

**Minutes of the
Barbican Association General Council meeting
Thursday 16 January 2020
7.30 pm; BEO meeting room, Lauderdale Place**



1	<p>Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jane Smith, Christopher Makin, Lionel Green, Adam Hogg, Humfrey Brandes, Fred Rodgers, Andy Hawkins, David Kirkby, Ian Dixon, Hugo Dinis, Tony Swanson, Derek Penney, Richard Collins, Jim Davies, Helen Kay, Ted Reilly, Helen Hudson, Tim Cox, Gordon Griffiths, Nigel Dixon <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Bristow, Shanon Nicholls, Mary Bonar, Randall Anderson, David Bradshaw, Hilary Sunman, Jenny Addison, Lionel Meyringer
2	<p>Minutes: Approved</p>
3	<p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meetings re Culture mile / Climate Change: Chair to reach out to the City later in the year. Meeting with local Common Councillors to be held in the spring. • Barbican Library meeting room: No progress to report.
4	<p>Beech Street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and resident representatives had met with City Officers regarding the planned restriction of traffic in Beech Street to zero-emission vehicles. • Officers advised that the consultation process will include a public meeting and three drop in sessions. Venue(s) TBA. • Ted Reilly and Fred Rodgers attended a meeting re Monitoring with Officers who appeared open to moving monitoring points where a good rationale was provided. • Ted Reilly to share a PDF of the City's proposed monitoring points and compile feedback on same. • Impact on parcel deliveries within the Barbican. Ted Reilly to ask BEO whether fewer 'pink cards' were used during the zero-emission trial as a rough guide.
5	<p>Update on disenfranchisement issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City has, apparently, received legal advice that granting general dispensations for Councillors to speak does not conform to the law. We have been told that the City will make that legal advice public in the next few weeks. • We have told the City they need a workable scheme to allow dispensations. • The next meeting of the Standards Committee is on 24 January at 11 am. The three applications for general dispensations that were deferred from the dispensations sub-committee before Christmas are due to be heard at that meeting, but will presumably be rejected because of this legal advice. • A film of the last Standards Committee meeting is available on the GLERA website.
6	<p>City of London School for Girls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 6 December the school announced it had "<i>decided not to take the expansion plan further in its current form ... The Board of Governors and senior team will now take some time to establish how best to meet the needs of the school.</i>" • Later that month the BA responded, welcoming the withdrawal of the current plans. • The new headmistress is carrying out a medium-term review that may be ready by the summer. The BA working group remains in place and has written seeking a meeting with the headmistress. It has also written to the chair of governors and chair of Policy and Resources with the results of the petition (3400 signatures) and of the estate-wide survey of residents' views.

7	<p>Matters for the BA AGM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that AGM should focus on the diverse initiatives the BA is addressing rather than have an external speaker. • The membership secretary requested some administrative changes to some elements of the membership process, to account for increases in postage charged to absentee leaseholder memhrs for posting their newsletters and Barbican Lifes. • The membership secretary floated the idea of charging new members a higher subscription, partly because of the difficulty of getting existing members to change their standing orders. That idea was not supported, but there was a suggestion that new financial technologies might offer new ways of handling subs and making it easier to increase subs in future should we need to. • After some discussion on options, the following motions were agreed to be put forward to the 2020 AGM: <p>A: Currently associate membership is available only to organisations. We would like to make it available to individuals as well and expect that it would attract only a few applications</p> <p>Proposed new constitution clause 5.5 Associate membership may be bestowed on individuals who have lived on the Barbican Estate, have previously been members of the association, have expressed interest in and support for the aims and activities of the association but are no longer eligible for full membership. Associate members shall pay a normal subscription but have no voting rights. The membership secretary shall approve applications in consultation with the chair and treasurer. [“Expressing interest in the association” matches the existing criterion for organisations.]</p> <p>B: The membership secretary wants to introduce a rolling membership year, running from the month a member joins (currently the membership year is January to December). This will ease the administrative burden and also be fairer to new members who join mid-year.</p> <p>Current constitution clauses 6.2 The annual subscription shall be due on 1 January each year and be of such amount and construction as the General Council shall from time to time decide. 6.3 Membership shall lapse if subscriptions are not received by 31 March each year.</p> <p>Proposed revised wording 6.2 The annual subscription shall be due by the end of the month on the annual anniversary of joining the association and be of such amount as the General Council shall from time to time decide. 6.3 Membership shall lapse if subscriptions are not received by the end of the month after the month in which they fall due.</p>
8	<p>Planning and Licensing updates:</p> <p>Barbican Centre 4Bs application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Kay confirmed that the 4Bs application will not be on the agenda for the next Planning Committee meeting on 28 January. <p>Planning and Transportation meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The schedule for the Planning and Transportation meetings is: 18 February, 31 March, 13 May (provisional), 2 June, 14 July at 10.30am in the Livery Hall, Guildhall. • The agendas are published one week before. Search the City website under calendar of meetings and a year planner appears on the screen. Select the meeting you are interested in and there’s a link to the agenda and the papers.

