

## **RAPS AGM**

Sunday April 27th 2025, 11.30am at the Chichester Suite, Portsmouth Marriott Hotel

### **MINUTES**

Attendance: 36

#### **Chair's welcome**

Chris Clark (Chair) welcomed the members to the first RAPS AGM to take place away from Port Solent and extended a special welcome to our local MP Amanda Martin and to Councillor Brian Madgwick.

#### **Apologies for absence**

Helen Ewers, Alison and Ross Rundle, John White, Jan Bowdery, Peter Andrews, John Tilling, John and Eileen Cosier, Tina and Colin Boniface, Ian and Veronica Mitchell, John and Barbara Gayford, Kedi Mulcock, Peter Lang.

#### **Approval of the Minutes of the 2024 AGM**

The Chair asked the meeting to approve the Minutes of the 2024 AGM. Proposed: Marian Clark  
Seconded: Valerie Simpson.

#### **Chair's report**

The Chair read the report that had been posted on the RAPS Website and this was followed by a brief discussion of some of the points in the report.

Concerning the Country Park, Brian Madgwick said that he had been assured that this remained a "work in progress". Richard Haigh commented on the park's scruffy appearance. Amanda Martin said that she and the local councillors could help with liaison between RAPS and Portsmouth City Council in the absence of named contacts. She also expanded on the Country Park and Tipner West as ongoing projects and spoke about planned improvements to flood defences around Paulsgrove Lake and at Farlington Marshes. Questions were also raised about the proposed local government reorganisation, in particular how funds would be managed. The Chair asked that this particular topic be moved to Any Other Business and that

the focus of any discussion about it should be on the timetable for change and future communication channels.

### **Treasurer's report**

Angela reported that RAPS had made a surplus this year mainly due to Carl Inman's generosity at Botanicals where he had supplied the prizes and to the many quiz attendees who were not from Port Solent.

A donation of £180 had been made to Trussell. In reply to a query from the audience Angela explained that this was a charity running food banks.

There is £12808.16 at the bank at the end of the year, This is being held to enable RAPS to assist when funds are required for fees re future planning and neighbourhood matters

### **Election of auditors**

Pat Harvey was re-elected. Proposed: Peter Selley. Seconded: Katie Coakley.

### **Election of Officers and Committee Members**

One expression of interest in taking over from Olivia Firth as Membership Secretary had been received but had subsequently been withdrawn for the time being. Therefore the following Committee members are re-elected:

Chris Clark (Chair): proposed Marian Clark; seconded David Jump

Angela Britton (Treasurer): proposed Valerie Simpson; seconded Katie Coakley.

Peter Lang (in absentia): proposed David Jump; seconded Katie Coakley.

### **AOB**

Cllr Brian Madgwick announced that a new bus service is to be provided to Port Solent by Pompey Link using two mini buses, at a flat fare of £2, starting in June or July this year. Applauded by the meeting.

Alan Drury spoke about the need to consider prefabricated homes when planning new housing

developments.

Paula Ritchie asked about the power that would be invested in the new mayor for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Amanda Martin replied that the new mayor for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, set to be elected in spring 2026, will hold significant powers under the Government's devolution plans that aim to decentralise decision-making from Westminster and provide local leaders with greater control over regional affairs. The new mayor will have authority over strategic planning and housing, they will oversee regional transport planning and the mayor will work with local council leaders to decide how to allocate regional funding, ensuring that resources are directed towards the most pressing needs and opportunities within the region.

Teresa Pask asked, in view of the recent fire at Tipner West that had been started deliberately, what measures could be put in place to safeguard Port Solent. Chair responded that we already have a neighbourhood watch scheme.

Amanda Martin MP offered residents the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament with a guided tour. There was a show of enthusiasm for this. Details to be discussed.

**Chair closed the meeting at 12:20pm**