

- 1 **Chairman Robin Kerr** welcomed all to the meeting after tea and coffee had been served. The **Secretary** read out apologies. (Details at end). Everyone introduced themselves.
- 2 **Manda Rigby, Ex Councillor and Candidate for the Lib Dems at the elections in May** then gave a talk about what to expect if the Lib Dems obtain control of the council at the May election. They have conducted a survey and people placed their issues in order of priority. Transport, Housing, General condition of Bath. People are pushed out of Bath by house prices but people have to work in Bath. The Lib Dems would put Transport high on the agenda, with the air pollution as important; people should be encouraged to walk/use public transport. They would work with the Regional Mayor about public transport. They would like to minimise the financial cost on Residents and stop rat runs. They believe in many small park and rides particularly in the east, they would also like to make park and rides less expensive. On housing they would like to build more affordable homes, with green credentials and new homes should not become second homes. Landlords should stick to the rules. They would like to see the ward councillors have monthly advice services and also work with FoBRA more. They believe there should be a tourist tax and they should show leadership when it comes to heritage matters.
When asked for questions Patrick Rotheram asked whether the Lib Dems would pick up on the Bath Transport Strategy which has stalled. Manda said that they would re establish and work with a Bath Transport commission. Ceris Humpheys asked about the reductions in traffic in the Heritage Centre, so what is that exact area? Van DuBose said that there should be more public transport, more park and rides and children going to school should go on buses or even walking buses. Janet Anderson asked how traffic management would work; would there be physical objects in the road? Residents would have permits. Theresa Franklyn said that she had broken her arm falling on an uneven pavement, and asked that there be better maintenance of the public realm.
- 3 **Minutes** of the meeting on 22nd January 2019, already circulated, (**Patrick Rotheram** proposed and **Malcolm Baldwin** seconded) were approved.
- 4 **Avondale Road and Osborne Road Residents Association:** This Association has asked to join FoBRA; they have a constitution in line with FoBRA's requirements and accounts. They are near the Locksbrook Road and have approximately 90 houses. They have been in existence 8-10 years. The meeting was asked to vote and they were unanimously accepted. Ben Hoyle (Treasurer) then came and sat in the meeting.
- 5 **Chairman's Report.** The Chairman's report had already been circulated. He was pleased that there would now be a proper Police Station, situated in the One Stop Shop where there would be an enlarged desk. The neighbourhood Police team would be based there. At the recent Police road show there had been information about a dreadful video of an Asian being assaulted by 6 police officers; this had been in Humberside and action was being taken about the assault. The Executive had met and discussed FoBRA's Priorities which are: Traffic and Air Pollution, Planning and Development management, Engagement and Housing. Is this what the FoBRA members want? He asked that members come to the next meeting ready to discuss this, having read the current Position Papers on the FoBRA website. He also wished to remind members that only 2 people from each association are entitled to sit at the table at a FoBRA meeting; if others wish to come they must sit as observers.
We do not at present have a member who is an expert on licensing, but the Chairman produced a useful book for reference.

The Chairman is chairing a hustling for the local elections in Lansdown Ward and he wondered whether there were more. The meeting was told of 2 in Widcombe and Lyncombe and in Bear Flat, Bathwick and Pulteney area.

The Christmas market had been a great success.

Bath Abbey is hosting a series of science lecture on 16th March for Science week and Kirstie has forwarded the information. They should be interesting.

- 6 Rec and Stadium Proposals.** FoBRA's paper is on the web site. It was written after a great deal of consultation. The planning application is expected in late summer. There has been a Times article which has been circulated to FoBRA members. Robin suggested writing a follow up letter to the Times, comparing the situation to the previous 'Sack of Bath' but Jeremy Boss advised against this as the situation was not the same, with no Georgian buildings being demolished. Highlighting the parking would be more relevant. Robin agreed to draft a letter using the text of FoBRA's existing paper.

Bath Rugby has submitted a planning application to be allowed NOT to take down its East Stand this summer, on the grounds that the dismantling and subsequent re-erection is noisy for neighbours! This has been rejected by PERA and it was suggested that FoBRA's planning sub committee write a robust objection. Jan Shepley agreed to do this. It was suggested that if it were not Bath Rugby trying to build a huge stadium, it would have been objected to instantly; there is great emotion about Bath Rugby. It is difficult to know exactly what the Council think. It was pointed out that there will be different Councillors on the Development Management Committee (DMC) when the planning application is considered. The current Chair of the DMC has the FoBRA paper

- 7 Planning Report:** Jan Shepley said that the DMC has approved, against Officers' advice, the Bath Football club planning application. The viability is challenged as student accommodation there should be less student accommodation and more affordable housing. Ceris Humphreys had been to the Football Ground exhibition. The overall impression was too much student accommodation when it is an area that could benefit from regeneration. Jeremy Boss suggested that there was still time to comment. Ben Hoyle said that student accommodation was not good for the area. It was noted that student accommodation is now on the airbnb website and at such low prices that it is killing the hotel and guest house trade. Alisha Lobo said that student numbers were down, because of birth rate and fees so the housing may not be needed, but this was counteracted by the fact that numbers are set to increase in future years. Michael Wrigley suggested that Bath Rugby and Bath Football joined forces in having one stadium, as at Ashton Gate.

