

RHS Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 3 February 2026

Location: Julia's house

Attendees: Julia Valentine, Dominic Furlong, Gary Jenkins, Emmanuel Valentine, Robyn Summers-Emler

Apologies: Chris Paul, Stefania Rosso

Notes (will be recorded and summarised with AI)

- Actions from last meeting:
 - Michael contacted about Richmond Road planning application ✓
 - **Chris needs follow-up on Upper Lewes Road safety assessment request**
 - Dominic provided Gary Andrea's bank details ✓
 - Emmanuel started reporter work ✓
 - **Stefania still needs to send AGM minutes**
 - Robyn set up with Kate ✓
 - **Chris contacted Highways about abandoned bicycle at Pocket Park - no response yet**
- Better Brighton & Hove Fund
 - Next phase competition mid-February and will involve public voting on vetted submissions on the council's Your Voice website
 - Previous submission ranked 4th highest in number of positive comments (971 total ideas) – the highest number for a community submission
 - Limited competition within Round Hill ward
 - Ward-based funding allocation favors application
- Planning application request that has come through from Richmond Road.
 - Planning application objection submitted by the RHS committee and CAG
 - Case officer initially minded to approve despite objections
 - Case officer requested amendments from applicant before end of consultation date – against protocol
 - A second objection was submitted by the RHS committee in response to the amendments submitted by the applicant
 - Key objections: dormer windows at back, replacement of blind window at front
 - Cllr Hill and CAG requested the application goes before the Planning Committee, likely scheduled for March
 - Heritage officer regime change may affect interpretation of conservation policies
 - Previous conservative heritage officer left, no replacement
 - Could be test case under new regime
- Update on Veolia at Hollingdean.
 - Cllr Tim Rowkins has promised report
 - Local democracy reporter, Sarah Booker-Lewis, wrote an article published in B&H News and the Argus confirming a report will be produced by the council.
 - Following-up, Dominic emailed Cllr Rowkins to ask about scope of report and deadline
 - Sian Berry MP wrote a supporting email asking for the report and for community

involvement in setting its scope

- Upcoming events.
 - Street Play Event (May 31st) - comprehensive planning underway
 - Additional dates: August 30th (summer), November 1st (Halloween)
 - Combine with plant sale on 31 May
 - Potential activities planned: bake sale, face painting, craft table, hula hoop challenges, chalk art, spring clean donation box, bubble station
 - Equipment inventory: high vis vests, jugs, cups, bunting, street signs, picnic table, gazebo
 - Signatures collection early April with volunteer help needed
 - Temporary events notice application required
 - Round Hill Open Gardens (June 7th) co-occurring with Brighton & Hove Community Garden Network Trail Open Day.
 - £700 bus advertising + £350 marketing materials funded by Brighton & Hove Buses secured for Brighton & Hove Community Garden Network Trail (for all participating community gardens, including the Round Hill Community Pocket Park)
 - South & South East In Bloom 2026 - this will happen in June but no date confirmed for assessment. Dominic has met with the lead assessor, Jean Griffin, and obtained the schedule of evaluation criteria
- Reporter.
 - Julia emailed RHS friends but no direct responses. Articles promised from:
 - Dominic (greening proposal & Veolia)
 - Jane Power (Open Gardens)
 - Rob Stephenson (garden biodiversity)
 - Paolo (frogs)
 - Robyn (Events)
 - Article received from Rachel Griffiths re: carol singing
 - Sam Sheils may be interested in advertising, Shakti will do usual - otherwise no interest.

Actions:

- Robyn: email RHS friends & article for Reporter including list of jobs to be done
- Chris: Complete Upper Lewes Road safety assessment request
- Stefania: Send AGM minutes
- Dominic to give phone numbers for local businesses
- Julia to contact the phone numbers about advertising
- Emmanuel to contact Jig about article for Reporter about Shakti supporting

Next meeting:

3rd March, 8 pm

Julia's house