

Minutes of the Brighton Marina Neighbourhood Forum

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at the Rendezvous Casino, Brighton Marina

On

16th May 2018 @ 2.30pm

Andrew Knight (Chair of the Forum Steering Committee) welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the other members of the Forum Steering Committee who are Kirsty Pollard (Savills) and Andrew Collumbell (Premier Marinas), who are workers at the Marina and Ken Sainty, Keith Malcolm and Mary Pett, who are residents of the Marina.

The Chairman explained that Neighbourhood Planning gives communities the opportunity to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood area and to shape its development and growth. The Forum is at quite an early stage in the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan and Marina residents and workers will have the opportunity to formulate policies for this plan and vote on whether to accept it.

1. Confirmation of Membership and Apologies

The Chairman noted that membership of the Brighton Marina Forum is open to all residents living within the neighbourhood area, all individuals who work within the Neighbourhood area and elected Council members whose ward falls within the neighbourhood area.

The Chairman noted that any attendees who were not yet members could complete a membership form at the meeting and become a member today.

2. Presentation from Brighton & Hove City Council

Carly Dockerill, Robert Davidson and Sandra Rogers, from the Brighton & Hove City Council Planning Department, were welcomed to the meeting. They gave a presentation setting out the role and status of the City Plan Part 1 and Part 2, with particular emphasis on the implications of the Plan for the Marina. The presentation is available on the Brighton Marina Neighbourhood Forum website. (www.bmnf.org.uk)

The Planning Officers took questions from attendees.

3. Update on Steering Committee Progress

The Chairman updated the meeting on the work of the Steering Committee which to date has included;

1. Preparation of a draft vision statement for the Forum which will be discussed during the course of this meeting.
2. A response to the Brighton & Hove City Council Community Infrastructure Levy preliminary consultation.
3. The Steering Committee had a training afternoon at which a specialist consultant explained the details of the Neighbourhood Planning Process and the route which needs to be taken to achieve a Neighbourhood plan.
4. An additional response has been prepared for the Brighton & Hove City Council Community Infrastructure Levy Consultation, which again will be discussed later in this meeting.
5. Next steps for the Forum Steering Committee are expected to be the selection and appointment of a specialist consultant to assist in the process of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan as well as obtaining funding for this work.

4. Presentation of the Draft Vision

Mary Pett and Kirsty Pollard presented the draft vision statement for the Forum, which has been prepared by the Forum Steering Committee, (this document is available on the Brighton Marina Neighbourhood Forum website).

Attendees were divided into 4 groups and invited to comment on the 4 objectives covered by the draft vision statement which are:

High Quality of Life
Sustainability
Connectedness
A Valued Asset

Comments made by attendees are to be reviewed by the Steering Committee and incorporated into a final draft of the vision statement.

5. Proposed Amendments to the Forum Constitution

The Chairman explained that in the course of their work the Forum Steering Committee have proposed some amendments to the Forum Constitution to facilitate the smooth running of the Forum. Attendees were circulated with a copy of the proposed revised Constitution and the proposed amendments were reviewed.

Minor alterations to wording were requested, in particular, that the definition of a resident should include those who have permission to live aboard boats within the area and it was agreed to insert this phrase.

The amended constitution was put to a vote and unanimously accepted by attendees.

It was noted that the Constitution states that Forum meetings will normally be held on weekdays and start between 2.00pm and 8.00pm and it was requested that the next meeting start at a later time to allow those who are at work during the normal working day to attend.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Community Infrastructure Levy Response

The Chairman reported that the Brighton & Hove City Council Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule Consultation is currently in progress and a draft response prepared on behalf of the Forum Steering Committee has been put on the Forum website and Forum members have been invited for their comments on this draft response.

The Chairman drew attention to the key points raised in the draft response:

1. The Marina does need development and the sense of place and public areas of the Marina are poor.
2. Planning applications for the Marina should include improvement of the public areas of the Marina.
3. All of the Marina should be treated in the same way. Piecemeal development of the Marina has not helped in the past.
4. The Marina needs a planning approach that integrates it with the surrounding development areas contained with the Councils Special Planning Policy DA2.

Opportunity was provided for comments on this draft response and there were none.

6.2 Thanks

The Chairman noted the work done by Peter Smith, a resident, in setting up and maintaining the Forum website and expressed the thanks of the Forum to Peter.

The Forum Steering Committee expressed its thanks to Demelza Cooper and Katie Sullivan for their assistance with the administration of the Forum.

Brian Parish, a resident, expressed his thanks to the Forum Steering Committee for their work and the progress that they have made.

7. Date of Next Neighbourhood Forum Meeting

The date for this meeting was not specifically agreed but it is expected to be held in the Autumn and the Steering Committee undertook to organise an evening meeting on the next occasion.

End.