

MINUTES OF THE HOE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM HELD ON 26 JUNE 2019

Apologies were received from: Barry Huxley, Debbie Jones, Mary and Peter Mehigan, Chris Penberthy, Paul Spackman, Pam and Dave Ward

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on General meeting on 24 April and Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Writing meeting on 22 May were agreed.

2 Updates on NP Writing

Connectivity and Transport: Mike Thomasson said the relevant information from the P&SWD Plan and supporting documents is being examined.

Green and Blue: Penny Tarrant and Chris Penberthy had attended Plymouth City Council's Climate Emergency event. The fact that PT chairs the Environment Plymouth group will inform the NP.

If anyone has any photographs of Plymouth House it would be useful if copies could be made available to KS. It is believed to be the only property on the Hoe that was bomb damaged but the façade was kept. A policy is needed for this building.

Action

All

Heritage: Kim Stevenson reported that the information on Windsor Villas and Plymouth House information will be circulated in due course.

Action

KS

Quality of Life, Health and Well-Being: No new information.

Culture, Tourism and the Economy: No new information.

Plan Writing Timeline: PT had discussed the timing of the NP Referendum, with Paul Barnard, PCC Planning. Regression analysis had shown that it would need to be finished by 3 July in order to comply with the legal timetable for adoption, so the earliest a referendum on it can realistically be held will be May 2021 if it has to tie in with other elections to save costs.

3 Forum Funding

Penny Tarrant and Jacky Clift had put a funding application in to Locality to top up the Forum's funding to £9k, ie a top up of £3,500 is now being sought. Funding awarded must be spent by March. It is currently with the Grants Panel.

It was suggested that Hilary Kolinsky should be commissioned to do the work for which the funding is being sought. HK is a partner in a local architectural practise, very experienced in planning and community engagement. The time pressure for submitting the application meant that someone had to be nominated in the application. If anyone wants it to go to a Competitive Fee Bid please let PT know. Approved Nem Con. The deadline for objections is two weeks after notification that the Bid has been successful.

Action: PT to share the proposal with members.

4 Future Parks

Caroline Fiske and Colin Johnson, responsible for day to day park activities in Plymouth explained to PT a successful bid by PCC for funds to engage communities and enhance the City's parks - Devonport, Central and the Hoe. At a meeting on 17 July the Council will release details of the grant. Forum members are encouraged to attend.

Action: PT to circulate details

5 National Naval Memorial hedge

CWGC's plan to remove the Escallonia hedge by the Naval War Memorial was discussed. It was noted it is currently in flower, providing food for bees – the hedge is normally trimmed before it flowers. Sue and Penny met with representatives of CWGC, PCC and Buglife to discuss the implementation of a policy to mitigate damage to wildlife by removing the hedge. During the conversation the Commonwealth War Graves Commission advised they feel a sense of responsibility for the avenue of trees on the Hoe. They will revert with their thoughts.

6 Wildflower Sowing

PT will talk to Buglife because the wildflower area is looking scruffy. It was noted that the patch is used by some members of public for barbeques and anti-social behaviour, particularly during festival events. Signage was suggested as a possibility, or some way of protecting the planting. FB asked for the area on Lambhay Hill to be included in discussions as it, too, looks scruffy with a great many docks in it.

Action PT

7 City Centre Conservation Area

Forum members were asked to contribute to the consultation. The area suggested is bounded by New George Street, Royal Parade / Derrys / Old Town Street. As a Conservation Area it would attract extra funding.

It is the Forum's suggestion that the Conservation Area should be extended up, north, beyond New George Street as far at least as Cornwall Street. It is HK's

opinion that the suggested area is not wide enough, and the area should be extended as far as North Cross because the buildings in that area are important.

Action

PT

8 Any Other Business

KS said that Forum support was need for a funding application to the Heritage Lottery for a community event on 28th November to celebrate the centenary of the first woman MP. The statue will be unveiled on 28 November 2019, which will clash with Mayflower 400 and Illuminate. (Plymouth has returned a female MP for all but four years since 1919.) Nancy herself wanted bins in the city, rather than any other form of legacy.

This will be an event for ordinary people, with an exhibition at the Guildhall of posters and letters, RIO will make recordings, and there will be a walk from the statue to the Guildhall, taking in the suffragette plaques in Alfred Street en route, a play and a film of Nancy Astor. The University's exhibition will cover heritage, crime and gendered aspects during a national research festival, and the film will then be shown at Devonport Guildhall.

Action

PT

Plymouth Tree Partnership

Forum members were encouraged to join the [Plymouth Tree Partnership](#) started by Andrew Young; £15 pa, or £20 per couple. PT is a new trustee, and the Partnership is putting in a block bid with PCC and Bristol for urban tree planting on quite a large scale. Each site must be for a minimum of 10 trees

Action

PT to circulate a Plymouth Tree Partnerhsip joining form.

Sunday 14 July Forum Picnic

Cancelled, due to Super Sunday sporting events.

9 Dates of Next Meetings

Next NP Working Group meeting: Wednesday 24 July

Next General meeting: Wednesday 28 August. Luke Pollard MP will give a pre-meeting talk (tbc).