# Minutes of the Barbican Association General Council meeting Tuesday 2 September 2020 7.15 pm by Zoom



#### 1 Present:

 Jane Smith, Christopher Makin, Richard Collins, Ted Reilly, Ian Dixon, Helen Hudson Helen Hulson, Tony Croot, Sue Cox, Mark Bostock, Helen Kay, Tony Swanson, Adam Hogg, Colin Morgan, David Bradshaw, William Naunton, Tim Cox, Fred Rodgers, Sandy Wilson, Randall Anderson, Hugo Dinis, Lionel Meyringer, Fionnuala Hogan, Lionel Green, David Kirkby, Michael Bristow.

## **Apologies:**

- Mary Bonar, Mike Cribb, Derek Penney
- 2 Minutes: Approved
- 3 Matters arising:
  - Christopher Makin to clarify the lake costs paid for by residents.

## 4 Beech Street Zero Emission Zone

- The BA decided not to object to the entire proposal to limit the tunnel to zero emission vehicles, but did suggest suspending the experiment during lockdown.
- William Naunton and Sandy Wilson highlighted the difficulties faced by Shakespeare residents, visitors and delivery drivers to access the Shakespeare/Defoe car park and the difficulty of obtaining a response from Officers.
- Although the Shakespeare/Defoe car park is accessed from Beech Street, there are no electric charging points there.
- Randall Anderson highlighted the importance of good signage to show how the zero emissions zone works. He will raise this with Officers.
- Defoe House has noticed an improvement in air quality and does not have any complaints about the new zone other than a request to have a right hand turning point in the central reservation
- Fred Rodgers advised that Golden Lane now has many vehicle u-turns. He has written to relevant councillors and has had no response.
- Shakespeare Tower has an upcoming meeting with the Transport team. Lauderdale Tower has suggested a working group on this topic.

#### Action

- Ted Reilly agreed to chair the existing BA working group that has already met the City Transport team to discuss these issues and how they should be monitored; this group to be enlarged and seek a meeting with the City's Transport team
- Working Group membership is Ted Reilly, Fred Rodgers, Mike Bristow, Jane Smith, Randall Anderson, William Naunton and Richard Tomkins.
- This group will create a list of 'wants' and seek a meeting with the City's Transport team.

## 5 Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

- David Bradshaw, Chair, Barbican Association Security Committee, highlighted the need for evidence of ASB to get more support from the authorities.
- ASB reporting is disparate at present with various parties (Police, Barbican Centre, Dept for Built Environment etc) involved.
- Barbican Estate Office agreed to create a simple ASB reporting tool, but this is now on hold due to the pandemic and internal restructuring.
- Colin Morgan, resident in Gilbert/former senior Police Officer, is working with the 'Good Neighbours ASB Group' in Andrewes, Willoughby, Gilbert, Speed and Brandon
- Colin reported that the City's statutory authorities do not feel there is an ASB problem in the Barbican due to lack of reporting. Knowing who to report what to is, however, not easy to decide.
- Skateboarding is not viewed as ASB by the Police unless accompanied by specific ASB (such as damage to property / abusive behaviour etc) by participants.
- The BEO does not see that the Estate Concierges have a role in ASB.

#### **Action**

- Mike Cribb and Fionnuala Hogan to look at some practical ASB reporting options.
- Colin Morgan is reviewing how ASB reporting should be communicated to residents. He is awaiting feedback from the City.

## 6 Climate change

- The City is devising a Climate Action Strategy, and the BA submitted a paper so it can participate in the discussion at an early stage.
- Mark Bostock updated the BAGC that a draft of the City's Strategy is now going through the City's committee cycle. This includes a questionnaire with 2,600 responses, 16 percent of which were residents.
- The next phase (three) of the Strategy should include a budget for expenditure. Given the size of the Barbican in the City energy efficiency on the Estate is a significant 'opportunity'.
- Recommended to include the Arts Centre and both schools on the Estate to provide a unified approach
- Ted Reilly and colleagues have drafted a climate change questionnaire for Barbican residents that includes actions we can take on the Barbican Estate that is more specific than the City's survey.
- House Groups were asked to share the Underfloor Heating survey that is currently live with their residents.
- Adam Hogg is meeting with environmental engineers to potentially generate data to accompany the paper to the City.

# 7 AGM

- At the last BAGC it was agreed to hold an AGM by Zoom due to the coronavirus.
- The quorum at an AGM is 30 people
- Adam Hogg has volunteered to stand for election as Chair although others are welcome to stand
- 21 October was agreed as the date latterly amended to Wednesday, 4 November.
- Voting for BAGC members can take place anonymously via Zoom
- Our membership secretary has worked out ways of contacting members to ensure that only members get Zoom invitations.
- We have some resolutions we need to put to the AGM that were agreed earlier in the year to do with membership.
- Volunteers will be needed to help manage the meeting, as well as someone to take notes.
- Agreed to use the same AGM structure as last year a report to members on key issues plus Q&A via the 'chat' system.

## 8 Update on Planning and Licensing matters

- Helen Kay, the BA's longstanding planning subcommittee chair has stepped down.
- The BAGC thanked Helen for her valued contributions over many years.
- Sue Cox, prior deputy planning chair, was appointed planning chair by the BAGC.
- Deputy Chair now required to succeed Sue.

## Planning updates:

- Barbie Green off sales limited to 6pm in the evening and not at the weekend
- Moor Lane Greening Project (near the lift on Moor Lane) to take place soon.
- Jugged Hare noise from the ventilation plant on the roof. A meeting has been scheduled between affected residents and the Montcalm Hotel
- The Turret delayed decision. A well-crafted heritage statement has been submitted.
- A resident has applied for an awning. Agreed that objections are important to avoid setting a precedent

#### 9 Accounts

- The annual accounts have now been audited.
- Half year accounts show nothing untoward, advertising has held up, no delinquencies.
- Ian Dixon highlighted a typo in the figures and made a presentational suggestion.
- Suggestions for investing surplus cash in this low interest environment are welcome.

# 10 Membership matters

N/A

# 11 Application to City CIL fund for library room as a community space

- Applications for money from the Neighbourhood Fund paid for by the planning Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) open in September.
- It was proposed that the BA applies for funds to build a community room in the Barbican library.
- This was discussed it at a BAGC over a year ago and support agreed.
- Plans and costings already exist that the planners have given indicative approval.
- This would be a community facility, open to all to book at a low charge for community groups.
- The BAGC approved the CIL application

## 12 **RCC**:

• A pre-meeting for RCC Members was held last night via Zoom. Key topics include Service Charge rises and the installation of fire safety notices.

#### 13 | **AOB**

 Twentieth Century Society affiliate membership - £120 for non-profits such as the BA was agreed.

#### 14 | **Future meetings** - All BAGC meetings start at 7.30 pm, RCC starts at 6.30pm

 BAGC
 RCC

 4 Nov - AGM
 30 Nov 2020

11 Nov - Officer Election Meeting 25 Jan 2021 - Provisional / AGM 1 Mar 2021

## 18 | Meeting ended at 9.05pm