well organised, a Food Bank has been established
- Increased risk of fraud. Someone impersonating a policeman tried to gain entry to a building

12 **AOB**:

- The Guardian published an article on the Barbican Wildlife Garden
- It was asked if we can record the next meeting
- Fred Rodgers asked if the BA could consider corporate membership of the 20th century society

15 | Future meetings - All BAGC meetings to start at 7.30 pm

BAGC	RCC
TBA AGM	
ТВА	1 June 2020 (TBC given lockdown)
	7 Sept 2020
	30 Nov 2020

18 Meeting ended at 8.15pm