

BAGC Minutes

25 June 2015

Present:

Jane Smith, Robert Barker, Randall Anderson, Paul Clifford, elected members; Tony Swanson, treasurer; Brian Parkes, Speed; John Schrader, Gilbert; Gordon Griffiths, Bunyan; Jenny Addison, Frobisher; John Whitehead, Breton; Helen Hudson, Defoe; Richard Collins, Lambert Jones; Janet Wells, John Trundle; Pat Spicer, Shakespeare; David Graves, Seddon; John Tomlinson, Cromwell; Sue Cox, planning subcommittee; Tony Croot, social secretary; Kai Virtanen, membership secretary; Francis Pugh, cultural hub working party

Apologies

Tim Macer, Sarah Hudson, Bruce Badger, Helen Kay, Averil Baldwin, Nigel Dixon, Gillian Laidlaw, Mary Bonar, David Bradsahw, John Tayum

1. Welcomes

John Schrader from Gilbert House; Sue Cox, member of the planning subcommittee standing in for Helen Kay

2. Minutes of last meeting

Approved.

3. Matters arising

In response to a question the chair said she had contacted the City Events team about the Beckett plays on St Giles's terrace, who had said they hadn't been consulted – the land involved belonged to the Church and the Barbican Estate. They also said they did take residents' needs into account in granting permissions.

4. Future meetings

Noted that the January 2016 meeting was now on 28 January, not 21 January (see list at bottom)

5. Response to Barbican and Golden Lane Area strategy

The meeting went through the draft prepared by the Cultural Hub working party and made the following amendments

- add something about the BA and its role in representing residents
- the Barbican and Golden Lane estates are the only part of the City that were designed with a clear strategy – it should be a case of how to make that strategy clear half a century later
- mention volume 4 of the Listed Management Guidelines (and the Local Plan, and City's Noise Strategy)
- Mention security and safety (something not mentioned in the strategy at all)
- that we support elements of greening and maintaining tranquillity
- include as a south-north route the one that will be available when London Wall Place is finished: North from Guildhall and Cheapside, over London Wall at ground level, through the open space at London Place, onto Fore Street, then Moor Lane and on to Chiswell Street
- maintain neutral wording
- say nothing about the 153 bus
- the cultural institutions themselves could do more to help visitors find their way around

6. Treasurer's report

Received. The treasurer reported that income was doing well, membership was up. He confirmed that the bulk of the magazine income came in later in the year.

7. Membership report

The membership secretary reported that membership was going well and he had taken over one of the Barbican association domains, ready for populating it with new content.

He agreed to send out a timetable to people who had agreed to move content across.

8. Governance issues in house groups

Deferred to next meeting

9. Update on planning and licensing

On the London Film School, although we had discovered that because there was no change of use there could be no planning conditions attached, the City was planning on including the things the BA had requested as conditions in the lease. David Graves confirmed that the City Surveyor had told him this and the chair said that Michael Bradley, the City Surveyor officer dealing with the lease had also told residents at the last meeting on the enabling works. He had also said that the need to negotiate a visitor management plan was included in the lease as well. He had said that the terms of the lease that related to these conditions would be made public.

On Licensing Robert Barker reported that Caterina 55 was about to apply for a tables and chairs licence. The residents of Heron Tower as well as Speed and Willoughby houses were opposed. He said that at the original licensing application the applicants had said they had no intention of making such an application. One condition the licence imposed was no alcohol to be sold in open containers to be taken outside the building.

It was resolved that the BA would oppose this application.

10. Update from RCC

There was a question about what was behind the recent letter from the BEO reminding people about the lease. The City had decided there was enough in the lease to prevent AirBNB lettings, and members commented that the BEO had taken action on wooden floors and on pets.

11. Update on concrete

The chair reported that there was no update on concrete. A further list of questions had been sent to the City; she would ask when answers were expected. The BA had no further funds authorised on this issue. John Tomlinson suggested asking a question at the City residents' meeting in July.

12. 153 bus

For information: it will not come back to Silk Street. Brian Parkes said that Speed residents were not particularly dismayed by that decision, but at the time of the Silk Street Works officers had reassured residents that their works would still leave room for the bus to operate.

Agreed that the chair should write to the chair of Streets and Walkways pointing out that assurances were given and had been renegeged upon.

13. Date of next meeting;

24 September

26 November

28 January 2016

31 March

28 April (AGM)

5 May – election meeting

All to start at 7.30 pm

Meeting ended 9.00