

Minutes of TRESAcic General Meeting held on 16.12.08 at 7.30pm at 31 Stevens Crescent

Present: Suzanne Audrey (Chair), Ed Bramall, Colin Bird, Adrienne Neathey, Catherine Mazza, Mark Fletcher, Luke MacFadyen, Alan Critchard, Janine Derry, Allan Keen, Sue Beale, Martyn Trowbridge, Lou Campbell, Julian Noble, Geoff Davis, Patrick Hulme.

Apologies: Alice Pollet, Anne Silber, Jonathan Wright.

1. Welcome and introductions

Suzanne welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes were agreed, with the following matters arising:

- Bath Road e-petition – number of signatures increasing but please encourage others.
- Talk of Totterdown – many thanks to Richard Jones and Jonathan Wright for all their work on previous editions, and to Lou for producing the latest edition and agreeing to take over editor role. It was agreed that a PC would be purchased out of money raised through cookbook sales, which the editor could use in future.
- Committee – thanks to Catherine, who has resigned from the committee in order to go travelling. It was agreed that Lou would fill the vacancy.
- Website – Allan has taken on the role of web editor. Please send updates, information, stories and photos to him.

3. ‘Call for development sites’ consultation

The City Council is asking local communities to put forward suggestions for vacant sites and buildings that could be developed in the future. As there are many different opinions about this, it was agreed that Totterdown residents should be encouraged to make their own submissions.

4. Paintworks phase 3 development plans

Geoff reported on the meeting at Paintworks he had attended on behalf of TRESA. Phase 3 entails substantial development of the east of the site, with a mix of housing and Paintworks-style light industry. The development will look different to the rest of the site, and will be built on a ‘deck’. While it could be very positive in terms of jobs and housing there are also risks relating to the precise nature of the development and whether it triggers further, unsustainable, development in the area. Following the meeting, Geoff had submitted some initial comments, agreed with Suzanne, along these lines.

It was agreed, in principle, to support the development although there are possible concerns about density, absence of design detail, and the seeming lack of a strategy for the wider area. Geoff will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates. It was also felt it would be a good idea to invite representatives of Paintworks to the February general meeting.

5. School Road Park project update

Ed read out the update provided by Alice. Some of the seating has been built and installed by local volunteers, with more planned for the spring. The outer fencing will be replaced

some time in 2009, and the stones will be moved in March. All the ground has been seeded or turfed, but it will take until the spring for the ground to fully recover. A community sign is being installed in January. Planting of a butterfly and bee border with Avon Wildlife Trust will take place at the end of March. New sand is being delivered to 'top up' the sand, which TRESA felt was not of high enough quality to be considered 'play sand'. Oak sculptures, designed by Hillcrest School, are being installed next week. There are also plans to install another new bin, a small football goal and a willow structure next year.

Julian reported that he is making enquiries with the City Council about tree planting in the park, but has not received a response.

6. Members' concerns

- Martyn said that there has been a lot of flytipping, but he has reported this to the City Council, which is dealing with the problems.
- Adrienne explained the location of the plastic bottle bank is unsatisfactory as there is a slippery slope in front of it. Suzanne agreed to raise this with the City Council, and enquire about the possibility of having a Tetrapak collection point as well.
- Colin asked why the bushes had been cut so harshly on Zone N. Suzanne reported that she had asked Mark Bailey who said it was just because they had been left for too long and that they would grow back in the spring.
- Julian reported that the new road surface on Park Street is especially slippery in icy weather, which has led to a number of incidents. Suzanne will speak to the City Council.
- A planning application has been submitted to convert the empty shop unit next to Fig One into residential use, despite the fact that there has been commercial interest in the site. It was agreed that TRESA and TRESA members should make objections, as it is important for the street's regeneration that the rank of shops is retained.

7. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer has updated all of the accounts, and TRESA's finances are currently healthy. The lottery grant for School Road Park has been fully assigned. £2500 has been raised through the sale of cookbooks, which means over £1000 of unrestricted funds are available.

8. Membership Secretary's report

122 members are paid, and 57 are unpaid. All members will get a reminder in January.

9. Any other business

- Volunteers were sought for the Treasurer and Membership Secretary posts on the committee, which will become vacant shortly. Patrick agreed to think about becoming Membership Secretary.

10. Date of next general meeting

Tuesday 17 February, 7.30pm upstairs at the Star and Dove.