

Christ's Pieces Residents' Association

Minutes of the AGM of 18 July 2011 held in the Unitarian Church, Emmanuel Road at 7.30 p.m.

Present: committee members Margaret Tait (chair), Anthony Bowen, Nick McCave, Sue Ilesley, Edward Cearns and Jeff Lygoe, Cllrs Tim Bick, Andrea Reiner, Colin Rosenstiel and Sarah Whitebread, some twenty members, and three members by invitation of the Brunswick and North Kite Residents' Association.

1. MT welcomed all present, explaining that the agenda was ordered to let the councillors get away betimes to another meeting.
2. Parking in the Kite MT detailed the increase in issue of permits and visitors' permits, and urged those perceiving abuse, especially of visitors' permits, to inform the County Council officer in charge, Graham Lowe. SW supported her in this, noting that while owners of new dwellings will not have permits, their visitors will. CR said a proposal on some streets used at nights would go to the next West/Central area committee in August. It was suggested that weekend parking should be limited to residents (visitors could use carparks); it was suggested (and resisted) that charges for visitors should be raised; a taxi nuisance opposite the Vet's was noted; the incidence of double and single yellow lines was thought historical, not logical.
3. 20mph speed limit in City centre The trial period was over; the new Chief Constable wanted the limit enforced. Signage was being reviewed; more clarity was needed, especially at all points of entry; roundels on the road (as in Mill Rd) would help. SW would discuss funding with the Cabinet member. Speeds were both up and down; surveys omitted night use.
4. John Lawton, co-chair of BruNK, was invited to introduce Community Speedwatch, a police initiative; John Fuller at Parkside Police Station could supply the equipment. JL showed it in action. Two or three volunteers were needed per column of traffic, counting cars and taking the numbers of those speeding; 20 to 40% were reckoned to be doing over 24mph. BruNK were anxious to spread both the scheme and awareness of it in the city. Bus and taxi drivers in particular should be actively aware of the limit.
5. Minutes of the AGM of June 2010 were approved.
6. Funds of £154.39 were reported.
7. MT's chair's report covered the ten years of CPRA's existence. She noted its birth, to resist a proposal for a taxi rank in Emmanuel Road (successful), and its subsequent resistance to a proposal for a bus station extended on to Christ's Pieces (successful), both for the guided bus and for the other buses. The guided bus problem went to a public inquiry, at which CPRA made representations about its unanalysed impact on town centre streets (alas, unsuccessful). The steady support of the City Council against an extended

bus station was vitally important. The children's playground had been revamped, shrubbery cut back and druggies dispersed (thanks to local orders, renewed).

8. A questionnaire was circulated: was CPRA the right name, what about the website, etc. (When the questionnaires were studied after the meeting, 50% had opted for the present name to remain. Two other suggestions received 25% each.)
9. There was a new police team for the city centre, to work especially at nights and weekends, to deal with cycle crime, violence and drugs.
10. New street signs were planned.
11. MT commended the City Council's website, for its ease of access and clarity and helpfulness of information. Its first page was available at the back of the hall.
12. Re-elected to serve on the committee were MT, AB, EC, SI, JL, NMCC, and Susan Brown and Andrew Whittaker.

AOB The street party to celebrate ten years of CPRA, held on 9 July in Orchard Street, was appreciated by those who came (some 40 to 50), but publicity for it and for other things was thought weak by some (despite delivery by hand by members of the committee of literature mentioning it and other items to all doors in the area): would an email distribution help? SW mentioned the local councillors' email bulletin, timed to alert people to area committee meetings (and not party political); 'Open forum' there was a chance to speak of concerns not on the agenda. The proposed development at the Maltings (now for 10 units, not 14) was a continuing battle; CPRA was thanked for writing in support of the protesters, two of whom spoke and provided literature. The meeting closed at c. 9.0 p.m. Many members stayed for refreshments and conversation.

Margaret Tait (chair)