The Hartwell's site is to have 2 large student accommodation blocks and another in the old quarry. These will be high, with low rise on the road; these are said to be for professionals but look like student accommodation. A company in the BVI owns the land. FoBRA will comment when the planning application goes in. Bath Preservation Trust has already commented.

The Chancellor Philip Hammond has stated that as well as offices being allowed to become housing, retail properties can become housing without planning. (NB B&NES has taken out powers to prevent offices in Bath being allowed to be converted for housing, due to a shortage of offices.) Telephone boxes now need planning as they are sometimes being used for undesirable purposes!

Jeremy Boss commented about the DMC ignoring officer's advice. Robin will take up this point with Tim Warren, Jan Shepley (an ex planner) said that it was sad when DMC and Officers lose trust in each other. Moreover it makes decisions more likely to be overturned at Appeal.

- 8 Transport:** Referring to his report which had been sent out earlier; Patrick Rotheram said that the Cabinet had approved CAZ and the boundaries had been extended. The second Alliance

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Conference will be on 4th April. Mayor Tim Bowles of WECA will be attending. There will be hustings with 5 political groups. Ceris questioned the closure of Kingsmead Square during the day and with the encouragement of music, as she has a business there and when the Council were asked whether they had considered businesses she said their answer was that the businesses should move! Mike Wrigley said that the purpose of the CAZ should be to improve air quality across the whole of Bath; not just in and around the centre.

9 AGM The AGM will be held on 9th May after the ordinary meeting. The calling notice will be sent by 11th April. The final Agenda will be sent by 25th April, by which time any proposals for the position of Chairman or Vice Chairman should be proposed and seconded and sent to the Secretary. The Chairman said that 2019/2010 would be his final year

10 Winter Reception: There had been a high turnout for this successful event and there had actually been a profit! Plans were being made for the Summer Party.

11. AOB: Mark O'Sullivan spoke about the Bathscape Landscape partnership. With Heritage Lottery fund money there were plans to improve the landscape and to encourage connection between the city and the country, with children being taken into the country. £2million has been awarded to spend over 5 years. The first meeting was held the previous week. Mark also sits on the Clinical Commissioning Group consultation panel and they hope to follow the NHS initiative to get Primary Care Networks of 30-50 thousand patients with other primary care services added to GP services, medical reviews, care home anticipatory care etc.

The next meetings will be on:

Thursday 9th May (incorporating the AGM) at Widcombe Junior School

Thursday 18th July at Widcombe Junior School (**please note change of date from 8th July**)

Thursday 19th September at Widcombe Junior School

FoBRA Attendees – Meeting 14th March 2019

Anderson	Janet	Camden RA	Secretary
Ayers	Ken	Bathwick Estate RA	Representative
Baldwin	Malcolm	CARA	Representative
Barnes	Neil	Sion Hill and Summer Hill Road RA	Treasurer/FoBRA Treasurer
Bellamy	Terry	Macaulay Prospect	Representative
Boss	Jeremy	Widcombe Association	Representative
Clark	Colin	Bathwick Hill RA	Representative
Crowsley	Paul	Sion Hill and Summerhill Rd RA	Representative
Draeger	Justin	Cavendish Road Society	Chairman
Duguid	Winston	Widcombe Association	Representative
Edwards	Nola	Foxhill RA	Chairman
Franklin	Theresa	Cavendish Crescent RA	Representative
Hoyle	Ben	Avondale and Osborne Road	Representative
Humphries	Ceris	PERA	Representative
Huard	Stephen	Marlborough Lane and Buildings RA	Chairman
Isherwood	Nicola	RCS	Chairman
Kerr	Robin	LCA	Chairman/FoBRA Chairman
Knight	Peter	PERA	Representative
Lobo	Alisha	University of Bath	Representative
O'Sullivan	Mark	Greenway Lane Area Resident Forum	Representative
Pollard	Nigel	Camden RA	Treasurer
Ray	Mike	Riverside Community Voice	Representative

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Rotheram	Patrick	Vineyard RA/FoBRA	Chairman/FoBRA Transport Lead
Rowlandson	Kirstie	UOPRA	Secretary/FoBRA Secretary
Rushton	John	Sydney Buildings	Representative
Shepley	Jan	Widcombe Association	Representative
Wrigley	Michael	Widcombe Association	Representative
Wright	Nola	Bathwick Estate	Representative

Observers and Speakers

Willey	Brenda	PERA
Rigby	Manda	Speaker for Lib Dems

Apologies

-Davison	Morny	Catherine Place	Representative
-Draper	Charles	BERA	Chairman
-Hallam	Liz	LOPRA	Representative
-Hushon	Rachael	Lansdown Crescent Ass	Representative
-Kilner	Caroline	PERA	Committee
-Labram	Jeremy	Camden RA	Chairman
-Miles	Tony	UOPRA	Representative
-Sandford	Paul	UOPRA	Chairman
-Pimentel-Reid	Emilio	Cavendish Road Society	Secretary
-Tobin	Nick	ABCPR	Chairman/FoBRA Vice Chairman
-Websper	Nigel	PERA	Chairman

Kirstie Rowlandson

23 March 2019