

THE FRIENDS OF PALMEIRA AND ADELAIDE
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

THE 18th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will take place at The Cornerstone Centre at 11.30am on Saturday 10th January 2015

**IT WILL GREATLY HELP IF YOU COULD LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING
IF ATTENDING PLEASE PRINT THESE FOUR PAGES AND BRING WITH YOU
TO REDUCE COSTS HARD COPIES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

Coffee will be served from 11am
Wine and mince pies will be served after the meeting

AGENDA

- 1) Minutes of the 17th AGM (see below)
- 2) Comments on the Annual Report (see below)
- 3) Agreement of the Annual Accounts (see below)
- 4) Election of the Committee for 2015

The following Committee members have agreed to remain:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Susan Hunter | Balint Bodroghy |
| Ella Clark | Sue Hitching |
| Rory Connelly | Trish Thompson |
| David Ward | Frank Inglis |
| David Sewell | |

If no objections are received all will be elected by block vote.
The Chairman for 2015 will be elected by the Committee at its first meeting.

The Committee welcomes new ideas and help with its work
If any members would like to join the Committee please contact the Chairman before 31st Dec
by writing to: chair.fopa@gmail.com

Minutes of the 17th AGM

If you have any objection to the content, please contact the Chairman before 31st Dec.

THE 17th* ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION
held at the Cornerstone Centre on Saturday 11th January 2014 at 11.30am

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Present | Chairman: | Susan Hunter |
| | Committee: | Ruth Addison |
| | | Balint Bodroghy (note taker) |
| | | Ella Clark |
| | | Richard Hawkes |
| | | Katherine Simpson |
| Apologies: | | Susie de Castilho |
| | | Rory Connelly |

Existence of a Quorum, with attendance by 33 including those on the Committee, was confirmed by the note taker.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking all those attending.

She confirmed that an Agenda, Minutes of the previous AGM and Annual Accounts had previously been delivered by e-mail or by hand to all who have registered an interest. Therefore, unless comments or objections were raised at the meeting, the Minutes, Accounts and election of a Committee (see below) could be agreed by acclamation.

| Current Members | Action | New Volunteers | Interests |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Ruth Addison | Retires | Julia Bodroghy-West | Promotion, website |
| Balint Bodroghy | Stands for re-election | Sue Hitching | |
| Ella Clark | Stands for re-election | Miranda Mayne | Only part time |
| Susie de Castilho | Retires | Trish Thompson | Gardens |
| Rory Connelly | Stands for re-election | David Ward | LAT |
| Richard Hawkes | Retires | | |
| Susan Hunter | Stands for re-election | | |
| Katherine Simpson | Stands for re-election | | |

Ella Clark noted that Georgina Hall (absent) also expressed interest in the work of the Committee, notably organizing social events. Approval of candidates was proposed by Frank Inglis and seconded by Eric Lewis.

The Chairman extended special thanks to Richard Hawkes who had been instrumental in creating FOPA with Randall Hart in 1997 and has since provided unique leadership and support promoting the Association, maintaining essential external links and guarding our architectural heritage – although now retiring, his interest in FOPA will continue.

In accordance with custom, the Committee will reconvene and agree particular roles for individual members; she herself, having already served longer than envisaged in the constitution, will retire as Chairman and a new Chairman will be elected by the Committee at its first meeting.

Proceedings

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Minutes of the 14th AGM: | Agreed by acclamation as to content |
| 2. Annual Report: | Agreed by acclamation as to content |
| 3. Annual Accounts: | Agreed by acclamation as to content |
| 4. Committee Members: | Elected by acclamation (see above) |

Discussion in response to comments from the floor

Susan Hunter noted that the Association's finances remain in a healthy state under voluntary donations and thanked Katherine Simpson for looking after the contact list, cash flow and accounts. Katherine Simpson asked who will in future respond to 'membership' enquiries, now that Richard Hawkes is retiring. Susan Hunter proposed to discuss this in Committee.

A lively discussion was prompted by Ella Clark's suggestion that FOPA consider how best to react to disturbances in the light of last year's events (when groups of youths got into the habit of congregating in the gardens and building fronts at night, occasionally leading to antisocial behaviour). It was suggested that the best initial response is to call 101 (or 999 if the disturbance is severe), follow it up and if possible obtain a Crime Number, though not all disturbances would be regarded as 'crime' by the police. Police response of necessity depends on complex priorities for allocating increasingly scarce resources and may appear patchy; to influence priorities, it is important for all those affected to contact the police and follow up the complaint by phone and/or e-mail.

