

# Hyde Park Paddington

## DRAFT Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 6 February 2020

	Actions
<p><b>1. Introduction and Apologies</b></p> <p>AZ welcomed everyone to the meeting and said how important it was for members to attend and let their views be known. 26 people were recorded as attending at the start of the meeting. A number of apologies had been received which were tabled and agreed to be reported in the Minutes. Apologies received were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Heather Acton</li> <li>• Cllr Ian Adams</li> <li>• Ian Lush</li> <li>• Paul Williams</li> <li>• Matthew Lindsay</li> <li>• Paul Williams</li> <li>• Will Clayton</li> <li>• Mark McKeown</li> <li>• Paul Charalambous</li> <li>• Sarah Buttleman</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2. Agreement of minutes of last General Meeting held on 27 November 2019</b></p> <p>AZ asked for any comments on the minutes of the previous meeting which were provided to those present in hard copy. There were no comments and the minutes were formally agreed with no objection. KB to add to website.</p>	KB
<p><b>3. Election of Officers</b></p> <p>AZ asked for a show of hands to elect Mike Fairmaner as Secretary following his nominations. There being no other nominations Mike was duly elected Secretary with no objections. AZ thanked Sarah Clifford for her work as Secretary.</p>	
<p><b>4. Election of Residential Member to the Steering Group</b></p> <p>AZ explained that no nominations had been made and that this position would remain vacant for the time being. AZ was particularly keen to hear from any resident who lived in the north of the Forum's area.</p>	
<p><b>5. Proposed Changes to the Constitution</b></p> <p>MF ran through the proposed changes to the constitution. Three changes were proposed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To give all Steering Group members the same period of service as the other members of the Steering Group. Currently, only the four posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer had a specific tenure before being subject to re-election.</li> </ol>	

<p>2. To allow any member of the Steering Group to nominate an alternative person to attend Steering Group meetings on their behalf should they be unable to attend themselves.</p> <p>3. To remove a member of the Steering Group if they have not attended three consecutive meetings or nominated an alternate to attend in their place.</p> <p>These changes were all agreed without objections. MF agreed to make the changes to the constitution and place the revised version on the website.</p>	<p>MF</p>
<p><b>6. Annual Report of Forum Activities and Future CIL Rounds</b></p> <p>KB gave a presentation on the Forum’s activities over the last year. The slides can be found here:  <a href="https://www.hydeparkpaddington.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/HPP-Forum-AGM-6-Feb-2020-Presentation.pdf">https://www.hydeparkpaddington.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/HPP-Forum-AGM-6-Feb-2020-Presentation.pdf</a></p> <p>There had been three General Meetings held in the last year (26 February, 19 June and 27 November 2019) and 7 Steering Group Meetings. The website had been refreshed and some FAQs added to help explain the role and purpose of the Forum.</p> <p>The Steering Group had been fortunate to have been engaged by Paddington BID and receive a presentation on a report into the retail character of Praed Street and how it could be improved to better serve local people and improve the local offer. KB gave a brief overview of the report and this would be used to help support policies for the street in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan as the Forum had identified the three shopping streets in the Forum’s area (Praed St, Edgware Rd and Connaught Village) as the key priority areas for a neighbourhood plan to address.</p> <p>KB explained that the Forum wanted to commission a similar study for Edgware Road to support new policies to improve the street, and that this would be done in conjunction with the Marylebone Forum who shared similar concerns and were also embarking on a neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>KB updated the Fourm on CIL. The Forum had been successful with four CIL applications to the City Council, and the Council had recently invited a second round of applications, with a submission deadline of 28 February 2020. KB restated the CIL priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Praed Street Public Realm</li> <li>• Connecting the old and new parts of the ward</li> <li>• Tackling gateways and connections – especially in relation to transport</li> <li>• Better walking routes through the area, pedestrian safety and traffic calming</li> <li>• Community Facilities</li> <li>• Green infrastructure and sustainability</li> <li>• Tackling vice and short-term lets (outside scope of CIL)</li> <li>• Security (outside scope of CIL)</li> </ul>	

<p>KB proposed 9 outline projects that the Forum could consider making application for neighbourhood CIL funding for and these were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bishop’s Bridge Road Public Realm</li> <li>2. London Street pavement widening (key walking route to Connaught Village from Paddington)</li> <li>3. Praed Street Crossings</li> <li>4. Sale Place pavement widths (key walking route from the Basin to the West End)</li> <li>5. Edgware Road insights/evidence base (jointly with Marylebone Forum)</li> <li>6. Hyde Park Estate junctions and crossings</li> <li>7. Lancaster Gate</li> <li>8. Community Space</li> <li>9. Norfolk Square Gardens showcase</li> </ol> <p>In response to questions, KB explained that the Edgware Road study would be solely concerned with the stretch of Edgware Road from Marble Arch to the Marylebone flyover, and that the Bays was the stretch of cobbled pavement that connected South Wharf Road with the canal and the Hammersmith &amp; City Line entrance to Paddington Station.</p> <p>Cllr Cox explained that the baseline of the Paddington Traffic Study should be available soon and this should help unlock some of the issues KB had flagged.</p> <p>Stephen Mason said it was important to guide people walking around the area as it was apparent that whenever there was a tube strike, people did not know where to walk to carry on their journey.</p> <p>There was general support for the proposals put forward and AZ said that the Steering Group needed to meet with Ward Members and that this was the next step in developing the projects and a requirement from the City Council before any applications could be submitted. Following that meeting, the Steering Group would work up the projects and complete the applications forms for submission to the City Council to meet their 28 February deadline.</p>	SG
<p><b>7. Guest Speaker Jeremy Bishop, Chairman of Mayfair Neighbourhood Forum</b></p> <p>The Forum heard about the Neighbourhood Plan experience from Jeremy Bishop who had been invited to share the experiences of Mayfair who had recently been successful in writing a Plan and taking it through the process to final Adoption. He explained that they were a very similar Forum in terms of a wide mix of residents and businesses and were concerned to draw up a plan that worked for everyone. They had spent a lot of time trying to build awareness of the plan and its priorities and had long discussions amongst the group leading on the plan to agree an approach that satisfied everybody. One of their main drivers was the new Elizabeth Line station at Bond Street (although actually on Davies Street) which would mean an extra 200,000 people coming out of the station every day. This is the equivalent of the daily number of passengers using Heathrow.</p>	

