

**SGRA Minutes of Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007**  
**At 7pm in the Victory Public House**

**Welcome**

Jerry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Apologies**

Paul and Hazel Spicer

**People Present**

Irene Matthewson, Ruth Hughes, Gordon Robinson, Jerry Ruddick, Sonia Bradley, Stuart McCubbin, Peter, Dave Roberts, Norma Shannon, Sheila Park

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

**Update on Action Points/Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

**William Street Flats – Recycling Bins**

The meeting enquired about the time scale of having a storage area identified and possibly fenced off outside of the building to house recycling bins.

**Action Point:**

**Pavements – Loose Paving Stones near the Roundabouts and up Station Road**

Gordon enquired when the loose paving stones would be addressed.

**Action Point:**

**Seating on the Green**

Peter raised the issue of having another seat on the Green. He suggested having this situated near the path towards the steps next to the bin.

Some concerns were raised as local residents had concerns it may attract unwanted gatherings of groups of people.

Peter informed the meeting that the current seating on the Green is not in line with EEC guidelines, which stipulate all seating needs to be 85cm high. Most of the seating in local parks etc will need to be replaced by the council.

Overall the meeting felt that situating the seat in the area suggested may encourage people to use this part of the field more, whilst still leaving a large open space for people to enjoy.

**Action Point: To be discussed in more detail.**

### Planters and Hanging Baskets

The meeting and residents of William Street Flats thanked Dave as the planters have now been replenished.

Big thanks also to Dave for the hanging baskets along Station Road.

### Stairs leading down from the Green

These have been cleaned recently and the meeting thanked Dave for this.

Sheila and other residents commented that these steps are only cleaned when it is brought to the attention of the Council. The meeting requested that these steps be cleaned on a more regular basis.

### **Action Point:**

#### Railings leading down the bank from South Gosforth Club

Jerry and the meeting thanked Dave for the work recently done on tidying up this area.

#### Restaurant – Corner of Audley road and Station Road (The Old Launderette)

Sheila raised concerns about the vagueness of the notice about the use of this building.

Jerry explained that the notice was about getting a license to enable the establishment to have music and a liquor license allowing customers to bring their own alcohol.

It was felt that this subject needs to be discussed again at the next meeting.

**Action Point:** To be put on Agenda for the next meeting.

#### Triangle of land to the back of the DIY Yard

After some lively discussion it was agreed that this area is to be used as a natural pathway.

The meeting agreed that a pathway should be created using paving of some kind with cobbles placed on either side.

Dave has agreed to cost this and discuss it again at the next meeting.

**Action Point: Dave**

## **Minutes**

### **Feedback from Meetings Attended**

None attended

### **Post Box – Percy Terrace**

Jerry thanked Dave for having this post box re-sited, he also passed on Caroline's thanks.

Dave informed the meeting that the Post Box was re-sited outside M Steels Cycling Shop. However, there appears to be some confusion as a Grey Box has appeared at the top of Field Street. When vans or cars are also parked on the pavement, it makes pedestrian access difficult.

Dave offered to check that the Post Box has been re-sited in the correct place and check what the Grey Box at the top of Field Street is.

**Action Point: Dave**

### **Ward Coordinator**

The meeting had been informed previously that Annabel is taking a year out of Newcastle Council.

Jerry informed the Meeting that Ann Hogg who is the West Gosforth Coordinator is to also incorporate the East Gosforth Ward as part of her role.

Unfortunately Ann was not able to attend the Meeting this evening but is looking forward to attending future meetings and working with SGRA.

### **Draft Interim Guidance on Purpose Built Student Housing**

Jerry has a copy of the above Guidance should anyone want to look at the same and make comments.

Gordon had received a copy of this and has already forwarded his comments.

### **Newsletter**

Jerry passed round a sample of the Newsletter.

He will obtain quotes from the printers and, if the price is reasonable, he will go ahead and order colour copies of the same – the meeting agreed.

Ruth suggested checking if the Printers will fold the Newsletter into three free of charge. (Unfortunately this is not possible we have to pay £7.00)

Once it is printed Jerry will send out e-mail to ask volunteers to distribute the newsletter

Jerry and the meeting wished to thank Ruth for all her hard work on producing the Newsletter.

**Action Point: Jerry**

### **Wrendale House/Persimmon Homes**

Jerry announced to the meeting that Annamaria wished to drop out of the meetings due to commitments.

Jerry informed the meeting that Anne Hogg and Dave Roberts will be attending future meetings and will keep him informed of progress.

Shelia pointed out that Persimmon is not sweeping up any mess left on the road as agreed. Dave will raise this at the next meeting.

Overall people felt the project was going ahead without too much disruption.

Members noted that the building is going to be rather intrusive as it over looks a lot of the surrounding buildings and the area now feels more enclosed.

### **Website Funding**

Jerry updated the meeting to the fact we currently have funds of £18.97 in the web account. Once the sum reaches £20 a cheque will be issued to SGRA.

Jerry explained how the website works and the percentage SGRA get each time it is used to make purchases.

Discussion then ensued about general funds and a Gordon gave a Treasurer's update. Ruth suggested that this should be a regular item on the Agenda.

