

SGRA Minutes of Meeting

Held on Monday 7th April 2008

At 7pm in the Brandling Villa Public House

Apologies

Janet and Ian Fraser, Gordon Robinson, Caroline Simpson, Pat McDonald, Dave Roberts, Ann Hogg, Colin Walmsley, Paul Spicer and Sonia Bradley.

People Present

Jerry Ruddick, Hazel Spicer, Irene Matthewson, Chris Higham, Siobhan O'Brien, Chris who is a new resident to the area was warmly welcomed to the meeting.

Minutes of Previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were not available for approval however they will be carried forward to the next meeting.

Update on Action Points/Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

As detailed above

Feedback from meetings attended

Jerry and Gordon attended the ward committee meeting and reported on the work of the SGRA.

Thanks were given to the Neighborhood Response Manager and Persimmon Homes for getting the grass arranged back outside Ridgewood Gardens Flats so quickly after a taxi had driven across the newly laid turf. Discussion about chewing gum which is very costly to remove from footpaths.

Allotments at Ridgewood Crescent

The Council has cut back overgrown trees at the allotments which have made a big difference to light for local homes.

Bollards on Station Road

At the last ward meeting it was put to the council that in the Ward Priority plan it stated that "the Environmental Ward Scheme will fund the installation of bollards which will prevent vehicles mounting and parking on the pavement".

This was expected to have been carried out in 2007/08 but has been moved on to 2008/09.

Graffiti

The council has removed graffiti from the Thresher's shop shutters and other premises in the area. The SGRA will not fund window cleaning but encourage all businesses on Station Road to take ownership over shop frontage.

Ridgewood Gardens Wall

Your Homes Newcastle has responded quickly and replaced crumbling bricks; this has improved the appearance of the wall. Jerry advised the meeting that he had sent an email of thanks to the Newcastle City Council Building Services Department for carrying this out.

Grass is not for cars

Grassed area at Ridgewood Gardens

It was reported to the meeting that vehicles are driving across the new turf so it may be necessary to install a low level structure or barrier to prevent further damage to the new turf.

Action Point

Newsletter

The Brandling Villa and new general store have offered to contribute to the newsletter. It was agreed that June would be the best month to circulate this.

Financial Update

Jerry advised the meeting that £20.67 had been received from the web-shop which has been put into the bank before the end of the financial year.

Also there is the sum of £39.99 pending to be paid.

This means that the SGRA have raised the sum of £74.45 using the web-shop.

Any other business.

Field Street is in a poor state of repair and along with other streets in the surrounding area requires resurfacing.

Siobhan raised a query about ward budget and gave some suggestions for applications. This will be raised as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Problems with overflowing refuse bags to the rear of Milldene House. The Chairman will arrange to speak with the manager.

Action Point

Dog fouling is still a problem at the green and the NRM informed the Chair that a local school is designing signs. Siobhan will chase this up.

One of our local councilors Peter Arnold will not be standing in South Gosforth at the local elections. A warm thank you is extended on behalf of the South Gosforth Residents Association to Councilor Arnold.

Jerry mentioned that it was due to Peter's involvement that the SGRA was formed back in 2002.

Our Neighbourhood Response Manager (NRM), Dave Roberts, is moving on to another area of the city and will be replaced by Darren Penaluna. Siobhan will draft and Jerry will circulate a note of thanks to Dave and a welcome to Darren in due course.

Date and Time of Future Meetings

Tuesday 6th of May at the Brandling Villa (normally this would be on the 5th of May but this is a Bank Holiday).