

To all our regular contacts

11 October 2010

Dear Colleague,

FOBRA AND ITS MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

FoBRA has just completed a review of its working methods, with the aim of making itself a more effective and efficient organisation. Some of our members have asked us to emphasise to you the distinction between FoBRA and its member associations.

As you know, FoBRA is a federation of local groups, of which there are currently 24 residents' associations, plus the two students' unions who are affiliate members. The areas they cover and their contact details are set out on the members page of our website. They are independent but vary greatly in their size and range of activities.

Broadly speaking, FoBRA deals with two types of issues:

- Those which affect the city of Bath as a whole. These include transport/traffic/pollution; the character and culture of Bath; the street environment and maintenance; and B&NES-wide policies such as the Core Strategy and licensing policy.
- Others which are geographically limited, but have an impact well beyond their immediate footprint. Projects such as redevelopment of Bath Spa station and a new rugby stadium would come in here.

Many of our member associations deal with matters which are wholly or largely confined to their areas, and obviously need to be consulted directly on them:

- Local planning or licensing applications.
- Local traffic improvements, eg new pedestrian crossings.
- Amenity issues in particular streets or open spaces.

In addition some of the larger associations also deal with issues that affect Bath as a whole and make their own representations where they wish to emphasise local conditions or viewpoints, as well as contributing to a FoBRA response. The Widcombe Association and the Abbey Residents' Association (TARA), two of our largest members, would like to be consulted directly on all major issues.

It is hard to give you advice to cover all situations, so if in doubt please consult FoBRA **and** the relevant member(s). Robin Kerr, the FoBRA secretary, (01225 311549, robin.kerrconsulting@uwclub.net) and I are always happy to advise on whom you should contact.

Please pass this message to others who may be in touch with us.

PROMOTING RESIDENTS' INTERESTS IN BATH

7 St Andrews Terrace, Bath BA1 2QR; henrybrown@bethere.co.uk; 01225 427497, 07990 585493

Please also note that we have decided to conduct a six-month trial of admitting observers to our meetings. You would be welcome to attend. The next dates are 3 November and 8 December (19.15, Green Park Meeting Room).

Best wishes,

Henry Brown, Chairman