

Hyde Park Paddington

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 30 March 2022 at the Victory Services Club (Allenby Room)

	Actions
<p>1. Introduction and Apologies</p> <p>Allen Zimbler (AZ, Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting. 20 people had registered to attend and 16 people were present at the start of the meeting. Items 2 and 3 below were addressed towards the end of the meeting when there were 18 people present and the meeting was quorate. Apologies had been received from:</p> <p>Ian Lush Will Clayton David Steyn Sergio Chiquetto Matthew Lindsay Councillors Acton, Cox and Adams James Parker Bernadette LeBeau Linda King Taylor</p> <p>Kay Buxton (KB) shared a presentation for the meeting which can be found on the HPP website at https://www.hydeparkpaddington.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/HPP-Annual-General-Meeting-Presentation-30-March-2022-FINAL.pdf.</p>	
<p>2. Agreement of minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 December 2021</p> <p>The draft minutes of the last general meeting had been available on the HPP website. No comments were made at the meeting. The minutes were agreed and will be added to the website.</p>	KB
<p>3. Election of Officers co-opted to the Steering Group since last General Meeting</p> <p>The meeting approved the election of the following co-opted members to the Steering Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Scott who was co-opted to replace Isabel Turner who is on Maternity Leave • Bernadette Le Beau was co-opted to replace Andrew Scrivener 	
<p>4. Update on Membership since last AGM in 2021</p> <p>KB provided an update on membership of the Forum which had increased to 126 (from 117 in March 2021).</p>	
<p>5. Financial Report (1 February 2021 to 1 February 2022)</p> <p>KB provided a financial update for information. Expenditure for the period was £67.78. It was noted that expenses had been kept low due to meetings being held by zoom and that this may increase as meetings are held in person, requiring venue hire.</p>	
<p>6. Re-designation of Hyde Park Paddington Neighbourhood Forum</p> <p>AZ noted that at the last General Meeting members had agreed to apply for redesignation of the HPP Neighbourhood Forum. KB explained that the process was set</p>	

<p>out in the slide deck and as the Forum continued to meet the requirements, the application would be submitted as soon as possible. This was agreed.</p>	<p>KB</p>
<p>7. Annual Report of Forum Activities and Progress of Neighbourhood CIL Projects</p> <p>AZ and KB set out details of the Forum activities in the last 12 months which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring and providing input on an all HPP Neighbourhood CIL funded projects; • obtaining expert views and input on relevant developments, studies and Neighbourhood Plan experience; and • attending Forum of Forum meetings (including those with the Leader of the Council). <p>Presentations to the Steering Group and General Meetings have covered a wide range of topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paddington Square • Portsea Mews • Lillian Penson Hall • Garfield House (Edgware Road) • Edgware Road Insights Study • Bishop’s Bridge Road Study <p>KB reminded the meeting of the £557,000 (including CIL money) projects which had been approved to date. Six of the eight projects have been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Street Open Space Improvements – related to space which had been prone to inappropriate use. Improvements, including railings, had been completed (CIL £30,000) • Norfolk Square Gardens Showcase – the butterfly friendly garden and topiary display is hoped will lead to an increase in the number of butterflies and other species which was an indication of the impact of the project improving air quality in the area. In January 2022 this was extended to involve caterpillar friendly planting around the perimeter (CIL £20,000) • Edgware Road Insights Study – completed in August 2021 as an evidence base for planning policy and public realm interventions. The study highlights the dominance of food and beverage operators over traditional retail, footfall peaks, the role of the night time economy plus opportunities for planning policy intervention. (CIL £20,000 plus £20,000 from Marylebone Forum) • Bishop’s Bridge Road – the initial feasibility study has been completed. The next phase, funded by The Paddington Partnership now, sees an extensive engagement programme to test support among local residents and users for the various ideas set out in the initial study. (CIL £50,000) • Burwood Place – completed installation of pause and rest points. The new seating and pots have received positive feedback. They will be maintained by the BID. (CIL £15,000 with matching funding from Church Commissioners & BID) • Edgware Road/Sussex Gardens – works involving a new tree pit plus bench and planter are largely completed. Cycle parking is to be added in the next week. KB noted that improvements to the street scape had also been achieved by removing the recycling bins and railings. The complicated land ownership had caused delays and KB noted that the number of stakeholders in all of these projects meant they took 1-2 years to implement. (CIL £110,000) <p>KB noted that the following projects were ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connaught Village Green – will create another pause point providing new public amenity space and cultural landscape in a busy intersection. It is expected to involve greening, benches and a drinking water fountain. Although 3 parking bays will be lost, the existing trees, phone box and notice board will be retained. First round 	

