



**Minutes of the
Barbican Association General Council meeting
Thursday 10 December 2020
7.30pm via Zoom**

Present

Adam Hogg, Jane Smith, Christopher Makin, Ted Reilly, Helen Hudson, Helen Hulson, Sue Cox, David Bradshaw, Tim Cox, Sandy Wilson, Randall Anderson, Lionel Meyringer, Lionel Green, David Kirkby, Mike Bristow, Fionnuala Hogan, Fred Rodgers, Mark Bostock, Ian Dixon, Heather Thomas, Richard Tomkins, Graham Bulpitt, Martin Luff.

1: Apologies

Humfrey Brandes, Tony Swanson, Mary Bonar.

2: Minutes of the prior meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 11 November were approved.

3: Matters arising from the minutes

Funding for a meeting room in the Barbican Library

- A bid for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds to create a meeting room in the Barbican Library has not yet been submitted.
- The bid will take time, but the Officers are being helpful and supportive.
- Updates to be provided at future meetings.

Governance of the Barbican Estate

- The working party is preparing a paper that will be shared with the BAGC and RCC as soon as it is complete.

4: Chairman's thoughts on the future

The committee shared reflections on the Chairman's paper that included:

- Are 10 priorities too many? Agreed the need to prioritise. The Chairman commented: possibly too many for first year but appropriate for the longer term.
- It was confirmed that we do have some climate change expertise in the group.
- Communications working party will look at how the BA can use social media more effectively.
- Relationship between the BA and elected Councillors should be strengthened. The elected councillors for Cripplegate will meet soon and have this on their agenda.
- Relationship between BA and the Barbican Estate Office needs to be reviewed given perceptions of deteriorating service levels.
- Chair would like more Barbican residents to be knowledgeable about/active in the work of the BA. Could council members identify and encourage them to come forward.

5: BA Subcommittee Chairs for 2020-2021

- **Arts Centre group** – Jane Smith / Adam Hogg
- **Communications** - Adam Hogg
- **Cultural Mile and Centre for Music** – Jane Smith / Adam Hogg
- **Estate Security and Crime Prevention** – David Bradshaw
- **Planning and Licensing** – Vacant
- **London Underground working party** – Richard Collins (dormant on account of TFL's other difficulties).
- **1 London Wall Place Liaison Group** – Helen Kay / Liz Hirst.
- **2 London Wall Place Liaison Group** – Mary Bonar
- **21 Moorfields Liaison Group** – Fionnuala Hogan
- **Golden Lane Developments** (previously Bernard Morgan House Liaison group) – Fred Rodgers
- **Road safety adviser** – Ted Reilly
- **Sustainability adviser** – Sarah Hudson

Other

- Fred Rodgers volunteered to assist on planning matters. There is a need to strengthen the group further.
- The large number of people listed in the working groups for Culture Mile and the Barbican Arts Centre was discussed. It was agreed that the BA needs to be pro-active on Culture Mile issues.
- Jim Davies has joined the Security subcommittee to lead the development of a simple online tool for residents to report anti-social behaviour.

6: Planning

2 Aldermanbury Square (previously 55 Basinghall Street)

- The proposed redevelopment of this site will close the highwalk to from mid 2022 to mid 2025.
- In its feedback on this application, the BA should highlight the loss of that highwalk in addition to the highwalk to Moorgate that is closed due to the redevelopment of 21 Moorfields.

Highwalks

- Does the City aim to use highwalk to take additional pedestrian traffic post-Crossrail? There is there a need for a discussion with the City about this.

150 Aldersgate

- Despite concerns raised by the BA and Common Councillors regarding the Planning Committee's decision, the Court of Common Council will not 'call in' the application.
- The Chairman is discussing options with DLA Piper (140 Aldersgate) and other interested parties.

Other

- It was noted that a large number of buildings near the Barbican will soon be empty as leases expire, with the potential for ongoing redevelopment around the Estate.
- This had the potential to severely affect life on the estate and a group to challenge these is being formed to turn attention, initially, to Bastion House.
- There is a need to challenge City regarding the close connection, highlighted in the Lisvane report, between its Planning and Property Investment groups.

7: Climate Action Strategy

- Ted Reilly highlighted the need for BA to lead on Climate Action to garner activity by the City.
- The BA prepared a report in the summer highlighting issues including that the Barbican Estate is the biggest producer of carbon in the City and that residents would be good neighbours and aim to support green initiatives.
- A supportive and positive meeting held with City 10 days ago. The BA hopes to obtain funding from the City (decision in April) to improve the efficiency of Barbican Estate residential buildings.
- BA survey of residents showed support for the City's Climate Action Strategy and for changes to the underfloor heating control system.
- The City will obtain 50 percent of its electricity from Dorset PV (solar) farm by end 2021.
- The difficulty to evaluate the cost and impact of additional insulation - for instance on the lower floors of terrace blocks was discussed.

8: Beech Street Zero Emissions Zone

- It was confirmed that changes to the central reservation to enable right turns into Lauderdale place and the Defoe/Shakespeare car park had been approved and a safety audit completed.
- Richard Tomkins briefed the BAGC that, in a personal capacity, he had issued a statutory challenge to the Beech Street experimental traffic order (ETO) due to the lack of consultation with residents.
- The ETO wasn't squashed by the Court, but procedural issues were noted.
- As a result, a permanent traffic order for Beech Street can't begin straight away, the City will have to consult.
- There is the potential for judicial review given the decision to maintain the ETO during the second Lockdown, but not during the first Lockdown.
- Potential exemption for local residents from the Zero Emissions Zone will be reviewed by Streets and Walkways in February.
- Displaced traffic from Beech Street is a problem for Fore Street and Moor Lane, whilst welcomed by those living above Beech Street.
- The BAGC discussed the advantages/disadvantages of asking for the ETO to be suspended.
- Ted Reilly and colleagues will meet with the Officers pre-Christmas to discuss the way ahead.

Security

Secure City Programme

- David Bradshaw briefed the BAGC on this programme which will see the Police update the 'Ring of Steel' cameras. The Police have been meeting with officers in other countries to understand best practice.
- City local community policing will be changed to include sector policing with Barbican being in the West.
- There will be an additional officer, Mark Murphy, to support the PC Christine Phillips from 4 Jan.
- Their mobile phone numbers will be available to residents.
- The Officers will not be available after 8pm or at weekends.
- A 'Partnership and Prevention Hub' will be established to tackle a wide range of issues.
- There is an article highlighting the additional Police resources in Barbican Life.

Digital Service Points

- This is a new interactive system (which could include a defibrillator) which is under development by the City and Bloomberg.
- There will be a competition to generate ideas.
- It is estimated there may be four or six points in the City, potentially they will be mobile.

Other

- The 'prohibitive signage' (No Cycling etc) that was removed from the high walks as part of the new signage (Legible London) will be reinstated.

9: Communications subcommittee

- First meeting has been held - goal is to be in more frequent contact with residents to boost interest and engagement.

10: AOB

- Electric car charging on the Estate was discussed and it was agreed that questions should be raised through the RCC.

Date of next Meeting

January 14 2021

BAGC dates

Jan 14

Mar 18

April 22 –AGM

April 29 BAGC to elect officers

July 15

Sep 16

Nov 18

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

RCC dates

Jan 25 AGM

Mar 1

June 1

Sept 6

Nov 29