<p>At the start of the plan process, there was a wide variety of views around the Forum, some contradictory, but over time through genuine discussions people came together. Like Hyde Park Paddington, they had an issue with a lack of community space, and also a lack of open spaces, and the increasing commercialization of open spaces with spaces regularly taken out of action for private use.</p> <p>As well as these current issues, they had to think ahead and consider what might come up and what should the plan say about it, and cited a proposal for a casino in the middle of a residential area as one such example that they did not foresee. Developing a dialogue with different members of the forum and also talking to developers was very useful as they realised that developers might see the Neighbourhood Plan as a nuisance with yet another set of rules. So they went out of their way to engage the development community so that they were aware of the likely content of the plan and would know what to take into account in drawing up their development proposals.</p> <p>Having got the Plan Adopted was a significant achievement, but not the end of the process. The Development Management planners at the City Council needed to know and understand its contents and how to apply the policies and the Forum realised this was extra work for them.</p> <p>In terms of CIL, the Mayfair Forum is behind that of the Hyde Park Paddington Forum and had not yet submitted any applications for spending to the City Council.</p> <p>He sees the Forum as the over-arching body for the area, bringing together residents and business interests and representing both, and having their interests at the heart of what they do, not just one or the other. The Forum did benefit from having very responsible landowners in the Crown Estate and Grosvenor Estate in their area with their long term commitment.</p> <p>In response to questions, Richard said that plan took 4 <sup>1/2</sup> years to produce from the very first meeting to discuss ideas to its formal Adoption following its examination. They had benefitted enormously from free legal services in writing the plan that he estimated at £250,000, and that the Planning Group had met once a month every month for 4 years. They got funding every year for plan making and some money from ward budgets although now that they had a plan in place the plan making funding was no longer available.</p> <p>AZ thanked Richard for his very comprehensive and eloquent presentation that contained plenty of food for thought for Hyde Park Paddington to consider and learn from.</p>	
<p><b>8. Finance Report</b></p> <p>AS presented the financial report that had been circulated at the meeting. This showed total expenditure of £4,968.82, mainly on meeting room hire charges for formal meetings of the Forum. AZ said that the Forum was very fortunate to have the financial support of three business organisations and the HPEA. AS expressed his thanks to the Officers on the Steering Group and everyone else who had made contributions, particularly on the CIL applications.</p>	

<p>Looking ahead, AS suggested it would be good to find a suitably accessible venue for future meetings to try and save on meeting costs and suggestions made included the Paddington Works space and the Water Gardens.</p>	
<p><b>9. Neighbourhood Plan Progress and Next Steps</b>  AZ said that producing the plan was a daunting prospect but that the Forum is making progress. AZ thanked KB and MF for their work on the successful CIL applications made last year and that the partnership with the two BIDs was very good. The Forum has clear priorities moving forward and these were improving the facilities and amenities in the three retail centres of Praed Street, Edgware Road and Connaught Village and improving the connections between them.</p> <p>AZ thanked the business members of the Forum and especially the landowners and BIDs for their continued support.</p>	
<p><b>10. AOB</b>  What is happening to the hanging baskets in Connaught Village? Before handing over to Jo Love from the Church Commissioners to answer, AZ paid tribute to the Commissioners for stepping in to fund these 8 years ago at considerable expense. JL said that the Church Commissioners wanted to make bigger more lasting improvements to the estate, such as their proposals for Connaught Village Green and could no longer afford to fund the baskets. AZ said that the HPEA was concerned at their loss, but fully understood the Commissioners’ position and that the HPEA needed support from residents to be able to fund their continuation.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that not many people knew about the Forum and its purpose and people really wanted to know what was happening with St Mary’s Hospital. AZ explained that the HPEA regularly advertised the existence of the Forum to its members but agreed that it could always do more. AZ said he would put a notice in the Connaught Village Noticeboard and that the Steering Group would consider ways to better communicate the existence and role of the Forum. KB added that we could include something in Explore Paddington magazine.</p>	<p>AZ</p> <p>SG</p> <p>KB</p>
<p><b>11. Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting was agreed for November.  The meeting finished at 19:40</p>	<p>MF</p>