<p>review with WCC has been completed and is now moving to Stage 2. There was a suggestion that the new notice board should include a QR code to assist in accessing additional information on the area. (CIL £185,000)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bays – involves improved signage and way finding. Design has been completed, and there have been multiple landowners to consult with and obtain relevant consents. The project is at materials’ samples stage. Installation is expected to take place over the summer of 2022. (CIL £100,000) 	<p>KB</p>
<p>8. Neighbourhood Plan Steps and Vision for Hyde Park Paddington area</p> <p>AZ explained that the development of a Neighbourhood Plan underpins the real purpose of the Forum. He set out a basis for a discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan including benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a more granular level policy for the area, whereas the City Plan has to evidence the case and need for citywide policies, Neighbourhood Plans can trial localised policies. • opportunity to set out matters the Forum will and can support, recognising some matters will be outside the Forum’s mandate • setting out an overall vision for the area and what it should look like in the future, incorporating relevant constraints in planning • retaining a greater share of the CIL funding which will increase from 15% to 25%, once the plan is in place. AZ noted that thanks to the efforts of KB, the BID teams and the Steering Group, every CIL project improves a corner of the area. Access to additional funding will have a cumulative impact on the area. <p>The basics of a Neighbourhood Plan were noted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should not repeat existing policies in City Plan and London Plan – already bound by these policies and they set some constraints • Should be in conformity with those Plans • Policies can be area wide or cover specific locations e.g. can specifically address Edgware Road and other areas which may require specific policies • All policies should be thoroughly evidenced and this will require lots of background work • Can state priorities for area and public realm aspirations • Grounded in consultation and engagement – a huge amount of consultation will be required among residents and business in the area <p>The meeting progressed to outline and discuss potential policy and priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praed Street and Edgware Road corridors – confirmed these are fundamental as they define the boundary and should inform the nature of the area. The impact of the changes to the exits from Paddington Station will be important to address. KB also flagged: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the level of subdivision into small units – importance of keeping the rhythm of the street scape without subdividing frontages and also maintaining a balance between change of use from retail to food and vice versa; ○ the increased number of empty corners which are key for retail – this seems to be a headlease issue and may benefit from a longer term view by block. • Sustainability, greening and biodiversity – agreed that these should be at the core of policy and should include building materials in the greening agenda. The subject of additional centralised recycling facilities was raised but this was not supported by the residents due to allied issues, with Warwick Avenue Tube station cited as an example. • Culture – should address the overall look and feel of the area. Reference was made to Councillor Scarborough’s previous report on this subject, which can be read here • Heritage and conservation – this will be key to planning policies 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and community amenity, public spaces for the community – these are currently in short supply in the area, noting that there are many private squares with resident only access • Night-time economy and al fresco dining – particularly important for Edgware Road and Connaught Street. Plan could set priority areas for supporting al fresco dining, without requirements for planning and licensing changes. A number of members commented on the impact this had on the streets and the associated requirement for deep cleaning. The Church Commissioners pointed out that there was a trend to move from temporary to permanent al fresco sites but they needed to look at the impact of change of ownership on this approach. KB also noted the importance of the night-time economy and availability of hot food 24/7 for staff at St Mary’s Hospital and Paddington Station. This needed to be balanced against resident concerns and licensing policies. • Canalside – will continue to be a priority area as further development is undertaken • Short-term lets – an ongoing concern and exploring relevant policies for the Plan would be welcomed • Telephone boxes – consider the potential to repurpose some of these if they cannot be moved for heritage or other reasons • Connecting Opportunity Area with Hyde Park Estate, safe gateways and routes – to include cycle routes • Crime and anti-social behaviour – an ever present issue, London wide, but discussion covered better investment in the area, including cameras, as deterrents 	
<p>9. AOB</p> <p>AZ took the opportunity to thank all members of the Forum and Steering Group for their contribution over the last 12 months. He thanked Bernie McKernan for taking minutes and KB and the BID teams for their professionalism in pursuing the CIL projects.</p>	
<p>10. Date of next General Meeting</p> <p>The meeting agreed to schedule the next General Meeting in the Autumn.</p>	<p>AZ/KB</p>