

# MINUTES of the FoBRA Committee meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 6.30pm in Widcombe Junior School

Circulated on 1/6/16

- 1 Robin Kerr, Chairman, welcomed 24 representatives - details on back page.
- 2 **Minutes** of the 7<sup>th</sup> April meeting (deemed accepted 17/4/16) were approved.
- 3 **Reduction of Pollution and Traffic:** Discussion led by Patrick Rotheram
  - a. **B&NES Council Activity**
    - i. **Communities, Transport & Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel - Inquiry Report:** This was seen as reasonably positive for a Park & Ride to the East and particularly on the issue of an A36/A46 link.
    - ii. **Local Development Framework – Sites Review:** They had looked at all the sites considered by Halcrow and several others suggested by the public; they agreed with Halcrow and the Bath Transport Commission that Park and Rail was not a viable option. The table appeared to favour Site F – which is owned by the Council and was granted Planning Permission 5 years ago!
    - iii. **Submissions to B&NES Cabinet** – see Annex to the Chairman’s Report.
  - b. **Related issues:**
    - i. **The Alliance**, discussed at our last meeting is sponsored by Bath Bridge, an independent group which aims to support innovation and development in Bath, and generally supported by FoBRA, has been seeking support for the Transport Strategy from around a dozen key organisations with perhaps half of them now on board.
    - ii. **NO<sub>x</sub> emissions** in B&NES 2015 statistics suggest an unexplained reduction.
    - iii. **A36/A46 link:** Ben Howlett MP received an encouraging reply from a question to the Prime Minister recognising its importance.
    - iv. **Council data** on Transport planning is not adequately correlated with other sources such as economic planning, Placemaking, and educational provision.
- 4 **Planning and Development Control:**
  - a. **The Planning Brief** (previously circulated) was noted.
    - i) **Christmas Market: Extension from 18 to 25 days:** Vice-chairman Nick Tobin said a decision on this controversial matter was now expected to be determined by the Development Management Committee (DMC) on 1 June 2016. It was estimated that about 1,000 coaches come into the town during the market period. He intends to object to this planning application on behalf of FoBRA when it is discussed at the DMC meeting.
    - ii) **Bathscape Interim Partnership:** At the request of Mark O’Sullivan, our lead on this issue, the Chairman has sent a letter supporting the resubmission of the 2014 bid of the order of £1½m to the Heritage Lottery Fund under the Landscape Partnerships scheme.
  - b. **Placemaking Plan Examination in Public** is now scheduled for September. The Inspector’s staff officer has been appointed (Mr Chris Banks, who did the same job for the Core Strategy and we found to be not only efficient, but also approachable).

Chris Beezley and the Chairman still have work to do on Student Housing aspect, which they hope will include discussions with the universities about common ground.

Meanwhile, there is an important national conference on this subject due to take place in Durham on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Having failed to find volunteers to attend, it was agreed we should make an arrangement with Caroline Kay, CEO of BPT, to share expenses on a watching and reporting brief.
- 5 **Engagement**
  - a. **The Chairman’s Report**, previously circulated, was adopted without dissent. He drew particular attention to:-
    - i. **Bath City Conference on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July** and asked members to note it in their diaries. He said this annual event in the Guildhall has really become a useful and enjoyable day: The panel discussion in the evening will include our MP, the Council

Leader and the outgoing Chief Executive; during the afternoon there are hoped to be debates on Transport Policy, West of England devolution (possibly with Jacob Rees-Mogg MP), student accommodation and the Rec Trust situation.

- ii. **Bath City Forum:** At the April meeting, Neighbourhood Plans, as defined by the Localism Act, were discussed. Essentially, the options are either to create one for the whole of Bath, if this is legal; several for the well-defined communities (e.g. Weston, or Widcombe); or none. One advantage of a 'Neighbourhood' is the ability to mobilise 25% (instead of just 15%) of Community Infrastructure Levy. Other proposals have also been floated.

**6 Annual General Meeting** – would follow on from this with the same attendance. In the meantime it was agreed to reappoint Barry Henderson as the Secretary.

**7 Forward Dates:** Summer Garden Party - Now on Monday 27 June – please book  
Committee - Wednesday 13 July  
Committee (provisionally) - A date in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of September

**Attendance at both meetings – Please see following page**

**Present:**

Robin	Kerr	Lansdown Crescent Association	FoBRA Chairman
Nicholas	Tobin	Ainslie's Belvedere & Caroline Place R A	FoBRA V-Chairman
Neil	Barnes	LCA	FoBRA Treasurer
Barry	Henderson		FoBRA Secretary
Matt	Humberstone	Bath University Students Union	Community Officer
Aled	Davies	Bath Spa University Students Union	Vice-Pres Welfare
Ken	Ayers	Bathwick Estate Residents Association	Representative
Nola	Wright	Bathwick Estate Residents Association	Observer
Colin	Clark	Bathwick Hill Residents' Association	Representative
Morny	Davison	Catharine Place Residents' Association	Secretary
Richard	Samuel	Camden Residents Association	Chairman
Julie	Platt	Camden Residents Association	Representative
Mike	Arnell	Foxhill Residents Association	Representative
Nola	Edwards	Foxhill Residents Association	Secretary
Margarido	Dolan	Greenway!	Representative
Ceris	Humphreys	Henrietta Park Residents Association	Chairman
Rachael	Hushon	Lansdown Crescent Association	Representative
Gerald	Chown	MacAulay Prospect	Representative
Stephen	Huard	Marlborough Lane & Buildings	Chairman
Nigel	Websper	Pulteney Estate Residents' Association	Chairman
Van	Dubose	St James's Square Bath Limited	Representative
Patrick	Rotheram	Vineyards Residents' Association	Chairman
Jeremy	Boss	Widcombe Association	Chairman
Jan	Shepley	Widcombe Association	Representative

**Apologies**

David	Greenwood	Bath Independent Guest Houses Assoc	Representative
Catherine	McCarthy	Batheaston Forward	Secretary
Charles	Draper	Bathwick Estate Residents Association	Chairman
Julie	Trollope	Bathwick Estate Residents Association	FoBRA Social Sec
Clyde	Hunter	Bear Flat Association	Chairman
Chris	Beezley	Beech Avenue Residents' Association	Representative
Janet	Anderson	Camden Residents Association	Secretary
Adam	Reynolds	Cycle Bath	Chairman
Mark	O'Sullivan	Greenway!	Representative
Ian	Herve	Henrietta Park Residents' Association	Secretary
Diana	Lockwood	Hensley & Egerton Road Res Assoc	Representative
Caroline	Kilner	Pulteney Estate Residents' Association	Representative
Paul	Dowling	Royal Crescent Society	Deputy Chairman
John	Rushton	Sydney Buildings Householders Assoc	Representative
Liz	Littlewood	Widcombe Association	Secretary

Barry Henderson, Secretary      Circulated 1/6/16