



Annual General Meeting on
Thursday 8 March 2012.

7pm - Meeting Room 1 - Portsmouth Guildhall.

Minutes

Present:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Charles Burns | |
| 2. Chris Cheetham | |
| 3. Chris Davies | |
| 4. Gill Adams | |
| 5. Hilary Reed | Secretary |
| 6. Jayne Rodgers | |
| 7. Joe McGannan | |
| 8. John Holland | Chair |
| 9. Jon Spencer | |
| 10. Mike Dobson | |
| 11. Pam Wilkie | |
| 12. Phil Coombe | |
| 13. Roger Inkpen | Treasurer |
| 14. Steve Franklin | |
| 15. Sue Cottrell | |
| 16. Tim Parker | |
| 17. Troy Hood | |

Invited guests:

Councillor Jason Fazackerley: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Traffic and Transportation.
Councillor Lee Hunt: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Culture, Leisure and Sport.

1. **Welcome and introduction by the Chairman.**

John Holland welcomed everyone to the Annual General meeting.

He particularly welcomed Councillor Jason Fazackerley: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Traffic and Transportation and Councillor Lee Hunt: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Culture, Leisure and Sport.

2. **Apologies for absence:** None.

3. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 10 March 2011:** They were approved.

Proposed: Roger Inkpen

Seconded: Jon Spencer

4. **Matters arising.** None.

5. **Chairman's Report 2011/12:** The full text would be published on the PCF website.
John Holland highlighted:

Campaigns

- James Callaghan Drive on the top of Portsdown Hill.
- Re-marking the parking bays on Clarence Esplanade to comply with current DfT standards.
- Election time hustings.
- PCF manifest sent to all candidates.

Planning: The Forum looks at major planning applications to assess their impact on the highway and to ensure that fair assessment of cyclist's needs and good quality facilities for cyclists and pedestrians are included. E.g.

- Tipner and secured a contingency condition for an alternative route, and exact location of the junction with NCN 2 and Twyford Avenue at the detail planning stage.
- Dame Judith's Professional Centre in Cosham.
- New roundabout at Winston Churchill Avenue.
- Somerstown Hub.
- The redevelopment of the southern side of the St Mary's Hospital site/ off road route.

Infrastructure:

Mike Dobson leads our infrastructure team. He has highlighted examples where cyclist needs have not been fairly and properly assessed and installed as per DfT standard.

Community Cycle Centre

The Forum restarted this at the Stacey Centre in Copnor. PCF has a thriving project which meets each Saturday.

The Community Cycle Centre has the scope to grow into many areas. We are creating a business plan and deciding on the best legal structure.

CTC, Cyclenation and Sustrans

Portsmouth Cycle Forum is an affiliated CTC club which provides us with the necessary 3rd-party liability insurance to attend public events, organise cycle rides and public meetings. CTC represents cyclists at a national level and offers advice and guidance to clubs and members.

Hilary and Jon continue to be the CTC Right to Ride representatives for Portsmouth and Kathy has recently joined their ranks representing the Borough of Gosport.

Cyclenation is a federation of cycle campaign groups. PCF is a member of this organisation. Cyclenation organise Bike Week which takes place this year between 16 and 24 June

Roger is our local **Sustrans** ranger and he has put in many hours of work to way-mark the National Cycle Network routes which pass through our city (NCN 2 and 22).

Meetings, Rides and Events

We continue our **bi-monthly meetings** at the Guildhall. We exchange information and we have welcomed diverse speakers on Air Quality management, The Somerstown Hub, The St Jude's School bike train, the Velo City conference in Seville, the Local sustainable Transport Fund, The Eastern Road Congestion Relief scheme, the Building Cycling Cultures conference in Leicester, the Local Transport Plan, The CTC Cyclenation conference in Sheffield, The new traffic signs regulations.

Jayne created a programme of family **bike rides** throughout the year which have been well supported.

All future rides are published on PCF website and our Facebook page.

We have had stalls at **events** including the St Mary's May Fayre, The Summer fair & Picnic at Victoria Park, Portsmouth Lifeboat Open day. During Bike Week we organised our ever-successful Fish & Chip ride to Portchester.

Membership

The committee has recognised that we need to do something to grow the numbers of those joining and participating in the Forum. Owen and Jayne have started work on this with a membership plan, member benefits (including discounts at bike shops) and a new membership leaflet.

Joe continues to be our stalwart membership secretary.

Finances.

