

THE FRIENDS OF PALMEIRA AND ADELAIDE

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

THE 28th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE 28th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF PALMEIRA AND ADELAIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

HELD AT THE CORNERSTONE CENTRE
AT 14.00pm ON SATURDAY 26th April 2025

PRESENT

In the chair: Ted Davis (TD)
Committee: Amanda Bodenham (GD) David Ryan (DR)
Annie Mendelow (AM) Annabel Anderson (AA)
Janie Ranger (JR) Jan Nichols (JN)

Note taker: David Ryan

1. **Apologies for absence:** Andrea Martin
2. With an attendance of forty-two, including those on the Committee, the meeting was confirmed by the notetaker as quorate.
3. The Agenda, Minutes of the previous AGM, the Annual Accounts and the Chairman's Annual Report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
4. **Proceedings**
 - 4.1 TD confirmed that this AGM be marked as the 28th.
 - 4.2 The Minutes of the 26th-27th AGM of FOPA held on Wednesday 20th April 2024 were presented by TD and adopted by acclamation.
 - 4.3 The Annual Report for 2024 was presented by TD. With a special mention and thanks to George Dean (FOPA Treasurer) who passed away in 2024.
 - 4.4 The Annual Accounts for 2024 were presented by Amanda Bodenham (Treasurer) and adopted by acclamation. TD thanked AB for her work in maintaining and preparing the accounts.

TD proposed a block vote for all the acceptance of the accounts. This was motioned by Susan Hunter and seconded by Sue Hitchins and adopted by acclamation.

5. **Election of the Committee**

TD informed the meeting that Ted Davis (Chair), Jan Nichols and Andrea Martin are willing to continue in the office. Three members have been co-opted to the committee this past year and have agreed to remain Janie Ranger, Amanda Bodenham (Treasurer) and Annabel Anderson.

TD informed the meeting that David Ryan (Acting Secretary) and Annie Mendelow are stepping down from the committee. TD thanked both for the continued hard work and presented both with a gift of thanks.

TD invited anyone else interested in becoming a committee member to contact him via info@fopa.co.uk

TD proposed a block vote for all the members. This was motioned by Rory Connely and seconded by John Andrews and adopted by acclamation.

7. **Garden Plan**

JN presented the Garden Plan published in 2024 and highlighted the great work completed already along the planned work for 2025. Thanking all the hard work from the volunteers.

JN emphasised the importance of volunteers to the program but highlighted that not all the help has to be physical works in the garden. With lots of activities available for all levels of fitness and abilities along with a great way to meet neighbours and enjoy the gardens. JN highlighted a 2026 program she is hoping to introduce for plant fostering which will allow members to nurture plants at home in readiness for planting. The Garden group has several volunteer activities but is always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Jan by email on gardens@fopa.co.uk

8. **Neighbourhood Watch**

AA introduced the Neighbourhood Watch scheme now set up for the area. Flyers on how to sign up along with window stickers were available at the meeting. If you would like one, please email info@fopa.co.uk to request one.

Along with NHW- AA introduced a new Contact Sheet. Created due to the complexity and difficulty of knowing who to contact for certain issues. FOPA have produced this document for our community to use and has provided both laminated copies for communal halls and paper copies should you wish to have one at home. AA confirmed all this information is available on the website also.

9. **Guest Speakers**

TD invited local councilors Andrei Czolak and Ollie Sykes to speak at the AGM. Both were very pleased with the turnout of residents and supported the Friends group.

Andrei emphasised the Councillors' availability to discuss community concerns. Highlighting the monthly Councillors' surgery on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Along with contact details by email and phone available on the new contact sheet. Along with a discussion on the new Western Road Red route and the overall community safety issues – with designated hotspot and push for further PCSO representation in the area. Emphasising the importance of recording issues so action can be taken.

Ollie recognized the work of FOPA in the community and appreciated the opportunity it provides the Councillors. Both the Councillors aim is to provide support and assistance to FOPA and its residents where possible. Assistance with financial funding for projects is limited with council budgets stretched but where possible they will assist with applications for areas such as the desire path.

Both councilors are happy to continue conversations around these subjects and other concerns or items you would like to raise and have provided contact information below;

Andrei Czolak
Elected Labour Councillor
email: andrei.Czolak@brighton-hove.gov.uk.

Ollie Sykes
Elected Green Councillor
email: ollie.sykes@brighton-hove.gov.uk

10. **Any Other Business**

TD informed the meeting that he had not received any formal requests for AOB but opened up the meeting to the floor should those present wish to raise any issues.

Question raised about the missing Bollard at the top end of Adelaide Crescent by John Andrews. FOPA and AA have requested this from City Parks also but lack of response/action. Ollie said he would champion this to get a response.

Question raised by Sarah Ratty about having a memorial to the Amber Cup. Stating it was found in Palmeira Square. Some discussion on this around the location but it has been confirmed it was found in 13 Palmeira Avenue. TD comment that he will look into this further.

11. The business of the meeting being completed, the meeting concluded at 15.11pm. The next AGM will be held on a date to be arranged. Tea/Coffee and Cakes (provided by members of the committee) and an opportunity to meet fellow members followed along with a Quiz.
