



Friends of Brunswick Square and Terrace

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

21 June 2025

(at the Regency Town House at 11am)

In attendance: Simon Dice (Chair), Lara Brooks (Treasurer), Sally Sisson (Secretary), Susan Bazire, Sue Cartwright, Lynne Moore, Pamela Hoad, Joy Hole, Catherine Lane, Cllr Andrei Czolak, Cllr Ollie Sykes, Lynne Moore, James Rock, Kate Rock, Josie Taylor, Alex Bamford, Gordon Winter, Neil McTaggart, Gavin Reynolds
Apologies for Absence : Libby Preis, Lisa Bamford

1. The **Minutes of last General Meeting** (16 March 2024) were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and signed off by the Chair.

2. **Matters arising** – the following items were added to the agenda: Tents; Beach Huts near new Meeting Place cafe.

3. Red route proposals

The Meeting noted:

- a) an update from Cllr Andrei Czolak, including answers to questions from attendees;
- b) that the Proposed Red Route area runs from corner of Waitrose down to Holland Road;
- c) that the funding comes from the Bus Improvement Plan and the cost is approx £200,000;
- d) that there were no limit to the number of loading bays and can be used by customers and businesses but users would need to be actively loading;
- e) that enforcement would be cameras;
- f) there would be disabled parking bays and agreed that there would be a need for a considerable number of loading bays;
- g) from Cllr Czolak that the consultation is driven by statute. Consultation period: Sept for six months;
- h) a request from CL that the wording of the consultation should be neutral;
- i) there would be 12 months allowed for input after it's implemented – so people should continue giving input throughout the year;
- j) a request that the road surface along the proposed red route should be addressed and Cllr Czolak said he and Cllr Sykes would consult colleagues on this issue;

4. Fountain restoration/water source/community noticeboard

The Meeting noted that:

- a) the Community noticeboard had been delivered and was awaiting installation;
- b) the cost was £1, 692 for the noticeboard + installation cost was yet to be determined;
- c) the funding had come from the Police Fund (£3000) + £100 from Neighbourhood Watch;
- d) two applications for restoration of water source in the gardens had been submitted at a cost of £190;
- e) the cost quoted by Southern Water to restore water source was £8000 and £1800 to repair the Fountain;
- f) Cllr Sykes suggested that the Council may be able to make a contribution toward the water source cost;
- g) some questions from JR as to other possible solutions for providing water to the gardens including use of the standpipe and fire hydrant and that these were no longer options despite having being used in the past;

5. Funding report

The Meeting noted

- a) an update on finances and funding that had been successfully applied for.
- b) a suggestion from SC that priority should be given to water source over fountain;
- c) that AB asked about the railings; FB said in the past it was a 3-way funding agreement with Council + Pebble Trust + FBST.
- d) that the Catalyst Fund application results has been delayed. This is a two-year fund.
- e) that the Rampion Fund has just replied that we've been denied this year.

6. Brunswick Town Association & Seafront Action Group

The Meeting noted

- a) that SD continues to represent FBST on the BTA – Brunswick Town Association which is a body that represents all of the resident associations in the Brunswick Town conservation area on issues that affect them all.
- b) that the Council cabinet were due to consider a funding proposal for seafront restoration in July, including Hove Lawns seafront;

7. Brunswick Festival

The Meeting noted:

- a) that SD had asked for a meeting with the Events Team Manager, Ian Baird, to discuss the forthcoming Brunswick Festival with particular emphasis on gate security;
- b) that FBST plan to have a stand at the Festival this year;
- c) that SD would ask the council to redo the no dogs stencil signage on the roads and pathways;

8. Gardening Report

The Meeting noted:

- a) a verbal report from JT on the gardening activities year to date;
- b) that a great deal of research had been undertaken with a view to suitable planting at the entrance gates;
- c) that garden debris bags were trying to be kept to a minimum;

d) and agreed that the issue of a lack of water had led to bottles of water having to be used and in hindsight the purchase of so many new plants in the Spring would have prevented this but we could not have predicted the lack of rainfall;

9. Beach Huts

The Meeting noted

- a) noted that the construction of 11 beach huts on the promenade near to the Meeting Place Cafe was an Events Team led initiative that seemed to break all normal planning consent procedures and was basically illegal under the 1830 Hove Act;
- b) noted that they were on license to a private company that could rent them out by the day and then the Council planned to take ownership of them and sell them on the open market and relocate them to where the other beach huts are located;
- c) and agreed that SD would investigate further with the help of local councillors;
- d) that SB, who is involved with the beach hut owners group, argues that the huts are not being subjected to the same rules and regulations as current hut owners;
- e) and agreed that there was severe danger of this becoming a regular money spinning exercise for the Council unless it was objected to;
- f) that there had been a number of incidences of a particular RV vehicle parking on the lawns and in Regency Square with absolutely no consequence from either the Council or the Police;
- g) and agreed that Cllr Czolak would pursue this further with both police and council enforcement;

10. Tents

The Meeting noted:

- a) that there had been an unusually large number of tents on Hove Lawns year to date and despite numerous complaints, the Council seemed unable or unwilling to take any action;
- b) that legislation took an incredibly long time to force tents from public spaces but also noted that it was still taking longer than the Council claimed it should take to get any action;
- c) and asked Cllr Czolak to pursue all avenues to get the tents removed and to get the Council to put in place appropriate measures to ensure we do not have a similar situation next year.

11. Any Other Business

The Meeting noted:

- a) comments from SC that the south borders of the gardens were being used as a public and suggested planting more hostile plants;
- b) that no.53 Brunswick Square had finally been sold and was being converted back into a single house.