Our finances remain healthy. Roger will be reporting our financial status separately. We decided that the finances for the Community Cycle Centre should be separate from those of the Forum and a separate account was set up by Roger.

The Committee

A great deal of work takes place behind the scenes due entirely to the hard-working committee and officers of the Forum. My thanks go to Hilary, Jayne, Kathy, Jon, Mike, Chris, Joe, Roger and Owen without who this Forum would not function. In order to spread the workload the committee is proposing to increase its numbers by two and this will be the subject of an amendment to the constitution at the AGM.

The Future

Last year's PCC Local Transport Plan saw no money allocated to the development of cycle infrastructure in the city and just a small amount on soft measures. By contrast, traffic lights received a whopping £2million of public money. This year's plan shows some measures for improving way-finding in the city and these depend on the success of a Local Sustainable Transport Fund bid. If we get them they should help visitors and residents to find their way around by bicycle.

We will continue to scrutinise and comment on local and national Government activities in the difficult task of changing the car-centric views and policies.

John thanked the Committee and other volunteers for their most generous support.

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

Roger presented the detailed accounts of both section of the Forum.

There were no questions.

The meeting approved them:

Proposed: H Reed

Seconded: Chris Cheetham

The Treasurer gave notice of a proposal to amend the PCF Constitution at the next PCF Open Meeting as follows:

Changes to Portsmouth Cycle Forum Constitution

4.2 *Change ... additional members from 6 to 8.*

5.1 *Add 'The meeting will be held in March.'*

5.2 *Delete 'Members should be advised seven days prior to the meeting of the notices of motion.'*

5.3 *Delete clause - added to 5.1*

5.4 *Change 5.4 to 5.3*

Add 'If there is a single nomination the election shall be declared by acclamation. If a post is uncontested the executive may co-opt a member at a later date.' [2nd sentence]

5.5 *Change 5.5 to 5.4*

This will be presented for adoption at the next Open Meeting on 10th May 2012.

2 members, Pam Wilkie and Tim Parker are co-opted. They will formally be appointed as full elected Committee members on 10 May.

7. Elections:

The Chair stepped down. Jon Spencer as vice chair presided over the election of the Chair.

Chairman: John Holland was the only nomination.

Proposed: Mike Dobson Seconded: Chris Davies
John Holland was unanimously elected. He resumed the Chair.

Vice-chairman: Jon Spencer was the only nomination. He was unanimously elected.
Proposed: Roger Inkpen Seconded: Joe McGannan

Secretary: Hilary Reed was the only nomination. She was unanimously elected.
Proposed: Jon Spencer Seconded: Chris Cheetham

Treasurer: Roger Inkpen was the only nomination. He was unanimously elected.
Proposed: Hilary Reed Seconded: Tim Parker

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

Chris Cheetham
Jayne Rodgers
Joe McGannan
Kathy Azopardi
Mike Dobson
Owen Divine.

Co-opted: Pam Wilkie and Tim Parker.

8. Community Cycling Project - Chris Cheetham:

Chris added that 250 donated bikes had been rebuilt and distributed to 150 Portsmouth riders. 10-15 volunteers gave their time and skill every week. The CCC could achieve more with more time. It is considering what legal status will suit it best. There is an Open Day at the May Bank Holiday at the Stacey Centre. All up-to-date info is on the PCF website and on CCC facebook page.

9. Infrastructure - Mike Dobson

TB Added with presentation.

10. Councillor Lee Hunt: Portsmouth City Council Portfolio Holder: Culture, Leisure and Sport.

He affirmed that cycling in all its forms is important. He sought to work to sweep away the city old ways to work cross -portfolio and cross services and in partnership - to do what needs to be done to improve healthy living and life styles. Cycling stretches across all services. Portsmouth City cycling aim is to promote cycling as a 'safe, quick and healthy' mode of transport.

His aspiration is to

- Use cycling to boost seafront attractions & tourism by bringing bicycle hire (similar to Worthing),
- Create excitement & more interest in all forms of cycling by supporting the skate/bmx park.
- Lobby hard in Cabinet & Council to establish for cyclo-cross and or mtb on 'the mound' or on the hill.
- Produce a regional standard bmx track.
- Get teams competing in the city and with others across Hampshire like Gosport and Andover.
- Link the national coastal cycle route,

- Make cycling safer and increase cycling to improve the city's health & well-being and reduce carbon.
- Promote 'grassroots' cycling as life-style choice.

