

FITZROVIA WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 13 OCTOBER 2022
THE SAINSBURY WELLCOME CENTRE HOWLAND STREET
MINUTES

Chair: Julia Haythorn

Apologies: Walid Sheikh, Dee Corsi, Jessica Toale, Paul Fisher

The meeting was inquorate

1. The minutes of the previous AGM were agreed.
2. It was agreed that the meeting could proceed despite more than 14 months having elapsed since the previous AGM.
3. Community Infrastructure Levy ("CIL"). Julia gave an overview of the present system. The following reports and presentations were given on potential and actual CIL projects:
 - a. Carwen, a teacher at All Soul's School presented a plan for the renovation and replacement of the multi-purpose playground including a vegetable garden, a quiet place, tactile areas and sports areas. There is no other funding yet available.
 - b. Jordan Scammel, of the University of Westminster, presented the history and details of the renovation of the Soho Poly theatre which is being funded by CIL and others including the University, Derwent, Shaftesbury and Garfield Weston. It will open in March 2023. There are plans for a second phase involving an exhibition space/workshop/overflow auditorium on the upper floor.

- c. Gwilym Harbottle reported that the New Cavendish planters scheme was progressing slowly but that plans had been approved and it was hoped to be able to plant by the end of Spring 2023. More volunteers are welcome.
 - d. Denise Julien reported that the Carburton Street greening project is progressing well and residents have adopted individual plants.
 - e. Yoram Blumann reported on efforts to rejuvenate the Market Place plan which could not be progressed because the Oxford Street District plans were abandoned. A new committee, which includes representatives of almost all the property owners in the area, has been established with the help of the Langham Estate to update the previous plans.
4. Accounts. Yoram Blumann presented the accounts. There were no observations or comments.
5. Elections to the executive. Nick Bailey and Barbara Corr were re-elected and Dee Corsi of New West End Company and Denise Julian were elected.
6. Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg, Cabinet Member for City Management and Air Quality gave an account of his extensive responsibilities and plans. A waste action squad will develop a plan with residents for dealing with around 100 dumping hotspots. Air quality monitoring is patchy and will be improved. Emissions from the hospitality sector will be tackled. The Council will work on strategic cycling routes, cycling infrastructure and dumped e-bikes. Traffic will continue to be reduced. School streets and greening projects will be supported, with greater contributions from landowners. Consolidation of waste collection is on the agenda and the Westminster will have an all electric fleet. Comments included:
- a. Catherine Jenkins of Placemaking: there is a need for administrative and communications support from the council for Neighbourhood Forums.

- b. Mark Gazaleh. There is a need for data on air quality - could be funded by neighbourhood CIL. Cllr Dimoldenberg emphasised the need for data compatibility and advised Forums to get in touch with Adam Webber, the relevant Westminster officer.
7. Future CIL projects. Julia invited all present to submit any ideas or suggestions for CIL projects, which can be sent in at any time.

19.10.22