

Minutes

BPCCRA Open Meeting Wednesday, 10 December 2025, 7.30pm Committee Rooms. Aldhelm's Church, Lindsay Road

Present:

Peter Schroeder – Chair (PS)

John Sprackling – Chair Emeritus

Andrea Charman – Secretary & VC (AC)

Annabel Stemp – Magazine Editor (AS)

John Harkness – Planning (JH)

John Gunton-Advertising (JG)

Vicky Moss – Special Projects (VM)

Roy Pointer - Planning Matters (RP)

1) Welcome & Apologies Secretary (AC) called meeting to order at 7.30 Chair welcomed all attendees and noted apologies from the Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Counsellor Challinor.

2) Chairmans Items Chair (PS) took the opportunity to review the year's achievements, citing the recent 2 issues of our Pines and Chines Publication and the replacement of the Pinecliff Gardens Shelter as the highlights. December 10 at 10.30am will see the official opening event, offering mulled wine and mince pies. Our new BPCCRA Banner, courtesy of Annabel Stemp (AS) will reinforce the event. We further note here that the Association has never succeeded in securing CIL money for Road Safety Projects. However, our 2 Councillors have asked us to represent our recent bid (up to £170K can be allocated) with the support of BPC's Transport Department, Road Safety Team Leader. Cost was the major objective to our recent proposal. Chair (PS) noted that Vicky Moss (VM) (with a team of volunteer gardeners) has pushed for more Council proactive effort to protect the environment, with some success. CC Library Garden is a case in point. Here volunteers faced certain unacceptable behaviour from Library staff that was swiftly addressed and referred to the Council. A further success was the negation of BPC's summer parking proposals, illustrating the strength of our joint groups.

Our most significant 'failure' is Beach Carpark is going ahead with the sale but the details are not as yet forthcoming. It was also noted that there was no consensus of views on the plans around Local Government Reorganisation across local associations; the Council is going ahead inspite of opposition We have also not sorted out our sytems challenge moving to a fully digitised model. A question was raised about the costs involved in this with the Secretary referring people to our volunteer expert's proposal.

The Chair (PS) went on to confirm respective officers have managed their respective briefs wee. Specifically, Andrea Charman, Hon Sec, Stanley Peters, Treasurer, John Harkness, Planning (with a clear-eyed and fact-based approach), Pamela Carvell, Membership Secretary, Roy Pointer, invaluable on BPC issues and Vicky Moss, unfailingly persistent with her Special Projects. (VM) mentioned & recognized the contribution the Good Gym – a charity which supports gardening, house-moving and other projects – in this regard.

Finally, the Chair, recognized the contribution and support offered by our councillors.

Looking forward, we face challenges around: budgeting, systems, recruiting (our ambition is for each officer to have a back-up.)

Marketing Officer, (JG), raised a vote of thanks for the Chair, Peter Schroeder, reinforced by the attending membership.

3) Pines and Chines Editor (AS) opened by noting that P&C is the magazine, the flagship for the Association. It is our communication vehicle as well. Annabel asked people to raise subjects of interest, plus, note the photo competition on page 15. P&C is the place to find out what is going on in the community, where to announce key issues and concerns. The next edition content needs to be in place by end Feb. 2026.

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4) Planning Summary Planning Officer (JH) referred attendees to his report (attached), noting the backlog because of Xmas-lots of planners are away delaying decisions. Last month there were a couple of dubious decisions – 29 Western Road, plus, a Lindsay Road Application raises questions – PVC windows in a Conservation Area. However, because it falls within a group of similar blocks, it may well go through. (JH) noted he himself put in an application for an Association Member in a Conservation Area, which is now in progress. Roy Pointer (RP) raised the issue of Burton Road to which (JH) replied he was uncertain of the outcome yet. The question of a new M&S on the previous B&Q sit was raised but no conclusive decision is available.

5) Covered

6) AOB Carol Parkin brought attention to a car incident at the Mazda Showroom zebra crossing and (JG) questioned the certainty of the talked-about M&S move or additional development at the former Homebase Site. (RP) noted the Westbourne M&S site is earmarked for housing development with possible closure of the current M&S mid-2016.

Formal Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Andrea Charman – Secretary

A Festive Reception followed until 9.20pm

Peter Schroder Chair

Tel: 01202 701430

Next Meeting Feb 11, 2026 @7.30pm