It was also reported that bicycle theft has become a major problem in Brighton and Hove, occasionally conducted on an 'industrial' scale (breaking into storage spaces and removing cycles by the van-load).

Suspicious behaviour was noted by several residents: a doorbell may be rung by someone claiming to be a taxi driver booked for Gatwick and continuing to call one flat after another and strangers have been seen persistently loitering in doorways. In most cases there is no 'crime' to report, only a suspicion and it is not known whether the police would log such a report with a 'crime number'. These matters will be taken up in Committee and also at the Local Action Team (LAT) meetings with the police.

The Meeting closed by 12.00 noon with hot mince pies and wine served by volunteers.

Annual Report for 2014

The first Committee Meeting of 2014 saw several new members joining the team and they have enabled our outgoing member Richard to pass on some of his areas of responsibility in FOPA to them. Everyone knows of his long involvement with FOPA and are extremely appreciative of this. Richard now acts on behalf of the Committee as an advisor on planning in Palmeira & Adelaide, which is very helpful. Sue has now taken on the Membership management and David W and David S report on the LAT meetings.

In fact Sue, after much form filling and many visits to the bank, is also our new Treasurer now that Kathryn has stood down from the role she has fulfilled for several years. Everyone appreciates just how much Kathryn did for FOPA, during the time of collecting Membership fees especially, and we are very grateful, and no less so to Sue for taking on this job.

Thank you to all the members who support FOPA with their donations, which keep us going without the need to have Membership fees any longer. Anything over and above our small costs is mostly spent on the gardens for additional planting.

The Brunswick Area, which we are included in, was once again awarded 'Silver Gilt' in the RHS 'in Bloom' competition, despite it being a challenging gardening year. Composting has also had its challenges, but Balint continues his excellent work with this, with the help of Trish.

One of the main items that has been raised on several occasions this year by residents is an on-going problem with young people causing a nuisance in the gardens, sometimes late at night. We have had meetings with our local PCSOs and in August with one of our Councillors, the Police and a representative of the Council who deals with anti-social behaviour. As a result of all this, we have had additional patrols in the area, and a promise to put up CCTV at some time when it can be arranged. We are also requested to keep reporting any problems on the 101 telephone number for the Police. A change in the law in late October means that if the Police receive three reports of anti-social behaviour in the area they must take action to try to resolve the problems. This should help us achieve a better response in the future.

We have not managed to have any coffee mornings this year, so if anyone would like to hold one we would really appreciate that. Also, unfortunately, we have not had a big response to our request for volunteers to run the Christmas party, so maybe next year. However, on a much more positive note, Ella held a very successful Summer event in Adelaide gardens which was well attended and much enjoyed, and the weather was kind too that day.

So as usual a big thank you to all of the Committee for everything they do or have done in the past on behalf of FOPA, and also, of course, to all the members who support us.

With my best wishes for a very happy Christmas and New Year

Susan Hunter – Acting Chairman

| ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2014 | | |
|---|----------|---------------|
| FOPA Accounts Income and Expenditure 9.1.14 - 31.12.14 | | |
| INCOME | | |
| Paypal | £ | 114.72 |
| Cash/Cheques/Standing Orders | £ | 95.00 |
| Bank interest on both accounts | £ | 0.60 |
| TOTAL INCOME | £ | 210.32 |

| GENERAL EXPENDITURE | | |
|--|----------|---------------|
| Annual General Meeting 9.1.14 | £ | 94.09 |
| Plaque replacement - Palmeira Square Bench (John Hart-Gould) | £ | 18.00 |
| Southern Water Garden Supply (6 months 12.13 - 06.14) | £ | 11.86 |
| Contribution - Brunswick in Bloom | £ | 100.00 |
| Gifts - Garden Staff, Richard Hawkes & Katherine Simpson | £ | 84.98 |
| UK2 Annual web hosting fee | £ | 85.68 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | £ | 394.61 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME | | £ 184.29 |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|

| BANK ACCOUNTS | As at 8.1.14* | As at 30.11.14# | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| HSBC - Current Account | £ 1,254.77 | £ 1,071.17 | |
| HSBC - Police Property Fund | £ 524.46 | £ 524.76 | |
| TOTAL FUNDS | £ 1,779.23 | £ 1,595.93 | |
| Minus expenditure over income | £ 184.29 | | |
| TOTAL | £ 1,594.94 | £ 1,595.93 | - £1.01 |

*Figures on current account transposed 2013/14 accounts
(£1245.77)

10 month reporting period

Sue Hitching, Treasurer and Membership Secretary
30th November 2014