

Notes from FoBRA attendees (Jeremy Boss & Caroline Greenwood)

Bath World Heritage Site Advisory Board - 25 October 2022

The following significant items were on the agenda:

- New members: Jeremy & Caroline were welcomed as new members of the Board representing FOBRA/Residents interests
- Chair and World Heritage Manager's updates: The key points of interest were:
 - New WHS centre has been open since May and receiving positive feedback from volunteers and visitors
 - Kevin Guy, Council Leader will lead on the Heritage Brief for BANES
 - Discussion ongoing about establishing an 'Architect in Residence' for the City
 - Discussion ongoing with BANES on revitalising the Bronze Plaque Scheme
 - Bath Rugby will present to a future board on new stadium proposals
 - Updates on the Jewish Burial Ground, Street Sign Conservation, Prior Park Dam & Cascade, Watchman's Box Norfolk Crescent
- Progress with the Combined Management Plan for Bath
 - Work has commenced on the new plan 2022-2028
 - It will cover both the WHS inscriptions in a combined plan (the City & as a Great Spa Town of Europe).
 - The format and scope have been decided (supported by a consultant – Chris Pounds)
 - Further consultation will take place next Spring and we will need to ensure residents / FOBRA views are incorporated
- Presentation by Wessex Water on management of drought conditions. The main takeaway was that we need 80% of long-term average rainfall over the winter to replenish supplies. (post meeting November rains would have helped!). We asked about concerns over flooding risks for the City but this was not in the area of the speakers expertise although it was noted that Water Protection Zones were mentioned for the City as part of the Great Spa Towns submission.
- Presentation by Bath Preservation Trust on proposals for Beckford Tower utilising the £3.1m of Lottery and a further £500k of matched funding. The Museum closed on 1.11.22 and will be closed for all of 2023.
- AOB Alison Herbert of Bath BID updated the Board that a Well Being Festival is being planned for 7-26th Feb aimed at residents and visitors.
- Next meeting February 2022 (to be confirmed)

Jeremy Boss