

SGRA Annual General Meeting 7.7.2004, 7pm at Trinity Christian Community Centre

Minutes

Apologies for absence: Peter Arnold, Chris Chapman, Lisa Martin

- 1 Agreement of minutes of previous AGM: minutes were agreed.
- 2 Report from Chairman: the Chairman presented his report highlighting the activities of the SGRA over the last year. Copies are available separately as required.
- 3 Report from Treasurer: the Treasurer presented her report on our finances. Copies are available separately as required.
- 4 Issues arising:
 - Plans for the Green: feedback from leaflets: a reasonable response was received from the leaflet drop with some interesting comments and suggestions.
 - The most popular item by far was to ask the council to install flower troughs on the green. Jo Swindells welcomed the consultation exercise carried out.
 - Also popular was the proposal to install more seating although in the light of later correspondence, the location needs to be carefully considered. (A local resident expressed concern about the likelihood of residents of the flats being disturbed if a bench was located too close to the flats).
 - Carefully sited additional trees were also popular, although due consideration has to be given to security, i.e. making sure that any additional planting of trees and shrubs does not make the green less safe for people using it by providing cover.
 - Other suggestions included provision of some simple play equipment or at least a dog free area for children to play in.
 - A resident also proposed a community garden, but there was some reservation about the level of commitment required to develop and maintain this initiative.
 - Proposals for an entrance feature and totem post goal posts were not well received.
 - Charity Commission suggested amendment to the constitution raising the age of membership from 16 to 18 to comply with requirements of Charities' legislation: those present agreed this proposal and the constitution would be duly amended. A copy will be sent to the Charity Commission for their information.
- 5 Nominations for office holders: existing officers were proposed to stay in post for another year. This was accepted by the meeting. Office holders are therefore:
 - Jerry Ruddick, Chairman;
 - Clare Shakespeare Watts, Treasurer;
 - Joanne Adamczyk, Secretary.
- 6 AOB: Graffiti: a resident complained about graffiti on local businesses and suggested that the council should remove it. It was explained that the council cannot remove graffiti from private property and that it is the owner's responsibility to do so. There are concerns about damage to property due to high-pressure water cleaning. (By later correspondence, Jo Swindells advised that graffiti removal kits were available to businesses from the council free of charge).
- 7 Date and time of next meeting: provisional dates are September 8 and November 3, venue to be confirmed.