



Annual General Meeting on
Thursday 14 March 2013.
7.15pm - Eastney Community Centre

Minutes

Present:

1. John Holland	Chair
2. Roger Inkpen	Treasurer
3. Tim Parker	
4. Joe McGannan	Membership Sec
5. Mike Dobson	
6. Jon Spencer	Vice-chair/CTC Rep
7. Chris Cheetham	
8. Steve Franklin	
9. David Brown	
10. Genna Handley	Sustrans
11. Sue Cottrell	
12. Jay Dunstan	Greenpeace/Fratton Big Local
13. Phil Coombe	Friends of the Earth
14. Walter Sodeau	
15. Cllr Jason Fazackarley	

Invited guest: Councillor Jason Fazackarley: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Traffic and Transportation.

1. Welcome and introduction by the Chairman.

John Holland welcomed everyone to the Annual General meeting.

He particularly welcomed Councillor Jason Fazackarley: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Traffic and Transportation.

2. John introduced a short film by former Olympic cycling champion Chris Boardman highlighting the poor design of cycling infrastructure. He also summarised the Mayor of London's cycling strategy, and asked rhetorically is Portsmouth could aspire to something similar!

3. Apologies for absence: Hilary Reed, Jayne Rodgers, Pam Wilkie

4. Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 8 March 2012: They were approved.

Proposed: Roger Inkpen Seconded: Jon Spencer

5. Matters arising from last AGM: None.

6. Chairman's Report 2012/13: The full text is published on the PCF website. John highlighted:

Campaigns

- The Times Safer Cycling Cities campaign and our members' contributions.
- 20 mph zones: Jon Spencer has written to Hampshire Police and, after initially being informed that they follow national ACPO guidance to NOT enforce the limit, was given a figure of 251 prosecutions since their introduction. The 20's Plenty campaign have also taken this issue to the Parliamentary inquiry on cycling. He is also awaiting a response from the newly-elected Police Commissioner.



- John also highlighted work to improve conditions for cyclists during roadworks on Winston Churchill Avenue and Northern Road Bridge in Cosham.
- Mike Dobson has been working tirelessly on encouraging the developers at Lakeside in Northarbour to make the road layout safer for cyclists.
- Good news is that the Shipwrights Way cycling and walking route will be marked out across Southsea Common, but this still leaves the dangerous echelon parking on Clarence Esplanade.

Community Cycle Centre

PCF has a thriving project which meets each Saturday at the Stacey Centre. In order to give it legal status the process of becoming a Community Interest Company, a form of co-operative, is nearing completion.

Meetings, Rides and Events

We cannot continue meeting at the Guildhall, because they have introduced charges for community groups. This has allowed us to move to different venues around the city. We have a popular social ride the last Sunday of every month, thanks to Jayne for planning the routes.

We exchange information and we have welcomed diverse speakers on Air Quality

Membership

There has been a small increase in full members this year, but the Facebook group has become the focus for discussion and activity. We welcome more members, especially those wanting to become active.

The Committee

A great deal of work takes place behind the scenes due entirely to the hard-working committee and officers of the Forum. After 6 years as Chair, John has decided to step down.

Conclusion

John noted that Portsmouth is probably 'average' for its provision for cycling, but there are some cities with a more go ahead attitude. Without a figurehead such as Boris Johnson as Mayor of London, cycling will remain a lower priority to traffic flows and car parking.

7. Treasurer's report and accounts: PCF and CCC

Roger presented the detailed accounts of both section of the Forum. These can be found on the website. There were no questions. The meeting approved them:

Proposed: Walter Sodeau

Seconded: Jon Spencer

8. Proposed Changes to Constitution: no change

9. Elections:

John has stepped down as Chair and he asked for any nominations for his replacement.

Chairman: Jon Spencer was the only candidate.

Proposed: John Holland

Seconded: Steve Franklin

Jon Spencer was unanimously elected.



Vice-chairman: Hilary Reed was the only nomination. She was unanimously elected.

Proposed: John Holland Seconded: Joe McGannan

Secretary: Pam Wilkie was the only nomination. She was unanimously elected.

Proposed: Tim Parker Seconded: Chris Cheetham

Treasurer: Roger Inkpen was the only nomination. He was unanimously elected.

Proposed: Chris Cheetham Seconded: Tim Parker

10. Committee members: The following were sole nominations and unanimously elected en bloc:

Chris Cheetham
Jayne Rodgers
John Holland
Joe McGannan
Steve Franklin
Mike Dobson
Tim Parker

Proposed: Roger Inkpen Seconded: Jon Spencer

11. Local Sustainability Transport Fund - update by Jon Spencer:

Jon and others have had meetings with Hayley Chivers, project manager for LSTF at Portsmouth City Council. Amongst issues discussed:

- Waymarking for walking and cycling
- Cycle parking
- Central cycle hubs for secure storage, repairs, bike hire

Portsmouth Cycle Forum is a consultation stakeholder but it seems city engineers still go ahead with designs without consulting us, or giving sufficient time for feedback.

Genna Handley from Sustrans gave an overview of her work as Active Travel Officer for Portsmouth's LSTF team. She is working on promoting:

- Workshops to get community groups involved
- Dr Bike sessions around the city
- Subsidised cycle training
- Bike maintenance training sessions
- Workplaces - increasing bike parking, other cyclist-related facilities

12. Infrastructure - Mike Dobson

Mike gave a pared down overview of infrastructure campaigns. He made the point that the LSTF should be about promoting behavioural change. For instance, the Northern Road Bridge works have stopped cycling over the bridge, although pedestrians, taxis and buses are allowed. Also, the one way system in Cosham High Street works against cyclists - we can only hope it is not permanent. However, the provision for cycling on the replacement bridge look positive, and the project manager, himself a cyclist, wants to work with us to provide a safe, convenient layout.

Jason Fazackarley answered some of the points about 'lack of will' at the council. There has been a long-term view that priority should be given to the car, a culture which is difficult to change. Two key posts are also waiting to be filled in T+T. He agreed that traffic lights not giving sufficient time to cyclists, or even detecting them, needs to be fixed, but lights are being upgraded.



He agreed to carry out a traffic light survey with PCF in May. It is important to report problems to the City helpdesk and local councillors.

13. Forthcoming events: John referred to the next few cycle rides, details on the Events page of the website.
14. AOB and Open Forum: Jay Dunstan from Fratton Big Local highlighted the project, which has £1 million from the Lottery to benefit the Fratton area, and encouraged anyone interested to get involved.
15. Dates of Future Meetings: 9 May, 11 July, 12 September, 14 November
16. Close: The Chair thanked all for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm