

Minutes

FoBRA Ordinary Committee Meeting 9th June 2022 6.30pm Widcombe Junior School

Attendees: Members: Malcolm Baldwin (CARA), Jeremy Labram (Camden), Graham Feltham & Liz Hallam (Lower Oldfield Park), Nick Tobin (Ainslie Belvedere), Neil Barnes, Patricia Ludlam and Sally Parkes (Sion Hill & Summerhill), Ceris Humphreys (PERA), Caroline Kilner (PERA), Courtenay Gardiner (Cavendish Road), Stephanie Higgins (LCA), Rachael Hushon (LCA), Julie Ingerfield (Bloomfield), John Rushton (Bathwick Hill), Nola Wright (BERA), Sally Galsworthy (BERA), Tony Miles Upper Oldfield Park, Sylvia Sinclair (St James's Square), Theresa Franklin (Cavendish Crescent), Mornay Davison (Catherine Place), Katina Beckett (Entry Hill), Jeremy Boss (Widcombe), Michael Wrigley (Widcombe), Stephen Little (Royal Crescent).

Observer: Ghika Savva Student Community Partnership

Apologies: Patrick Rotheram (Vineyards), Justin Draeger (Cavendish Road), Emilio Pimentel-Reid (Cavendish Road), John Long (Camden)

1. Welcome from Acting Chair

Acting Chair Graham Feltham welcomed attendees.

Requested minutes from last Committee meeting to be approved.

Malcolm Baldwin proposed, attendees approved by show of hands

2. Traffic report previously circulated

Additional issues discussed

- a. Railway bridge repairs at Churchill roundabout. Night time closures eastbound from 20/6 until end of October. Issue raised by Widcombe Association regarding minimal local consultation regarding diversions. Transport Lead advised that because railway infrastructure maintenance is the responsibility of Network Rail B&NES Highways have less control over planning for such work.
- b. Cleveland Bridge update. Transport Lead provided an update on the complexity and unique nature of the engineering challenge of the bridge repair.
- c. Park and Ride. The tender for new services is currently being run by WECA which may result in minimum improvements for local bus services such as hours of operation. The P&R car park at Lansdown is currently experiencing thefts of catalytic converters and police are monitoring.
- d. The York Street Enquiry outcome enables the council to proceed with the measures to close the road.
- e. The LPPU. The Transport Lead will attend the examination hearing to reinforce FoBRA challenges to LPPU SPD. The Council attempt to remove the need to find a P&R to the East of the city without providing alternative traffic reduction measures and also the Council attempt to make the traffic management system at Queens Square a confirmed part of the Local plan. The Queen Square system was originally intended as a temporary measure which would be lifted once emission levels were reduced as part of vehicle renewal and upgrades. In addition measurement and mitigation for displacement was a requirement of the Queen Square scheme for areas suffering from displacement. Neither of these qualifying points are in the LPPU and, if the scheme is to be mentioned, FoBRA traffic group want to ensure they are.

3. Planning report previously circulated

- a. Consent granted for the Dick Lovett site, mixed use redevelopment. 316 build to rent apartments with 30% affordable housing provision as part of section 106 agreement.
- b. The Recreation Ground. A travel survey has been issued to season ticket holders. Widcombe Association suggested that subject to further legal challenge a new planning application may be issued next year. (Subject to car parking provision) on the Recreation Ground , both Widcombe Association and Upper Oldfield Park expressed a preference for Bath Rugby remaining in the city, other RAs expressed concern regarding potential plans for car parking next to the stadium
- c. Gas works site discussed briefly.
- d. The proposal for 22 x 1-bedroom flats at the technical college. Widcombe and Lower Oldfield Park will object on basis of traffic impacts.

4. City centre regeneration/Milsom Quarter masterplan

- a. Committee discussed how the focus for FoBRA is to ensure proper representation and participation in the MQM process as part of FoBRA's commitment to represent Resident Groups and areas affected by changes in the city centre
- b. CARA highlighted the importance of Resident Groups across the city engaging in this consultation now to correct anomalies and incorrect diagrams/statements. In particular the impact of certain movement plan details contained within the proposals which move traffic from Broad Street to other residential areas. The plan's first draft promotes the closure of Milsom Street and Broad Street to private motor vehicles, it contains traffic movement plans which show Circus and Royal Avenue as primary routes across the city. Officers have confirmed that this classification is incorrect and will be corrected. But the plan contains no clear movement strategy for the 5000+ cars per day which currently use Broad Street.

LCA and CARA urged members to engage with the consultation and consider the impact of this important cross city main road closure to their own areas and residents. The routes across town using Broad Street and Milsom Street prior to 10am are key main roads (north/south) for many commuters and these will be closed as part of this plan. Areas which provide alternative routes to cross the city should be participating in this consultation to ensure they are protected from rat running.

link: [Milsom Quarter | Bath and North East Somerset Council \(bathnes.gov.uk\)](https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/milsom-quarter)

- c. CARA as part of City Centre Action Group are concerned regarding the impact of too high a provision of hospitality vs. retail.

ACTION: FoBRA Chair and CARA lead to discuss best way for FoBRA to support Central area members, Travel Lead also to be involved in this discussion due to significant impacts on travel routes to Bath residents pre 10am bus gate with the proposed closure of Broad Street. In addition the masterplan has SPD status which is a material consideration in planning terms. Thus resident engagement at this stage is crucial.

5. Entry Hill update from Entry Hill RA

- a. Pre planning application due
- b. Contaminated nature of site discussed. Environmental reports due but not necessarily shared with Residents. Widcombe RA advice provided to consider a FOI process.

- c. Advice from LCA provided regarding section 106 covenants to limit amplified music in a residential area
- d. CARA suggested the Local Ombudsman complaints procedure.

6. High Common update

- a. Members from the Resident Groups surrounding the High Common/Approach Golf course provided an update on the procurement plans to seek a golf provider for part or all of the High Common
- b. There is disagreement amongst some groups about the best allocation of the space to provide golf.
- c. FoBRA's role in this context is to help facilitate dispute resolution to find common ground where it can. In addition its primary concern will be to ensure that the resident engagement process and procurement process is correctly conducted.

7. Bath City Council campaign

- a. This campaign was launched by Justin Draeger as convener of the campaign for a Bath City Council not as Chair of FoBRA.
- b. FoBRA Exec had a meeting with Councillor Richard Samuel who recommended that both Councillors Dave Wood and Manda Rigby would be best placed to discuss the Chartered Trustees forum and the perishing approach which Councillor Wood was involved with in Swindon.

Action: Chair to invite Councillor Wood to September Committee meeting to discuss the democratic options for Bath city and the implications for all options.

8. A.O.B

- a. Reminder : Bath Area Forum June 16th 6pm
- b. New graffiti service on Fixmystreet.com launched. Reps are encouraged to inform their RA members to help the Council clean up the city by reporting graffiti
- c. LCA raised the issue of damage to stonework on heritage assets around the city . Please send photos to Rachael Hushon who will forward to the Officer responsible.
- d. CARA raised concern about the democratic procedure surrounding the appointment of the FoBRA executive regarding role allocation and suggested that the governance arrangements in the Constitution need to be reviewed.