

## **BAGC meeting 17 November 2016 Minutes**

### **Present:**

Jane Smith, Robert Barker, Randall Anderson, Helen Kay, Tony Swanson, elected members; Graham Wallace, RCC; Julia Braybrook, Speed; John Whitehead, Breton; Natalie Robinson, Andrewes, John Schrader, Gilbert; Hilary Sunman, Willoughby; Gillian Laidlaw, Mountjoy; Ricahrd Collins, Lambert Jones; Jenny Addison, Frobisher; John Tomlinson, Cromwell

### **1. Apologies**

Sarah Hudson, Tim Macer, Bruce Badger, Helen Hudson, Paul Clifford, Averil Baldwin, Nigel Dixon, Janet Wells, John Taysum, David Bradshaw, Kai Virtanen, David Graves, Mary Bonar, Gordon Griffiths

### **3. Minutes of meeting on 5 May 2016**

Approved, with the addition of Helen Kay being present at the meeting

### **4. Matters arising**

5. Conservation area. The chair had been told by planning that all current conservation areas were under review and no new ones would be considered until the review was finished

9. Robert Barker apologised for not having written to the City in relation to CCTV at entrances. It was agreed he would draft a letter for approval suggesting the police took a feed from CCTV that will be installed at London Wall Place and 21 Moorfields

### **5. Planning**

See update.

Suspended ceilings: Gillian Laidlaw said that Mountjoy residents with Sarah Styles's help had managed to get a schedule of noisy works circulated each week from Thompson Bros about work they were doing in Mountjoy. She reported a neighbour as having been told by EHO that if the works were confined to 10-4 that was OK and they wouldn't record the complaint.

Randall Anderson said that it was worth complaining because if there were several it should prompt a discussion about better practices and quieter techniques. He was surprised that EHO had refused to record the complaint

*Light pollution:* The City was still saying it applied only to floodlights. Randall Anderson encouraged people to respond to the Local Plan on this. Helen Kay to do research on what other local authorities do

*Bernard Morgan House.* This would not be decided till next year. The City had commissioned its own light report

*Floodlighting on school pitch.* There were many objections to this

*4 BBBBs* on Barbican Centre. Helen Kay and Robert Barker had been to meeting with planners and arts centre about the latter's application to remove 2 sets of the 4 BBBBs and replace them with large lit signs (which would light up bedrooms in Defoe and possibly

Shakespeare and Cromwell). The 4 BBBBs are mentioned in the listed management guidelines. The BAC people had said they would think about it. Randall Anderson said that backlit signs are not allowed in conservation areas. Graham Wallace suggested telling Michael Bennett about the proposals on signage since it affected the Highwalk.

*Checklist for code of construction.* Helen Kay had been chasing this since the summer. John Tomlinson offered to remind Steve Blake (the chair to send him the original email).

*Turret* . The planners said that the applicant had withdrawn the application with an external staircase and was amending the other proposal

*21 Moorfields* Helen Kay said she would ask the planning department how to reconcile the developer's statement about light effects (see last minutes)

*Local Plan* – the draft response from BA had been circulated for comments. Randall Anderson suggested moderating what it said about shops – to make it clear that they may be acceptable in Beech Street

## **6. Crossrail**

See update.

Graham Wallace said that Paul Murtagh, head of housing, was engaged in this issue on residents' behalf.

## **7. Consultations responded to**

Robert Barker suggested putting them on BA's website

## **8. London underground**

Richard Collins said that since the track work had been done on the tube lines at Barbican Lauderdale residents had reported a reduction in the noise they heard. He wondered if the same was in Defoe,

Nevertheless, residents needed to continue to complain about the noise if it affected them. He was grateful to the three common councilmen who came to the meeting with LUL (Joyce Nash, John Tomlinson, and Vivienne Littlewood) and to Steve Blake who helped to set it up.

He also warned people that when Crossrail finished the old Thameslink tracks at Barbican will be used to park trains overnight

## **9. Low emission zone**

Randall Anderson said that the contract had now been signed and work in the City would start in January. The issue for Barbican residents will be raised at the RCC

## **10. Centre for Music**

John Tomlinson said that it should be known in a few weeks whether money has been made available to finish off the business case.

## **11. Community Centre**

Randall Anderson thought the data were not yet analysed

## **12. Treasurer's report**

Someone had suggested putting half the money in gilts or bonds to earn more interest. The treasurer said he would think about that. There was little money left in the Santander account and he and the membership secretary planned to close it after the renewal surge in January

## **13. BA subcommittees**

*Communications* Gillian Laidlaw said that the new website was now up and running and was now the official site. The aim was that subcommittee chairs could enter their own data onto it. Kai will tell people how they can do that.

She also said that the current editor of the newsletter wanted to stop editing the Newsletter, and she hoped to bring a paper to the next meeting with options – which might include using the website better and not using print.

*Walkways* Robert Barker said that only about 35% of the lights on the zig zag ramp on London Wall were working

## **Next meeting**

19 January 2017

23 March

27 April (AGM)

3 May (election meeting)