Gordon informed the meeting that we currently have £416.34 in funds. He also mentioned that we never applied for a grant for this year and that it would be worth while considering if we want to apply for a grant for next year. The Meeting would need to think what we would want the money for.

It was felt that most of the time the Council are very good at responding to SGRA requests hence there was little need for grants.

However, it was acknowledged that we should consider areas the Council cannot cover and see if it would be worthwhile applying for a grant. This needs to be discussed further.

Commissioning a piece of Art for the area was suggested.

**Action Point: Treasurer updates should be on the Agenda as a regular item and further discussion needs to take place around grant applications.**

### **Annual General Meeting**

Jerry informed the Meeting that the AGM would take place on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007. Ruth suggested that this be put in the Newsletter.

Jerry suggested that monies raised from the Website Fund could be used to provide refreshments.

St. Nicholas Church Hall was suggested as a venue.

Stuart suggested finding out about hiring the Function Room at South Gosforth Social Club – he will find out costs.

Jerry asked Stuart to clarify if we would be able to bring our own refreshments i.e. wine – if not Jerry has offered to have refreshments back at his house.

Gordon suggested inviting the Lord Mayor Peter Arnold. Jerry felt that this was a good idea. Peter was initially involved in the setting up of SGRA.

Jerry will send an invitation.

**Action Point: Jerry & Stuart**

### **Any Other Business**

#### **Area at the top of Ridgewood Gardens Barrier**

Norma asked Dave if he could arrange to have the grass cut as this area is starting to look an eyesore

**Action Point:**

#### **Bowes Court**

Norma thanked Dave for the work that has been done in the past and requested that the trees and bushes be tidied up again in this area and that this done on a more regular basis. One of the trees has a nest in it and this cannot be touched.

**Action Point:**

#### **Pedestrian Crossing outside Brandling Villa Pub**

Peter informed the meeting that the Pedestrian crossing controls are not working on the Brandling side of this crossing. Dave will report this.

**Action Point: Dave**

#### **Pedestrian Crossing over Church Road from Metro Station**

Gordon felt that this should be raised again at the next Ward Meeting. Jerry supported this.

**Action Point: Gordon & Jerry**

#### **Gosforth Terrace Kerbs**

Gordon mentioned to Dave that there were a problem with the kerbs outside No's 17 – 18.

**Action Point:**

### **Bowes Court Dropped Kerbs**

Sheila asked when would the dropped kerbs be put in place. Jerry explained that this was on the list of things to be addressed by the Council once the building work was completed by Persimmon. The kerbs would be incorporated, as part of the work being done on the road once the building work was complete.

**Action Point: Jerry agreed to bring this up at the next Ward Meeting.**

### **Drains – 16 Field Street**

Gordon informed Dave that the Drains to the outside of the property were blocked.

**Action Point:**

### **Tramway up to Freeman Hospital**

Jerry complimented Dave on how attractive this area was looking.

### **Walls on Killingworth Road**

Dave informed the meeting that the wall along this road is to be repaired.

Irene & Gordon pointed out that the part of the road under the bridge always becomes flooded when there is heavy rain. Jerry stated that this area was mentioned many decades ago as being a problem then.

**Action Point: Dave**

### **South Gosforth Social Club – Smoking Ban**

Gordon informed the meeting that since the Smoking Ban is now in place, South Gosforth club have put benches outside where members can sit and have a drink whilst smoking.

This is private land, however, Gordon expressed concerns for residents living in the area as noise levels may increase. Although the area is private land Gordon felt that permission might still need to be obtained as it was technically a change of use to the area outside the club.

### **Coffee Shop – Station Road**

Irene mentioned that this Coffee Shop has now put seating and tables on the pavement to the outside of the shop.

Gordon stated that as long as they have applied for permission from the Council this was okay.

The Meeting felt that this would contribute to the social atmosphere of the area and it was to be welcomed.

### **Land to the front of Gym/Tenerife Buildings**

Peter pointed out that this was a public right of way and proposed we approach the Council about setting back some of the current car park to make space for a ramp and or steps to be put in place to allow a more suitable thoroughfare for prams and people in wheelchairs etc.

**Action Point: To be put on Agenda for next Meeting.**

### **Charity Registration Pack**

None of the Committee have received acknowledgement. Jerry agreed to chase this up.

**Action Point: Jerry will need to amend the trustee members**

### **Ruth Hughes**

Ruth informed the Meeting that this would be her last attendance as she is to leave the area on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007 to live in Adelaide Australia.

Everyone wished her well and acknowledged the contributions she has made as a member of the SGRA.

Good luck Ruth and if you want us to come out to help you set up a Residents Association in Adelaide don't hesitate to get in touch, we'll be there in a shot.

### **Fly tipping**

Peter informed the meeting that several black bin liners of rubbish were left at the bottom of the steps leading from the Green.

Gordon has already addressed this issue with Dave Roberts and these were removed.

### **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

There will be no meeting in August.

Future Meetings: -

3rd September 2007

17<sup>th</sup> September 07 - AGM – Venue and time still to be confirmed

1<sup>st</sup> October

5<sup>th</sup> November

Please forward any Agenda items to Jerry.