

The Barbican Association General Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting on Thursday, 26 January 2023 at 7.30pm by Zoom

Present (crossed out not present):

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| <p>Elected Members: Adam Hogg (Chair), Deputy Chair: Ted Reilly Hon Sec elect Roy Sully Jane Smith (Planning Subcommittee Chair) Sandy Wilson Helen Hudson David Bradshaw Randall Anderson Mark Bostock</p> | <p>House Groups Represented: Lionel Meyringer (Andrewes) Helen Hulson (Ben Jonson) Humfrey Brandes (Brandon) Andy Hope (Breton) John Taysum (Bryer) Derek Penney (Bunyan) Tim Cox (Cromwell) Helen Hudson (Defoe) Jenny Addison (Frobisher) Ian Dixon (Gilbert) Heather Thomas (Lambert Jones) Gail Beer (Lauderdale) Martin Luff (Mountjoy) David Graves (Seddon) Sandy Wilson (Shakespeare) Christopher Makin (Speed) Brenda Szlesinger (Thomas More) Miranda Quinney (John Trundle) Mary Bonar (Wallside) Fionnuala Hogan (Willoughby) <i>Jo Bradshaw standing in for Speed</i></p> |
| <p>Other Members: Tony Swanson (Hon Treasurer) Jim Davies (Membership Sec) Sandra Jenner (RCC)</p> | |

Papers:

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| <p>Agenda Papers: Agenda Item 2 - Final minutes 26 January 2023 Agenda Item 4 – AGM Agenda Agenda Item 4 – Constitutional amendment Agenda Item 5 - 2022 Accounts Agenda item 6 - BQA finance update Agenda Item 8- ASB update Agenda Item 9 - Planning update Agenda Item 10- Beech Street update</p> | <p>Also Received: Nothing else here.</p> |
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| No. | Item |
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| 1. | <p>Apologies/not present: Christopher Makin (Speed) Andy Hope (Breton) Sue Cox</p> |
| 2. | <p>Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes: The minutes 26th January 2023 were APPROVED.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Matters arising:</p> |

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| | <p>a. Barbican Centre Strategy Group. Little progress to report but Adam is trying get a meeting with the Town Clerk. The Policy and Resources Committee claim to be supportive but the idea was not the meeting agenda earlier that day.</p> <p>(Adam, Mark and Randall will follow-up.</p> <p>b. Roy Sully of Shakespeare, has agreed to become the Secretary.</p> <p>c. The Summer Party will not to proceed as nobody has stepped forward to help Ted who cannot manage it on his own. Naresh Sonpar, CC of Lauderdale is organising a Coronation Party.</p> <p>WILL EVERYBODY ENCOURAGE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP NARESH</p> <p>d. Ted feels there is little need for a barbican-wide Assistance Line as each block appears to have a robust system to help vulnerable neighbours.</p> <p>e. Nobody has offered to succeed Jim as Membership Secretary. Fionnuala and Ted felt that the MemberMOJO database being used by some house groups might work well for the BA as a whole. It would be worth investing BA funds in a robust system.</p> |
| 4. | <p>AGM on 27th April:</p> <p>Claire Spencer, the new Barbican Centre CEO, will speak.</p> <p>Suggested change to Constitution (paper attached) agreed Nem Con.</p> <p>Brenda, Sandra, Ted, Fionnuala, Tony, Randall and Jane volunteered to help on the night.</p> |
| 5. | <p>Accounts</p> <p>Tony's report is attached. Total funds were £ 181,685 on 31st December 2022.</p> <p>Tony is looking at alternative deposits to achieve a higher rate of interest.</p> <p>Sandy suggested a policy be established to define how much money was needed to be kept on call, how much at short notice and how much could be placed on longer-term deposit.</p> |
| 6. | <p>Barbican Quarter Action (BQA) Report:</p> <p>Report is attached. Randall reported good news inasmuch as the City were proposing to obtain expressions of interest to re-use existing buildings. This did not guarantee anything but was a great advance. The City still wishes to wring £50million of value from the site. City will not go for planning until expressions are returned and considered so no planning application likely before the Autumn. No developer will commit without a clear and certain date for vacant possession. The Museum currently has 450,000 artefacts beneath the existing buildings with no immediate plans to shift them to the poultry market.</p> <p>Fionnuala said that rising interest rates and high inflation were an additional deterrent to a developer taking investment risks with the site. The supposed buyer/occupant for the new buildings does not exist.</p> <p>Adam is confident that the BQA had no immediate need to call down further funds from the BA. If the planning application went to judicial review, it might cost a further £60k but at that stage a separate appeal for funds could be made.</p> <p>Mark reported progress on the City being persuaded to create a cultural strategy that would embrace LWW, Smithfield , the new Museum site and the barbican.</p> |

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| 7. | <p>RCC Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sandra Jenner said the BEO working group, having reviewed all the evidence submitted, was now concentrating on options to implement recommendations. The group meet again on 30th March. This was tricky business as any changes may impact on employees. b. A clear plan was needed to communicate recommendations simultaneously to all interested parties, including the BAGC. c. Ted reported funding being made available by the City to trial individual control of heating. A pilot in Wallside was likely. |
| 8. | <p>ASB Report (for information):</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p> <p>David – Slow progress but he still hopes the Barbican Centre security might be extended to residential parts of the Estate.</p> |
| 9. | <p>Planning Report (for information):</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p> |
| 10. | <p>Beech Street Report (for information):</p> |
| 11. | <p>Any other business:</p> <p>The Corporation had issued a paper on Delivering the Residential Reset which proposed improving communication between the Corporation and the 8,600 (or so) City residents, the greater number of whom live in the Barbican.</p> <p>It was suggested that Associate Membership of the BA might be widened to include other city tenants not resident on the estate. This might prove complicated but might be discussed at a future meeting.</p> <p>Adam will liaise with other RTAs to establish a joint response to the proposals.</p> |
| 12. | <p>Dates for next meetings:</p> <p>27 April (AGM), 4 May (post AGM), 20 July, 21 September and 23 November</p> |
| 13. | <p>The meeting ended at 8:35pm.</p> |