

THE FRIENDS OF PALMEIRA AND ADELAIDE
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

THE 22nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will take place at The Cornerstone Centre at 6pm on Saturday 12th January 2019

**IT WILL GREATLY HELP IF YOU COULD LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING
IF ATTENDING PLEASE PRINT THESE FOUR PAGES AND BRING WITH YOU
TO REDUCE COSTS AS HARD COPIES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING**

**The Meeting will be followed by the FOPA Annual Party
6.30 to 8.30pm**

AGENDA

- 1) Minutes of the 21st AGM (see below)
- 2) Comments on the Annual Report (see below)
- 3) Agreement of the Annual Accounts (see below)
- 4) Election of the Committee for 2019

The following Committee members have agreed to remain:

Peter Jukes (Chairman)	
Sue Hitching (Treasurer and Membership Secretary)	
Trish Thompson	David Sewell
David Ward	Frank Inglis
David Ryan	Rory Connelly

If no objections are received all will be elected by block vote.

The Committee welcomes new ideas and help with its work.

We are urgently seeking a new Secretary as highlighted in the Annual Report below.

If any members would like to join the Committee please contact us before 31st Dec 2018
by writing to: info@fopa.co.uk

Minutes of the 21st AGM

If you have any objection to the content, please contact us by 31st Dec at info@fopa.co.uk

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

at the Cornerstone Centre, Saturday, 15 January 2018 at 6pm

Present	In the chair:	Susan Hitching (Item 3 only) (SH) Peter Jukes (Item 4 onwards) (PJ)
	Committee:	Rory Connelly David Ryan David Sewell Trish Thompson David Ward Frank Inglis
	Note taker :	Brian Phillpott

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Ollie Sykes
2. With an attendance of thirty-one, including those on the Committee, the meeting was confirmed by the note taker as Quorate.
3. The Agenda, Minutes of the previous AGM, the Annual Accounts and the Chairman's Annual Report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

4. **PROCEEDINGS**

4.1 **Appointment of the new Chair**

SH reported that subsequent to the request at the last AGM for a volunteer for the role of Chair of FOPA, Peter Jukes (PJ) had offered to undertake the role and had been doing so on an acting basis since March 2017. It was necessary to formally recognise that position, and proposed PJ's appointment, seconded by Frank Inglis. The appointment of PJ as Chairman of FOPA was adopted by acclamation. PJ thanked those present for their support and SH in particular for her work in the interim.

4.2 Minutes of the 20th AGM of FOPA held at the Cornerstone Centre at 11.30am on Saturday 14th January 2017 were presented by PJ and adopted by acclamation.

4.3 The Annual Report for 2017 was presented by PJ and adopted by acclamation.

4.4 The Annual Accounts for 2017 were presented and adopted by acclamation. PJ thanked SH for her work in maintaining and preparing the accounts and Tim Kirkup for auditing the Annual Accounts.

4.5 **Appointment of the Committee Members**

PJ proposed that Rory Connelly, Frank Inglis, David Ryan, David Sewell, Trish Thompson and David Ward as Committee Members . Each was willing to continue in office. PJ proposed a block vote for all the members. This was seconded by David Tillson and adopted by acclamation.

5. **Questions**

PJ invited questions from the floor on the Annual Report and Accounts. David Tillson (DT) said he wanted to bring to the notice of the meeting the continuing poor service offered by Cityclean in respect of the re-cycling. DT stated that he had today, witness a recycling operative ignoring the recycling left out by a resident. DT then asked if there was any to update to that in the Annual Report.

PJ commented that in previous years Cityclean had circulated residents with the details of the refuse and recycling arrangements for Christmas and New Year. He was not aware that this had happened this year. PJ said he would ensure this matter was raised at the next LAT meeting which David Sewell and David Ward attend.

SH updated the meeting with the current position on the installation of communal refuse and recycling bins in the Square and Crescent. Councillor Phelim MacCafferty had sent a formal complaint to the Executive Director of Environmental Services on 20th December 2017 about the failed promises by Cityclean to initiate the new service since March 2017. He was awaiting a response.

6. In closing the meeting PJ said that he wished to thank Richard Hawkes and Frank Inglis for their support. PJ stated that FOPA recognised the hard work of Susan Hunter, the previous Chair and made a presentation to her. PJ also made a presentation to Balint Bodroghy, for his work over many years as note taker, to Tim Kirkup for auditing the Annual Accounts, and to David Ryan and Simon Asplin for building the new FOPA website and for maintaining it.

7. The business of the meeting being completed, the meeting concluded at 6.15pm. The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday 22nd January 2018.

Annual Report for 2018

This is the Report of the work of the Fopa Committee on behalf of residents in 2018 .

After what is now nearly 2 years in this Chair I am ever more conscious of the constant, almost daily interventions on our collective behalf by the individual members of the Committee who each have particular areas of interest which they pursue independently and conscientiously. As chairman I am particularly dependant on the Treasurer/Membership Secretary but of notable benefit to the residents of Palmeira and Adelaide as a whole are those who beaver away constantly, quietly resolving numerous day to day issues in varied contexts such as anti-social behaviour, rough sleeping, substance abuse, graffiti, garden maintenance, heritage issues and web-site management.

