

## ACTION NOTES FROM BERA COMMITTEE ZOOMMEETING on 2 February 2022

Those (virtually) present: Charles Draper (Chair), Danielle Sellwood, Francoise Pace, Alasdair Barron, Ric Jerrom, Mark Thurstain, Nola Wright, Sally Galsworthy, Amie Berkovitch, Wendy Powney.

Also present for all except the last part of the meeting: Councillor Manda Rigby, Councillor Yukteshwar Kumar.

Apologies: Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers, John Mudford.

1. Manda would continue to press for a project update on Sydney Gardens.
2. The Swift project letter had garnered offers of help, some money, and some swift boxes, and Alasdair was building a team.
3. There had been a useful meeting that morning between the CPINS and the Council Deputy Leader, Cllr Richard Samuel. Richard said he would seek a meeting with the CPT and press on them the need for a meeting between CPT, CPINS, and any potential operator before any contract was signed.
4. Danielle, assisted by Mark, gave a presentation (slides attached) on the severe riverbank erosion made visible by the undercutting of trees by the riverside flats, and also further upstream, including by the Cleveland Pools. The evidence suggested that this was caused by speeding tourist boats. There were also safety and pollution issues. The underlying cause was a lack of regulation, and no policing of the regulation that did exist. There was no easy or quick solution, but the establishment of a Navigation authority would enable these issues to be addressed in the round. It should be possible to enlist allies such as affected local businesses. We thanked Danielle and Mark for this very helpful presentation, and agreed that BERA would support the efforts to find a solution. The obvious first step was for Danielle to seek a speaking slot at the Council Meeting on 15 February which was expected to have some river issues on the agenda. Manda would help facilitate this. This should be a good opportunity to raise awareness at this level as a start. Charles would do likewise with FoBRA in due course.
5. Wendy reported that the Collectiv system for collecting membership fees was working well. We now had about 80 members. The handover of banking arrangements was happening, but the banks were being slow. Wendy was thanked for her work on this. We agreed that we would apply a common-sense approach on authorising expenditure. Any major proposal would require committee approval. Routine small items of a few £10s Wendy would authorise herself. For larger amounts or cases of doubt she would check with Charles first.
6. We agreed we would aim to hold our AGM as a live event (subject to any covid related developments) at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20 April at 7.30 pm in St John's Church Hall. Wendy would book the hall, ascertain their current covid rules, and advise on the covid related rules we should apply. There would need to be a setting up party from 7.00 pm. In addition to the standard AGM items of Chairman's Report, Audited Accounts, and Committee elections, we would have items on River Erosion (Danielle); Swifts (Alasdair); the

case for an Estate Defibrillator (Manda to provide a speaker); and introduction of our new beat PCSO if she is available (Amie to check and invite her if available). Members would also be encouraged to propose topics, particularly if it was an offer to do something. We would do a whole Estate leaflet drop to those households where no-one had already joined. The leaflet content would essentially consist of Charles' invitation to join BERA on one side and our usual AGM leaflet format on the other in our usual bright yellow. Those members not on email would just need the leaflet element. Charles would consult on the draft, and organise the printing and distribution to street reps. He would invite existing members to attend by email.

7. All current committee members were willing to stand for the election. There were no new candidates for the Chairman role. Charles said he was willing to stand and serve for one more year, but would then stand down (from the Committee as well).

8. Next Meeting – Wednesday 23 March.

CD 03/02/2022