



Minutes of meeting held 22 January 2025

1. Welcome and Apologies

PT welcomed attendees, including Ward Councillors Alison Raynsford (AR) and Lewis Allison (LA) and noted that the Forum is now into its 9th year of operation. Apologies were received from Barbara Sanders, Jill Grange, Lynne Sears, Rob Yeomans, Pam & Dave Ward, Judy Tottey.

Minutes and Matters Arising

Re Community Forest PT confirmed that there are now 26 trees planted in the orchard, the whips will be planted soon in the Clock Garden and she thanked everyone for attending the Wassail as well as Angela and Barbera for organising such a successful event.

Pier 1 Canopy. Still no news on this item. further follow up by AR/LA

Action AR/LA

The vegetation around the Register Office is still there but is being cleaned up. Still no news on who the new owner/managing agent is and therefore unable to ask them to participate in NP

Action PT to phone Clive Emson (update – actioned without success)

Mowing policy - PT reported back that believed to be every two weeks

Action: PT update/confirmation.

Bus route - AR stated there was no additional money to extend route 25 hours but has asked for it to be included in application for accessing government funding. Citybus have 50 new electric buses on order. She has also raised problem of e-bikes with Police and Crime Commissioner who is looking at this nationally.

Rough sleepers - reported there is a tent on the Citadel slopes.

Viking Stone - AR had obtained information and this has been sent round via email

PT said she had been receiving a lot of queries by email recently and suggested that people should bring these to the meetings where possible.

The minutes were agreed to be a true representation of the meeting and were proposed by Martin Worrall and seconded by Paul Daffern.

2. Councillors Report

LA nothing specific but please keep sending in casework

AR Budget discussions underway and PCC seem to be in reasonably comfortable position

Press report of Plymouth being worst location for repairing potholes raised. AR said this was misreported and that potholes are prepared in the winter ready for final completion in the summer. Concern was raised that this is seemingly quite piecemeal rather than taking a more holistic approach eg Athenaeum Street.

Action AR/LA will look at Athenaeum Street.

Mention of the fact that it is very dark around the bowling club at night.

Action AR awaiting reply on this

Parking on West Hoe Road raised as problematic by Lynn? who has monitored this and will forward survey to AR

Action AR response

Also raised issue of rubbish at the site of the old West Hoe Surgery. AR acknowledged that the land had now been sold for development and it is new owner's responsibility.

3. Planning Report (MW,CW)

Planning Application Report circulated previously.

Minutes of Planning Meeting discussions

Members were advised to make any comments via the appropriate website.

Flat 5, 24 Elliot Street installation of exterior staircase - no concerns raised

Royal Citadel trees - Trustees of Plymouth Tree People have queried legitimacy of doing survey re the extent of ash dieback in the winter when there is no canopy and symptoms not fully visible especially when now known that trees can survive if not too badly diseased and with tree work. Agreed unanimously to objection and recommended survey should be delayed until June

Action PT to follow up on how many trees should be planted and where in mitigation and with reference to our NP

2 Cliff Road - preapp concerns re potential competition with existing convenience store/post office and parking issues. Discussion followed that in line with NP should be homes above and not just single storey building.

Paul will chat with Lynn and send feedback to MW by 11 February

Action PT/MW to work on comment from the forum to submit

16 Athenaeum Street sycamore tree has been felled

MW commented that most of the applications were old ones, being modified or re-submitted.

West Hoe Park cafe ongoing

The Hoe Lodge Restaurant still awaiting decision

Pier 1 with legal department

4. Neighbourhood Plan

PT expressed thanks to everyone who participated in producing the NP and in the consultation process including working groups, AR and LA, JB for pulling all the feedback data together which will form basis of a meeting to discuss and go through feedback 27 January 2025. The public are highly supportive. There were 50 consultative organisations and many also provided a lot of positive feedback. Historic England in particular applauded three of the policies.

There was one largely negative response from PCC who objected to 14 out of 16 policies.

AR/LA expressed willingness to support us and will comment on how we managed and conducted the process of developing the plan and consultation arrangements.

JB suggested forum website could perhaps be an agenda item for next meeting to consider future purpose and inclusion of what kind of material eg Wassail, orchard, agenda, minutes etc.

AOB

- PT noted that the cordylines and other plants from Armada Way had been delivered to the depot to share around the parks and will be discussing allocation with Richard Poynter the head gardener and Caroline Rowntree PCC
- Antisocial behaviour at the Belvedere on fine days with groups of teens gathering. AR will request more patrols in the area

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th March 2025 at 7pm.