In the last 12 months two committee members have continued to represent our interests at regular meetings of the Brunswick Town Association which brings together community representatives of all the adjacent Heritage areas in this part of Hove and two others also attend the regular meetings of the Local Action Team which provides a valuable interface across those same areas, with appropriate parts of the City Council, the Police and our Ward Councillors Ollie Sykes and Phelim MacCafferty (who are unfailingly available and supportive).

A major development in the last 12 months has of course been the introduction of communal bins in place of house collections. After a protracted consultation process involving repeated meetings and discussions with CityClean and after several false starts the new bins eventually arrived in March, positioned on the cross-over road between the two gardens, apart from glass recycling sited separately on Kings Rd. Some "tweaking" has inevitably been required eg on the exact positioning of the bins and to deal with missed collections. The latter instances have occurred principally when there has been a city-wide hiatus of some sort. It is encouraging that so far at least, there has been very little fly-tipping around our bins compared with other parts of the city. The communal bins are undoubtedly here to stay, so it is up to all residents to deal with the situation as realistically and constructively as we can, to make it work for us all.

Two specific areas of committee activity this year are worthy of special mention. Our member who concentrates on Heritage issues worked extremely hard to secure Council funding and manpower to repair the Listed retaining wall across the south end of Adelaide Garden. This work was successfully completed, meriting our congratulations and thanks. A Phase 2 programme was quickly instituted by him to go beyond repair to long-term consolidation; a complex and time-consuming further funding application was prepared and submitted but unfortunately failed at the last hurdle, having been overwhelmed by applications exceeded funding five times over. Alternative funding sources are now being explored for the longer term. Of course, on a lesser scale, effort is constantly put in by individual committee members to relatively mundane but nevertheless essential activities such as replacing damaged kerbstones, renewing street lighting, and removing graffiti and abandoned bicycles, each action representing a small but essential part of maintaining the heritage environment we all enjoy and cherish. Without Fopa these issues would be left unaddressed and our environment would quickly suffer. The second major area of activity in 2018 has been to utilise Fopa funds to undertake two significant planting programmes in Palmeira Garden under the oversight of our gardening member, first in respect of a worthwhile number of shrubs planted in several beds in the Spring and second, the purchase and planting of three 12 ft oaks in the NE border in November. The latter of course represent a real long-term legacy to benefit not just us but generations of future residents. This expenditure of our own funds necessarily recognises the reduced Council funding which is now available in this context but it nevertheless remains vital that we work collaboratively with our dedicated Council gardener (who also has responsibility for several other City garden areas) with whom we have a constructive relationship for our mutual benefit.

As I hope you all know, we have an accessible and regularly updated website at www.fopa.co.uk so please do utilise that to keep yourself informed and to justify the considerable effort put into it by the dedicated committee member (a professional web engineer who, as a fellow-resident, kindly provides his services to us without charge).

A possibility aired in last year's report was the re-introduction after several years, of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. This was examined in detail by two members of the committee but led to the conclusion that on several grounds including cost and heritage issues, it is not a practicable proposition in Palmeira and Adelaide, so we are not pursuing it, at least for the moment.

As I said last year, we are always looking for new blood to refresh the committee so please chat to one of us if you feel this not demanding but sociable and rewarding local involvement would interest you. That said, there is an area of immediate and particularly critical need I earnestly ask every member to consider, the post of Secretary having been vacant for over a year. This is a vital but certainly not onerous administrative role, principally to process our committee meetings which are only 3 times a year, the AGM and occasional routine e-mails. Filling this post is an urgent need if the Fopa committee can continue and I earnestly urge every member to consider whether he/she could assist us; it would be an invaluable, practical way of taking part and contributing to your community. Please do have a chat with me if you think it is a possibility.

As you know, the 2018 AGM in the Cornerstone at 6pm on 12 Jan is again being immediately followed on the same evening by our Annual Party, an opportunity for FOPA members to mingle informally with a glass or two and some small eats (kindly organised by Committee member Frank Inglis) - and to have a chat about the role of Secretary ? !- all for the very modest charge of £10pp (payable in advance via party@fopa.co.uk or on the door); I do hope you will attend for both parts of the evening and I look forward to seeing you there.

PETER JUKES
Chairman

FOPA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2018

Income and Expenditure 1.12.17 - 31.12.18 (cut off 30.11.18)

INCOME	
Donations 2018	£ 150 .00
Christmas party and raffle 2018	£ 559.00
Bank Interest - Police Property Fund	(£ 0.53)
TOTAL INCOME	£ 709.00

EXPENDITURE	
AGM and Christmas Party 2018	£ 248.17
Water Supply Palmeira Square gardens (Business Stream)	£ 39.72
Meetings (Cornerstone - room hire January, June and October)	£ 66.00
Purchase of three Quercus trees for Palmeira Square Gardens	£ 278.05
Purchase of Plants/shrubs	£ 276.06
Donations (Brunswick in Bloom, etc)	£ 80.00
UK2 webhosting	£ 122.44
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£1,110.44

EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	-£401.44
--------------------------------	-----------------

BANK ACCOUNTS	As at 30.11.17	As at 30.11.18
HSBC - Current Account	£ 699.04	£ 547.60
HSBC - Police Property Fund	£ 525.73	£ 276.20*
TOTAL FUNDS	£ 1,224.77	£ 823.80

*(Internal transfer of £250 from Police Property fund to Current Account)

Sue Hitching, Treasurer and Membership Secretary
8th December 2018