This means cross portfolio working:

- Social services - mental well being
- Education - schools and lifestyles around cycling
- Culture & Tourism - history of the Dockyard bike now on show City Museum centrepiece
- T & T - reduce congestion by promoting cycling modes
- Environment - reducing carbon

He highlighted Team GB's success and the rapid growth of all forms of cycling recreation, health and elite - BMX, Cyclo-cross, track , Road with the Sky Team 'alias' Team GB, and watched GB dominate the recent world road racing champs. Mark Cavendish and the multi-gold medal winning Team GB have seen cycling race to the top of the UK's favourite leisure pursuits and sales of equipment rocket nationwide year after year, and it's going to keep growing. Mark Cavendish is BBC sports personality of 2011.

He is proposing a triathlon in the city bringing the 3 most successful sports together - cycling, swimming and race-running. He often reminds officers to keep talking to British Cycling. He is looking at ways to deliver a regional standard BMX race-track.

He assured PCF that cycling is sewn into all his considerations and he seeks to advocate these to other cabinet members.

He summarized work in many departments to support cycling in the City, with present caution about money and resources.

Sport England survey tells us that about 20% of Portsmouth people engage with sport including walking and cycling 3 x a week, more importantly 42% of people who don't do sport/cycling/walking regularly

He mentioned:

- The city's sports officer team to (only 4 left now) to develop a city-wide sports strategy/business plan.
- Agreement with the city's Director for Health to do it in conjunction with the health business plan.
- Sports governing bodies now have more money - so work together.
- develop opportunities to participate and compete in the sport at all levels by forging partnerships between Clubs, the School Sports Partnership, Sports Development, County Sports Partnership and British Cycling
- Cyclocross: Chris Richards is working to find a site, working with COLAS and British Cycling.
- Contribution of cycling to health & well being with support from Paul Edmondson-Jones - Health Director.
- The physical activity strategy currently being developed for Portsmouth provides a huge opportunity for health to link into physical activity and to pursue joint goals and joint messages. Cycling prevents weight gain, contributes to new habits, increases wellbeing and physical fitness that reduces heart disease, stroke and certain cancers.
- Links should be made between the Portsmouth Cycling Forum and NHS in activities such as Bikeability and the Big pedal 2012.
- PCC will work with parks to incorporate cycling into play at our parks to introduce skill snakes and small trials areas like the one at St Mary's Rec.
- The Rights of Way Action Plan seeks to improve access to open spaces and public rights of way, such as creating a multi-user route across Portsdown Hill.
- Working with schools through the Bikeability training programme.
- A new active travel map.

The Healthy Pompey project, 2008-11 achieved leisure ride leaflets, guided rides, training, bike racks, community bike recycling, events.

The PCC intention is to embrace effective Working Partnerships to:

- Develop a schools programme
- Develop Club/School Links
- Coach and Volunteer Development
- Marketing

Key partners are identified as:-

- School Sports Partnership
- Portsmouth City Council's Sports Development
- Cycling Clubs
- Sport Hampshire & IoW
- British Cycling
- Parkwood Leisure
- PCF

Questions and Comments:

- What has been achieved is good, but there is still much to do.
- Joint portfolio working is very good. However the priorities and actions of one portfolio, traffic and transportation, in fact makes getting around Portsmouth on a bike more difficult.
- PCC does little new to encourage short journeys out of a car. The serious injuries may be few, but near misses caused by traffic congestion and speeds are daily, and stop people riding bikes.
- City planners are also guilty of not rigorously assessing and planning for NMU needs. Examples were Lakeside development, the new International Ferry Port.
- Councillor Hunt's obvious enthusiasm was most welcome. This was clearly not shared by other influential Cabinet members and officers.
- The City itself did not celebrate or promote Portsmouth unique achievement of 20mph enough to monitor speed.
- Why does PCC not have a specific Road Safety Committee as do all neighbouring Local Authorities?

Councillor Hunt recommended that all correspondence should be directed more to Councillors and to fewer officers. Correspondence should always be copied in to Councillors. He further advised PCF to lobby other portfolio holders as well.

He encouraged PCF to present to full Council. It would be advantageous if PCF challenge to PCC were balanced with recognition of good practice.

Councillor Hunt welcomed the Times Cycling Cities Campaign.

The Chair thanked Councillor Hunt for giving the meeting the opportunity to share ideas and concerns.

11. Close: The Chair thanked all for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm