

## Minutes of the Meeting of FoBRA held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at The Edge, The University of Bath, at 6.30 pm

- 1 **Chairman Robin Kerr** welcomed all to the meeting. Enya-Jane Battersby was welcomed as the new Bath Spa University Representative. The **Secretary** read out apologies.(details at end)
- 2 **Minutes** of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May, already circulated, (**Nick Tobin** proposed and **Tony Miles** seconded) were approved.
- 3 **Universities: Chris Beezley** Inadequacies of current HMO supplementary Planning Document.

Chris Beezley reported that the 10% limit was based on a flawed surmise., namely A Census Output Area (COA) which is not regulated and difficult to understand. This means that instead of the 10% rule in a 100 meter area being applied generally it is only applied where the whole COA has already reached 10%, such as in a hot spot like Oldfield Park. This ultimately leaves the way open for more areas to become hot spots instead of spreading out the HMOs more widely. In theory 60% of housing in a COA could be HMOs before the 10% rule applied. Both **Chris Beezley** and **Robin Kerr** have asked for meetings with Officers but so far these have not been forthcoming. It is not thought that any (or a very few) other University Cities use the COA method. The use of COA is not new here: it is just that its significance has only recently been recognized. FoBRA will endeavour to get this changed,: there should be National guidelines.

Business School proposals. The proposed new School of Management will bring in 850 more students. The University should have significantly more students housed on campus: it has only 18% at the moment compared to 43% in Durham. FoBRA, Bath Preservation Trust and the Widcombe Association are all proposing that there should be a change in Policy to require UoB to “consume its own smoke” in future (ie house on campus any additional students drawn in by new teaching facilities, along the lines of the “Oxford Model”) as the pressure of 850 more students will reduce the housing stock for families in the City. Cllr Bob Goodman has shown sympathy. Barry Gilbertson reminded the meeting of his on-going conflict of interest. Robin Kerr will write to the University of Bath Representative to see whether students have anything to say on the matter

**Action Robin Kerr**

- 4 **Transport: Patrick Rotheram:** He and **Kerr** had attended B&NES meetings about CAZ. FoBRA had proposed traffic management and parking control as a means of reducing both congestion and air pollution. B&NES were not pursuing this but focusing solely on a Clean Air Zone (CAZ). That being the case,they had said that a Class D CAZ – covering cars – was essential as diesel cars were the main source of air pollution in much of the centre. However this would particularly affect less well-off residents with older cars, and B&NES would need to consider carefully both this and the charging arrangements for residents within the CAZ. **Ceris Humphreys** had not been able to go to any Consultations as they had been ‘full’ Robin Kerr said she should join the FoBRA team for the next one.

**Action Robin Kerr**

**Rachel Hushon** asked whether the cameras needed for CAZ would be suitable for a Heritage City, the answer was yes, cameras were now very small. It was felt that the CAZ would target the poorest, people, some would drive further in old polluting cars to avoid the charges! **Wera Hobhouse** keeps having meetings but little moves forward, vision is important.

It was pointed out that there is a cycle lane in Bathwick which ends in the middle of the road.

Barry Gilbertson said he understood that £400,000 was set aside for pedestrianisations.

Changes to Bus Services - The 2A/C bus route was being kept but not stopping in Green Park. First Bus wish to change the route of the U1. Not go into town, only go along the A36, this produced mixed reaction. More pollution for the Widcombe Junior School, less pollution in Dorchester street, further to walk into town for older people, shorter distance for students. Perhaps the route should be divided with some going into town and some along the A36. It was agreed to prepare a statement for transmission to First Bus.

**Action Patrick Rotheram**

At this point Chris Beezley made his apologies and left.

- 5 **Chairman’s Report:** The Chairman had circulated his report. He asked what the meeting thought of having a blog; but after discussion it was decided to put it on hold as there did not seem to be a lot of enthusiasm.. He and Nick had attended a meeting about the future of Bristol Airport which is planning expansion, this will affect transportation and noise. The airport bus is so popular that it is going to be once every half an hour.

