

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of Camden Residents Association 13th Dec 2018

1. Present: Jeremy Labram (JJL), John Long(JML), Bob Williams, Frank Benyon, Nigel Pollard, Janet Anderson, Chris Smith,
Apologies: Nancy Coppock, Caroline Groom, Gloria Goodsell

2. Introductions

The members of the committee present briefly introduced themselves

3. The last committee meeting minutes were approved

4. The AGM minutes were approved

5. Feedback

The feedback on the AGM and the new constitution was favourable.

JJL reported on his meeting with members of the Bath Independent Group and will keep informed of any developments, although the Association cannot be aligned with any political group.

With regard to the CAZ, he pointed out that because of the large number of replies to the consultation, the date when the final decision was due to be presented to Cabinet had been pushed back from Dec.18th to a date in March.

He said that he had a good relationship with the project manager and would be pointing out the points he thought had been missed in the Council's statement and listed in the CRA's 'Curate's Egg' document.

Action: JJL

JJL would continue to keep the CRA informed through a Google alert for Bath Breathe, Bath Newseum, alerts from the Council, FoBRA information and Nextdoor Camden.

Action: JJL

JJL mentioned the community pop-up pub at St Mary's Swainswick on the first Friday of each month at Swainswick Church. Maybe we could set up a regular monthly spot to encourage people to meet at a local pub (eg the Star, Fairfield Arms, Brewed Boy on Walcot Street).

Action: JJL

He reminded everyone that he wanted other people to contribute by creating posts which could be published according our cycle of one or two per week.

6. Website manager.

There were now 148 subscribers:

We hold only email addresses, avoiding the problems of a membership organisation. Bob agreed to caretake, as website manager, and would arrange with Nancy to familiarise him with the system.

Action: BW/NC



7. New Ideas

a) Wild Camden

JJL felt the area looked messy and uncared for and there seemed to be a lack of clarity about responsibilities for its maintenance. JML agreed with this. JJL and Frank, as a Camden Crescent resident would be meeting on Jan 30th with Jeremy Diamond, Community Development Officer for the Council, for very much an exploratory meeting.

There was a discussion about the ownership of the land. Nigel and Frank explained that it had been sold to the Council by the individual owners from Camden Crescent in the 1960s. Nigel had a copy of the legal document which he would make available to Frank and others who are interested.

- Some of the vaults were blocked up, at least one had protected horseshoe bats living in it.
- Repairs to the vaults had long been planned by the Council but nothing had happened, but Steve George had suggested it was planned in for 19/20
- He put forward the idea of asking for the area to be taken over by the parks department, which might improve maintenance.
- There was then the consideration of whether it would have to be open to the public.

Other related items:

- We were pretty sure that the TRO to take away parking spaces on UHR was going ahead.
- There had been an application for planning permission to build a new house in the area below UHR, abutting 9 Leopold Buildings.

b) Policing

It was agreed that we would run a blogpost on our website the Council's consultation about whether we would be prepared to pay through Council Tax for extra policing.

Action: FB then JJL

c) Truespeed broadband

JL put forward the idea that we might get together as a community to get high speed fibre broadband installed through a company such as this. It was agreed to put the suggestion on our website, but most people on the committee thought the present provision might not be full fibre but it was adequate for most people's needs.

d) Carol singing

JJL had organised a carol singing group for 21st Dec at 5pm to pass along the CR and end up with a drink at the Fairfield Arms.

8. Dates for meetings next year

Janet said she would Doodle to arrange meetings each month until April, the first preferred date being 30th Jan, and then every two months until the end of the year.

The AGM would be on 21/11/2019