

ACTION NOTES FROM BERA COMMITTEE ZOOMMEETING ON 13 May 2021

Those (virtually) present: Charles Draper (Chair), Nola Wright, Sally Galsworthy, Alasdair Barron, Françoise Pace; Fiona Carnie – first two items only.

Councillors Manda Rigby and Yuktेशwar Kumar.

Apologies: Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers, John Mudford, Ric Jerrom, Amie Berkovitch, Wendy Powney.

1. Valerie Hayward had resigned from the committee. Charles had thanked her for her many years of service.

2. The Bathwick Estate Community day devised and being organised by Fiona would be on Saturday 24 July in the afternoon to have the best chance of including families with children before they went off on holiday. The activities would take place in front of people's houses around the Estate. The range would be as wide as practicable to maximise inclusivity. Options would include arts, crafts, plants, food, games, or just a chat. Fiona would revise her flier and would liaise with Charles to finalise it. It would then be distributed electronically via Estate mailing lists and WhatsApp groups. The flier would ask people to let Fiona know if they planned to do anything and what it would be. Fiona would then produce a list of what was planned on the estate; Charles would help turn it into a map, which would also be distributed electronically. This would be an experiment, and we would keep it simple.

3. The AGM by Zoom had worked reasonably well, though it would be better to meet physically. We would need a more effective way of counting votes if we did it that way again.

4. We congratulated Manda on her appointment as Cabinet Secretary for Transport. Her responsibility list was different to her predecessor and was set out on the Council website. It would occupy quite a lot of Manda's time, but she would focus on the main priorities. She would no longer be chair of the licensing committee or a member of the planning committee. This would free up time, and also make it easier to offer local advice on such issues. Overall, she hoped to be as involved in Estate business as now.

5. We would comment on the Council's proposed new Residents' Parking scheme that we would support the move to 7 day a week charging, mainly because of the extra parking that the Cleveland Pools would bring once open.

6. The AGM debate on a possible one-way scheme for Forester Avenue was interesting, and the historical material that Peter Wallis had dug out was useful. Manda advised that if we wanted to propose such a scheme we would need to undertake an informal local survey of all streets effected and get a 75% positive response. That could then trigger a more in- depth study by the Council and formal consultation on the proposal. The study itself would require money and none was available in the current financial year. The choice of whether to pursue this or not really lay with Sally and the interested Forester Avenue residents. It was likely to lie in abeyance at least until next winter.

7. It was very disappointing to say the least that Alasdair's tree project had not even been considered for the Shining Light Awards just announced despite the comprehensive application submitted. Those running the scheme appeared to have applied hidden criteria to exclude it. This was not acceptable; Charles and Manda were pursuing the matter with those responsible.

8. The recent correspondence about BERA roles had been useful. It was hard to get enough volunteers to take over existing roles or important new ones. It might be easier if we structured some as self- contained projects, which new individuals might be willing to take on when they were unwilling to get involved in the generality of BERA business.

9. Next Meeting – Wed 7 July

CD 14/05/2021