8 Planning and Licensing updates: (cont)

Barbie Green:

- Helen Kay has received two emails from residents about noise nuisance at 10pm. This has happened on the Friday before Christmas and has been followed through.
- Barbie Green is keen to form good relationships with residents and a 20% off loyalty card is available.
- The conditions on their license was for no-one other than smokers to be outside after 9.30pm, no drinks or glasses, doors closed

Disturbances:

- Would all House Group Chairs please remind residents that we must log noise disturbance with the City if we are to negotiate effectively on terraces, licensing, opening times for bars and restaurants, deliveries and servicing at night. The City looks at its log and it is hard to progress a complaint if no-one has complained.
- Telephone Environmental Health on 0207 606 3030 to complain even if it is the morning after a 3am disturbance. You can report 24/7.
- Noise from deliveries and servicing is not allowed between 11pm and 7am
- For TFL: Phone 0343 222 1234 Or use the form at <https://tfl.gov.uk/help-and-contact/contact-us-about-tube-and-rail>

City Point Terrace (and WeWork):

- There was a planning condition put on this new terrace to be closed at 6pm. Please report it if you are disturbed after this time.
- The recent WeWork license application for the serving of wine as well as their free beer and cider included a condition that the terrace is to shut from 3.30pm. The license was given to provide wine but no alcohol on the terraces at any time.

Long Lane:

- Sue Cox has been dealing with this. The issues under discussion have been the height, the massing and the pavement size (safety).

Tenter House

- A number of Willoughby House residents have received a letter about a possible loss of light due to this development. It has 18 floors and a block slightly north of east, alongside the south edge of City Point piazza.
- The delivery and servicing area is on New Union Street. We fought hard to make sure it was big enough for lorries to turn round.

Personnel changes:

- Annie Hampson, Chief Planning Officer, is retiring in March.

Smithfield/Museum of London

- Helen Kay has just received this planning application and will share it with the BAGC.

9 Evidence to City governance review

- We have been told that the City is conducting a governance review and that the BA will be invited to submit evidence on the governance of the Barbican Estate. [detailed ToRs to follow]
- [ToR: to review the governance arrangements of the organisation by undertaking a comprehensive examination of the City Corporation's Code of Corporate Governance to ensure that the arrangements are fair, transparent, and accountable] Agreed to set up a small working party to produce this evidence. Adam Hogg, Jane Northcote and Mike Bristow volunteered [Christopher Makin, chair RCC, also joined].

10	<p>Update on 'Future Barbican' strategy working group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy Wilson stated that this group had sought informal legal advice as to how upgrades can take place and be funded via the service charge. An example is new lifts that would not be in line with the original 1970s specification. • Sandy advised that this group now had three areas of focus: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Garchey: This is subject to a planned 5 year review by an RCC working party that this group is in contact with. 2. Energy management across the Estate: This group is working with the RCC's working party on Underfloor Heating as a result. 3. Affecting change: This includes working more effectively with our Common Councillors: to deliver benefits for residents and considering whether a neighbourhood plan would add value. • It was noted that this group may ask the BAGC for funding for consultancy advice in the future. 		
11	<p>Waterfall timings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting held with representatives of Speed, Brandon Mews, Willoughby, Andrewes, and Gilbert house groups – ie all those surrounding the eastern lake – to discuss the timings of the waterfall. • It is clear that the back waterfall creates noise pollution to Brandon Mews residents in the evenings, while the other houses welcome the white noise that the front waterfall provides to mask noise from the gardens and the GSMD terrace. • We also understand that there needs to be some flow from both sides of the waterfall to aerate the lake and prevent stagnant water collecting (with the associated problems for the fish, of smells, and of mosquitoes). • That means that the best solution to the issue of the timings of the waterfall would be if the arts centre could control the timings of the front of the waterfall and the back of the waterfall separately, so that the back waterfall could be shut down earlier than the front waterfall. An email has been sent to Jonathan Poyner to request this, and the chair had a meeting due with him the following week. 		
12	<p>RCC matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derek Penney highlighted that noise in the yard between Bunyan Court and Blake Tower due to commercial usage is affecting residential amenity negatively. • Christopher Makin (Chair RCC) offered to host an onsite meeting with residents and City Officers to scope out the way ahead. 		
13	<p>Contact details on the BA website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that House Group Chairs should provide either a contact email or telephone number for use on the BA website. 		
14	<p>Accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Treasurer confirmed that books have been closed and are now with the BA's external auditor before being presented at the AGM. 		
15	<p>Future meetings - All BAGC meetings to start at 7.30 pm</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>BAGC 12 March 2020 23 April 2020 AGM 30 April 2020</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>RCC 2 March 2020</p> <p>1 June 2020 7 Sept 2020 30 Nov 2020</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>BAGC 12 March 2020 23 April 2020 AGM 30 April 2020</p>	<p>RCC 2 March 2020</p> <p>1 June 2020 7 Sept 2020 30 Nov 2020</p>
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18	<p>Meeting ended at 9.30pm</p>		