He asked the meeting whether there should be invitations to prospective councillors before the May elections, Con, Lib Dem, Labour and BIG. It was suggested the Greens should also be invited. The first meeting would be 15<sup>th</sup> October when one or two might be asked to speak for 20 minutes

- 6 Planning – Nick Tobin.** The report had been circulated. Nick asked Nola Edwards for the final outcome from Foxhill and she reported that the Council were not appealing the outcome.. He then asked Leslie Redwood of Visit Bath about the Christmas Market, it was confirmed that planning authority will be sought for the market to be extended into Milsom Street and the street will be closed, for the first time, which will be very interesting, but that the dates will not be extended. He confirmed that the Destination Management Plan is on hold. **Sion Hill Place** has concerns over planning for conversion of No 1, an historic house. With reference to the Cricket club ground – A judicial review is expensive, a letter before action would cost £5,000. Either this could be paid for by crowd funding or individual residents associations. Led perhaps by Widcombe as it was in their area. Sulis Down Phase 1 approved 171 dwellings total lack of master plan

At the moment AirBnB landlords receive tax break for rent a room, but this should not be applied when the entire property is let. The law should be changed. All three major political parties in the Council agree that holiday lets should be limited to 90 days a year and have change of use. Business rate and license for short term holiday lets. The increase in short term lets, party houses and AirBnB is reducing the housing stock in Bath, FoBRA will write a letter to the Bath Chronicle once it is known what the full Council decided (meeting at the same time as FoBRA). **Barry Gilbertson** said that Patrick had done amazing work on party houses.

- 7. Refuse: Rachael Hushon** said that there had been a 30% increase in recycling, 62% in food waste. The streets have to be kept clean so they are being cleared anyway. She said that the team was extremely efficient and good. She had mentioned the Cavendish Crescent problems to Cllr Bob Goodman. Containers not fox or badger proof.. Barry Gilbertson suggested that the Council should have it written into contracts that they use animal proof bags. He also feels that food waste should be collected from commercial properties. The council has doubled the fine for litter to £150.

It should be noted that the charge for things like Pub in the Park,, the Circus etc is minimal, for 8-9 days Pub in the Park was only charged £10,000. Only £110,000 take last year. Tim Warren thinks that this should be addressed. There should be consultation before contracts agreed

- 8. Summer Party** Crowe Hall had made a good profit and had been a great success. The meeting was asked whether they would like a winter reception as before at the VAG, There was unanimous agreement..

**AOB:** The Chairman asked the meeting's opinion of The Edge and there was general approval – better acoustics, seating, ambience, but a long way for those on the North of the city.

**Next Meetings** will be on **15<sup>th</sup> October 2018** at the Widcombe Junior School with coffee/tea at 6 pm followed by the meeting at 6.30

The following meeting will be on at Widcombe School. Again at 6 pm for coffee/ tea followed by the meeting at 6.30

## FoBRA Attendees Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Ayres	Ken	BERA	
Barnes	Neil	Sion Hill and Summerhill RA	Treasurer/FoBRA Treasurer
Battersby	Enya-Jayne	Bath Spa University	VP Community
Bellamy	Terry	Macaulay Prospect	Representative
Beezley	Chris	Beech Avenue RA	Chairman
Draper	Charles	BERA	Chairman
DuBose	Van	St James's Square	Representative
Edwards	Nola	Foxhill RA	Chairman
Feltham	Graham	LOPRA	Chairman
			Chairman/FoBRA
Gilbertson	Barry	CARA	Housing
Hallam	Liz	LOPRA	Secretary
Hushon	Rachel	LCA	Representative
Isherwood	Nicola	RCS	Chairman
Kerr	Robin	LCA	Chairman and Chairman of FoBRA
Kinner	Caroline	PERA	Committee
Lockwood	Diana	HERA	Representative
Luetchford	Richard	Beech Avenue RA	Representative
Miles	Tony	UOPRA	Representative
Redwood	Leslie	Visit Bath	Observer
Rotheram	Patrick	Vineyards	Transport Lead FoBRA/Chairman
Rowlandson	Kirstie	UOPRA	Secretary/FoBRA Secretary
Sandford	Paul	UOPRA	Chairman
Shepley	Jan	Widcombe Association	Representative
Stephenson	Teresa	Foxhill RA	Observer
Tobin	Nick	ABCPR	V Chair FoBRA/Chairman
Wright	Nola	BERA	Observer

### Apologies

Boss	Jeremy	Widcombe Association	Chairman
Clark	Colin	BHRA	Chairman
Davison	Morny	Catharine Place RA	Secretary
Draeger	Justin	Cavendish Road Society	Chairman
Henderson	Barry	RCV	Representative
Hunter	Clyde	Bear Flat RA	
Labram	Jeremy	Camden Association	Chairman
Little	Stephen	RCA	
O'Sullivan	Mark	Greenway	
Pimentel-			
Reid	Emilio	Cavendish Road Society	Secretary
Reynolds	Adam	Cycle Bath	Chairman
Strachen	Russell	Sion Hill Place RA	

