Minutes

of the Meeting of The Barbican Association General Council held by Zoom at 7.00 pm on Thursday 18 November 2021

Present

Elected Members:
Adam Hogg (Chair), Helen Hudson, Sandy Wilson, Christopher Makin, Sue Cox, Ted Reilly, Randall Anderson
House Groups:
Ian Dixon (Gilbert), Tim Cox (Cromwell), Graham Bulpitt (Thomas More), Erin Summers (Defoe), Gail Beer (Lauderdale), Andy Hope (Breton).
House Group stand-ins:
Mark Bostock (Frobisher), Fiona Lean (Ben Jonson), Jim Durcan (Andrewes)
Fred Rodgers (Hon Secretary),

Apologies

Jane Smith (Deputy Chair), David Bradshaw (EM) Mary Bonar (Wallside), Lionel Meyringer (Andrewes), Jenny Nisbet (Frobisher), Helen Hulson (Ben Jonson), Erin Summers (Defoe), Heather Thomas (Lambert Jones), Tony Swanson (Treasurer)

Minutes of the last meeting

ID pointed out that the word “luvvies” was inappropriate term for “actors”. With that change, the minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2021 were agreed.

Matters arising

The Chair reported he had only heard from one member regarding his request for thoughts on the scope, membership attributes and identification and selection of membership for the BA’s Barbican Centre Renewal engagement. He added that it was essential that residents don’t lose the facilities they currently enjoy. There was keen interest to be on the shortlist for choice of architects and selection has been deferred until January. MB said it was important that the architects had a proper consideration for the Barbican and this should be encouraged. TR asked that 365 day accessibility through the Centre should be available for residents.

Reports from WPs 1, 2 and 3 re making the BA more effective

WP1: A report describing the next stage of the work had been circulated prior to the meeting. This stage would focus on establishing a common membership framework for the Barbican Association and House Groups, to include membership records and a data protection statement. House Group contacts would be approached shortly for information and to help identify best practice.

WP2: The BA manifesto was accepted.

WP2/WP3: As far as the proposed sub-Committees are concerned, the Chair reported that four had been proposed as the Chair and Deputy Chair of the current Planning and Licensing sub-Committee didn't want to extend their remit. As a result, the Chair had determined to create a fourth sub-Committee. MB asked that Conservation Area matters should be added to the Sustainability sub-Committee in addition to the remit of the Planning subcommittees, of which they are already a part. Chairs would be elected at the AGM.

Resident involvement in the management on improving the effectiveness of the BA

TR's paper was noted and it was agreed to set up a joint BA/RCC WP of up to eight members to engage with the City after a discussing the City's proposals regarding the BRC, RCC, Barbican Consultative User Group and a Housing Committee following the Lisvane recommendations. Contributions came from RA, TR, CM, JD, FR, SW, FL and GB. RA agreed to chair the WP. JS, HH, FR and CM volunteered to be members.

CPAs and Car Parks from LSCWP

The report was noted and the Chair confirmed that the LSCWP had taken over the role of the the T&FG in discussions with the BEO.

Updates:

Beech Street: TR's report was noted. TR pointed out the adverse effect of the closure on surrounding streets and mentioned FR's view that the move to EVs, the changes in vehicle numbers and increased costs questioned whether a separate scheme was needed. As far as the Streets and Walkways sub-Committee meeting on 2 December is concerned, TR anticipated the officers would recommend the reintroduction of the previous scheme. The BA's position is for the adoption of a wider scheme but FR pointed out that Barbican residents would still be affected by pollution from Aldersgate Street London Wall and Goswell Road. SW said that Shakespeare HG had recently passed a resolution requesting that the City reintroduce the Beech Street scheme. The Chair pointed out that the BA represented the Barbican as a whole.
Planning: SC said the only item of any significance was 1 Golden Lane where there had been a recent presentation by the new owners. MB said that it was clear that an increase in height of several floors would be proposed and a careful watch needed to be kept. RA said the owners were the owners of 160 Aldersgate Street and they would want to add storeys like they did there.
London Wall West: Members of the LWW WP had met with the Chair of the Property Investment Board who confirmed that the City had received a report that it was best to demolish but were waiting for a report on embedded carbons which had been promised for 26th November. The view was that whatever residents said would make little difference to the proposals which would see a block of the same height as Bastion House but it could be wider and a similar tower on the MoL site with public space and greening between the two, MB said that the proposal for an ambitious public realm was driving the size of the proposed towers. Public consultation on the next phase of the plans begins on 2nd December.
EV charging: TR reported that there were now 60 EV charging points, enough for 600 EVs. The commercial operation had been changed and was now functioning properly. TR was of the view the WP had served its purposes and could now be wound up.

UFHWP: TR reported that the October time shift had been completed and the WP was working with BEO officers on the City's procurement officers to shift some of the load from the night into the afternoon without financial penalty.
ASB: SW said the the Security Committee hadn't met for some time. The Chair noted that DB wasn't at the meeting but requested that the Committee met and produced a report for the next GC meeting as it was necessary not only to know what was happening on the estate but also what was going to be done about it. TR asked that ASB be given less prominence on the BA website, as it gave a misleading impression of our estate. ID also contributed.

GSMD Brass Carol Concert: The Chair reported that the licence had been applied for and it was likely to be issued. ID said Gilbert HG was happy as long as there were no noisy after parties.

Election to the Court: Encouraging residents to register to vote

The Chair said that the next edition of Barbican Quarterly Newsletter would be an election special, encouraging residents to stand for election both for the Court in March and for the BAGC at the AGM in April. He also said that it was proposed to hold a workshop for prospective candidates in January which would be followed by BA's hustings at a date closer to the election.
MB said that the preliminary Ward Lists showed that in some Barbican blocks over 33% of residents hadn't registered and the percentage was higher in some Golden Lane Blocks. JD pointed out, and FR agreed, that residents should be encouraged to register but there were blocks like the Heron that had a lot of residents who weren't entitled to register.

Date of AGM

The meeting agreed that the Chair should invite Christopher Hayward, the likely new Chair of Policy and Resources Committee to speak about the new governance structure that's due to come into effect on 1 April. The Chair suggested 21 April for the meeting but that might need to be one week before or one after depending on CH's availability. [**Note:** CH has subsequently confirmed 14th April]

Any other urgent business

The Chair suggested the House Group Chairs might want to publicise the production of the Tempest by CoLSG to their members. The Chair also congratulated JS for having made three demands on behalf of the BA in its response to Lisvane. Better control over management; an umbrella organisation for the Barbican; and better consultations with residents. All these are included in the City's proposals following the Lisvane recommendations.

Date of next meeting

20 January 2022

BAGC dates **Meetings start at 7.00pm**	**RCC dates** **Meetings start at 6.30pm**
17 March 2022	17 January 2022

21 April 2022	6 June 2022 (TBC)

BA AGM

14 April 2022

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm