

Draft Minutes of HRA Committee Meeting
Held on 8th October 2018
At Highfield House Hotel

Present. Jerry Gillen, Chris Klewe, Steven Johnston, Stephen Connolly, Nadine Johnson, Nicolla Martin, James Burgess, Adrian Vinson.
Attending. Councillor Matthew Claisse, Councillor John Savage, Sarah Watts, (SU), Nick Bacon, Dave White, Graham Linecar.
Apologies. Jill Baston, Roger Brown, Councillor Lisa Mitchell, Police representatives. Bryan Wakeley, Jon Walsh, Ken Burtenshaw

1. Welcome, declaration of interests.

The Chair welcomed everyone, including Ward Councillors Mathew Claisse & John Savage.

2. The minutes of the meeting on 10th September were approved.

3. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. University Liaison.

Sarah Watts gave an update on University affairs and presented details of a new recycling scheme to encourage students to recycle correctly. To aid this, the University is distributing dedicated recycling bags for each student household and a number were handed out to members. Sarah announced that Southampton University was now in the top 20 for the UK and top 100 in the world rankings. The current Vice Chancellor is to retire next year and the process of recruiting a new one has been initiated. The new teaching and learning building has been “topped out” and will be called the “Centenary Building”. Salisbury Road is to be resurfaced and generally improved and will be closed to all traffic except buses from 15th October to mid January 2019. The University Nightclub, The Cube, no longer operates, hence the withdrawal of the Marshalling scheme. However Sarah confirmed that they do contribute to policing costs for certain occasions. The new Unilink buses are to European standard 6 and produce very little pollution.

5. Reports.

Finance. The Chair emphasised the need to find a new Treasurer asap due to the indisposition of both the Association’s accountant and our Assistant Treasurer. Discussion took place about the possibility of sharing the workload. The Chair hoped we might find new volunteers when the pre Xmas Newsletter goes out for both a new Treasurer and Chairman.

Membership.

Nicolla Martin reported as follows:-

Data base records	470
Paid up total	389
Rolling total	329

Planning.

In the absence of the Secretary, the Chair presented her report on a number of outstanding applications. For details please go to our website. Jerry also asked both Ward Councillors for help in ascertaining the latest position for a number of long outstanding Enforcements; e.g. 5 Crofton, 8 Westridge, 12 Russell Place, all the subject of recent legal actions having to be brought by the Association.

Website and Newsletter.

Nadine reported it is being upgraded for access by Mobiles and Tablets

A PreChristmas Newsletter is to be published and is being collated by Steve Johnson, Nadine and Nicolla. Articles and suggestions welcomed. An article from the University outlining the result of their recent consultations would be much appreciated.

7. AOB

Portswood Library will be closed for refurbishment from 29th October to 17th November.

Steve Connolly raised his concern at the recent accidents at the junction of Winn Road and the Avenue. He suggested that right turns onto the Avenue should be prohibited.

The Chair reminded members of the NS Community Forum AGM being held next week, Wed 17th Oct, at the Highfield House Hotel which is being attended by a Senior member of the Planning Team, as well as other Speakers.

8. Next meeting on 10th November 2018

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

- Recycling project: the University is working with the city council and the Students' Union to distribute bags for storing and sorting household recycling in the kitchen. Bags were handed out to committee members. **(Update: Sarah has sent more information on this project to Nadine)**
- The University launched its new eco-friendly unilink buses in September. These have Euro 6 low-emission engines and meet new Clean Air targets for the city planned for 2019.
- The topping out ceremony for the new teaching and learning centre on Salisbury Road has been held. The new building will be named the Centenary Building as it will open in 2019, which marks the one hundredth anniversary of the Highfield Campus being in continuous use.
- In 2019 we will have a range of initiatives to mark the anniversary. The University first moved to Highfield in June 1914 but left six weeks later at the outbreak of WW1. The campus was given to the war office for use as a war hospital, which it remained until the end of the war. The (then) University College of Southampton moved in properly in 1919.
- An exhibition of the University's car park proposals, originally mentioned in their Estate Framework exhibition in June, will take place soon. **(Update: invitations will go out shortly for this. Planned dates are 29 and 30 October from 1pm to 7pm in the Hartley Suite, Staff Social Centre, Building 38, Highfield Campus)**
- The resurfacing of Salisbury Road introducing a shared-space design will start on 15 October and continue until mid-January 2019. The work will take place in stages. The road will be closed to vehicles apart from unilink buses, site traffic and users of the North Gower car park (apart from 10 days in early January when the car park will be closed). **(Update: in response to questions, Sarah has passed on comments about cyclists and pedestrians to the project team and double-checked that during the works cyclists will not be able to use this road as a cycle route. A crossing point will be maintained and some pedestrian access will be available on the North Gower pavement)**
- Pipe replacement work on the campus road, locally known as Admin Road, between Hartley Avenue and University Road will continue in stages for the next few months. Diversions for campus traffic are in place.
- The University's Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Christopher Snowden has announced his retirement next year. The process has started for appointing his successor.
- The next University Open Day was planned for Saturday 13 October.
- The latest university rankings put Southampton in the top 100 in the world and in the top 20 nationally <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/about/reputation.page>

Responses to other questions:

- Graham Linecar asked about what was happening with the feedback on the 10-Year plan exhibition. **Update: Sarah will ask Jon to respond on this on his return.**
- Graham Linecar asked about student involvement in the Common Forum. Sarah responded saying that members of the Common Forum had a stand at the Student Volunteering Fair in Freshers' Week. **Update: Sarah will contact the Students' Union to see whether many students had signed up to help.**