



**MINUTES of the FoBRA Annual General Meeting  
on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 following on from the earlier Committee Meeting  
in Widcombe Junior School and with the same attendance**

1. **Minutes** of the 2014 AGM, previously circulated, **were agreed** without dissent.
2. **The Chairman's Annual Report** for the FoBRA AGM had been previously circulated as Agenda Annex Y. The following matters arose:
  - a) **Pollution and Traffic** – FoBRA representatives on the Council's Transport Commission played an influential role in the development of the Transport Strategy "Improving Access to Bath", adopted with all-party support at a full Council meeting in November but a **delivery plan still needs to be drawn up by the new Council**.

A more focused FoBRA initiative last October was to propose the **creation of a Low Emission Zone** covering the centre of Bath, Great Pulteney Street and the Henrietta area. It was **agreed to pursue this with the new Council** and also **to press for appropriate enforcement of Moving Traffic Offences**.
  - b) **Flood risk** – Ian Herve reported that the Environment Agency had costed a control scheme upstream of Pulteney Bridge to which they might contribute up to 19%. It was also reported that some householders were having difficulty in obtaining insurance against flood risk. There was support for **early engagement with the new Council** on flood risks.
  - c) **Planning** – Following the hard work on responding to the Council's Placemaking Plan the Chairman promised to **continue efforts to persuade the Council to:**
    - i. Treat central Bath as a "place",
    - ii. Adopt a policy for student housing,
    - iii. Define space standards for new housing,
    - iv. Build on brownfield before greenfield sites,
    - v. Incorporate elements of the new Transport Strategy into the Plan, and
    - vi. Adopt and promote conservation policies such as Building Heights, Pattern Book and Character Appraisal.
3. **Examined Accounts for the year**, previously circulated, **were approved**, with warm thanks to Stephen Little and Joy Bowker who were retiring as Treasurer and Examiner respectively.
4. **Reporting on Associations' membership numbers** – In reminding all that our constitution requires Associations to report their membership numbers each year, the retiring Treasurer then **proposed a reduction in Subscriptions** of Member Associations to £25, £50 & £75 according to category for the current year, which he hoped would be paid more promptly than in the past, and this was **agreed without dissent**.
5. a) **Nominations for election** – The Secretary reported he had received the following before the closing date:

	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>A/cs Examiner</b>
<b>Nominated:</b>	<b>Robin Kerr</b>	<b>Nick Tobin</b>	<b>John Rushton</b>
Proposer:	Paddy Doyle	Nigel Websper	Mark O'Sullivan
Seconder 1:	Patrick Rotheram	Nigel Sherwen	Colin Clark
Seconder 2:	Adrian Pilbeam	Paul Dowling	Morny Davison

In the absence of any other valid nominations he declared the nominees duly elected.

**b) Appointment of Officers**

**i) Treasurer:** The Chairman reported that Stephen Little had admirably served in this office for the maximum period of six years. The impending vacancy had been highlighted on several occasions during the year but unfortunate circumstances had prevented a valid nomination for Treasurer in accord with our constitution,

Since the close of nominations Neil Barnes, who recently came to live on Sion Hill, had been introduced as a potential Treasurer and was invited to speak. Neil explained that he was not a professional accountant but had experience of keeping accounts for small businesses and charities. He enjoyed the friendliness of his neighbours, the sense of community in Bath and what he had learned about FoBRA; consequently he was willing to undertake the role if Members wished, adding that he had recently joined the Lansdown Crescent Association.

**It was agreed that Neil Barnes be co-opted to the Executive to act as Treasurer** on the understanding that there would have to be an election at the following AGM.

**ii) Secretary:** Barry Henderson had been appointed in the Autumn and the Chairman proposed his re-appointment for the coming year. This was agreed without dissent

There being no other business the meeting was closed – for drinks and nibbles.

Signed Barry Henderson, Secretary 17 May 2015