

Federation of Bath Residents' Associations

Ordinary Committee Meeting starting at 6.30pm

Thursday 12th June 2025, Widcombe Junior School

Draft Minutes

Attendees

Sylvia Sinclair (SJS Bath/FoBRA Secretary); Rachael Hushon (LCA/FoBRA Chair); Jeremy Boss (WA/FoBRA Vice Chair); Elizabeth Curnow (CCRA/FoBRA Treasurer); Kamla Gardner (Cavendish Society/Accounts Examiner); Theresa Franklin (CCRA); Stephanie Higgins (LCA); Richard Wales (Bathwick Hill); Neil Dickenson (LCA); Michael Wrigley (WA); Mark Snell (WA); Rob Richardson (Avondale & Osborne Rd); Tony Miles (UOPRA); Patrick Rotheram (Vineyards); Elizabeth Tayler (Entry Hill); Julie Ingerfield (Bloomfield); Joanne Johnson (SH&SHR); Suzanne Chase (SH&SHR); Ghika Savva (SCP); Benji Orford (Bath SU); Izzie Downer (Bath SU); Morny Davison (Catharine Place); Guy Meehan (Bathwick); Les Kozel (Ensleigh); Laurence James (Wellsway Bath); Charlotte Hanna (Wellsway Bath); Mike Elliott (SBHA); Dorigen Couchman (SBHA); Jill Kingaby (Bear Flat); Julia Perryman (MLBRA); Caroline Greenwood (Pulteney RA); Ian Tarr (TARA); Ceris Humphreys (PERA); Malcolm Baldwin (CARA); Sabrina Earnshaw (CARA), Mark O'Sullivan (Greenway Lane).

Apologies

Jan Molyneux (WA); Hakan Aysan (Ensleigh RA); Stephen Little (RCA); Sally Parkes (SH&SHR); Nick Tobin (AB&CPRA); Liz Eyles (Bath Spa University); David Monson (UOPRA); Poppy Laycock (Bath Spa Student Union)

Mike Dando, Lead Licencing Officer, BANES and Jacob Booth, Street Trading Policy Consultant

Chair introduced Mike Dando and Jacob Booth to the meeting and thanked them for reaching out to FoBRA. Mike spoke in detail about licensing which is done every 5 years and the possibility that the Council will be undertaking a review of their Street Trading Policy. He said that statutory consultees include parish councillors, police etc. and if the street trading policy is reviewed, that the Council are interested in bringing FoBRA on as a consultee on this policy review. In the interim, Mike said the Council are interested in engaging with us and our member RAs for feedback on current street licensing policy and if it is reviewed, would send us the questions that are sent to consultees. Examples of questions will be 'are we happy with current policy?', 'do we want street licensing zoning?' etc. He suggested these questions would be taken back to FoBRA members and fed back to a central point of contact within the council at that point.

A wide ranging discussion took place regarding what is and what isn't included in Street Trading Policy and where other issues fall. Mike explained that BANES is also working on a new 'Street Strategy' which is an umbrella that will tie up Street Licensing, buskers, Pavement licences etc under one overarching policy.

In the meantime, Mike said if residents are receiving any problems from a licenced premises to email his team on licencing@bathnes.gov.uk and an officer will be assigned. This is the licencing equivalent to Fix my Street.

Chair thanked Mike and Jacob for their very useful presentation and said that the FoBRA executive will discuss and will let them know who is best person to lead this for FoBRA and that person is likely to be from an RA close to the city centre with knowledge in this area.

Minutes to be approved from committee meeting March 13th, 2025

Approved by: Julie Ingerfield

Seconded by: Neil Dickenson

Show of Hands: Carried

Planning Group Report

Chair said that we sent out planning reports (two with an update in second one) from Jan Molyneux who isn't here this evening. No questions. Chair extended immense thanks to Jan and Michael Wrigley on producing detailed planning reports and submissions which is a very time-consuming job.

Transport Group Report

Chair said that the transport report has been distributed. Ceris Humphreys added two comments in addition to her report. She mentioned that in the last week or so there have been updates from WECA as well as the new budget announcements from the Government regarding funds allocated to WECA for transport. She said as it is still not clear if these funds are replacing previous pots of money and with insufficient clarity about what is coming to WECA, it is too early to comment. The second item Ceris mentioned was an update on Somer Valley corridor. She said there has now been an announcement that it will be more phased than previously anticipated and that the major changes at the Bath end of the corridor are on the back burner and will now be reconsidered. Laurance James (Wellsway Bath) thanked Ceris and said that the Tesco's to Red Lion phase has been dropped however it may be considered as part of new Local Plan. He said that the time scale has been pushed out and who knows what will happen in future. RAs interested should read update: <https://newsroom.bathnes.gov.uk/news/next-steps-somer-valley-links-sustainable-travel-proposals-revealed>

World Heritage Advisory Board update

Caroline Greenwood presented the WHAB update. She said the new report which was approved in May by council had been released yesterday:

<https://newsroom.bathnes.gov.uk/news/new-world-heritage-sites-management-plan-bath>

Caroline said it had taken some 18 months to put together and the report is 99 pages in length.

Chair mentioned that it was agreed at our last meeting that we would raise the issue of heritage vaults and assets and the potential damage caused by vibrations which could be addressed by city wide enforcement of 20mph speed and weight restrictions. Caroline and

Jeremy Boss will raise this issue at the next WHAB meeting. The Chair confirmed that heritage assets are city wide not just at the small city centre core.

A.O.B

Malcolm Baldwin mentioned the recent cabinet reshuffle.

Corinne Evans said that the open days at Bath Uni are fully booked. Together with the Robbie Williams concert, the Gin festival and Ladies Day at the races, the city will be busy. Ceris expressed thanks to Bath Uni for sensible transport plans for the Open Day with park and ride services. Corinne said the Uni is trying to encourage active travel where possible for staff.

Les Kozel (Ensleigh RA) mentioned shop lifting in Bath. Sabrina said that the last IAG meeting was cancelled but will raise it at the next meeting. Ian Tarr said in the city centre there is a business crime prevention partnership with police which TARA attend. He said Bath BID has a monthly meeting and shoplifting comes up. Active amount of work being done. Individual retailers have own response to shop lifting.

Meeting Ended.