

Minutes of SGRA Meeting

3rd November 2004

1. Present – Jerry, Colin, Andrew, Clare, Gordon, Tom Jarman
Apologies – Jo A, Shaun, Martin, Karen McMaster
2. Minutes of the last meeting
No minutes available
3. Update on Action Points (from memory!)
 - Graffiti on the shops on the bank – Jo A was going to write to all the businesses on the bank, encouraging them to use the free graffiti removal kits they had been offered by the Council. A marked improvement has been noted; much of the graffiti has been removed.
 - SGRA Christmas Card with a calendar of the meeting dates for the New Year was generally thought to be a good idea, although it was decided to try to deliver the cards ourselves after difficulties experienced with the delivery of the leaflet for the AGM.
 - Nomad Housing building planning application – Jo A wrote to the Council to lodge our concerns about the application, with regard to the increase in traffic and the lack of parking provision. JR noted his thanks to Jo for doing this on SGRA's behalf.
 - Damage to Racecourse fencing by joy riders – the damage occurred on the evening of Friday 29th Oct and had been repaired by Wednesday 3rd. JR sent a mail to TJ on Monday 1st asking that this be bought up at the Ward Meeting. Our thanks were given to Tom Jarman who raised the issue of the damage at a Ward Meeting on Monday and facilitated the speedy repairs!
 - Tom also made a note of the growing bonfire pile, which will possibly be removed prior to Bonfire Night, due to a new policy of removing illegal bonfires.
 - Gordon raised an issue that Nexus have replaced part of the wooden fencing with metal railings, along Gosforth Terrace, without any prior warning to residents. A similar issue was raised in the last edition of the LibDem Focus newsletter. In her absence, we suggested that Jo could write to Nexus on behalf of SGRA, asking to be given prior warning of any similar works that are planned for our area.
 - Jerry told us that the SGRA web page is now online, but needs information adding to it. Various suggestions included the "Action Plan" for work on the Green, dates of next SGRA meetings, "top tips" from the Neighbourhood Watch information, possibly promotion of the local businesses on the bank – info on their opening times and what they sell. Gordon had received information from "warmzone" which offers subsidised rates for loft and cavity wall insulation, which could be another item advertised on the web site.
 - Jo A had sent a long email to Tom Jarman prior to the meeting, listing various issues that have been raised, asking for best points of contact – including the planters for the green, what to do about the flooding around the roundabouts, parking issues etc. Tom asked to be shown the area that floods at the end of the meeting.
 - Tom was also asked about the possibility of better signage on or around the Green re: Dog Fouling. Tom thought the most likely conclusion would be the provision of more stickers.

- Need to contact Peter Arnold / Lib Dem Focus re typo in an article that refers to the SGRA Hut. Think it probably means the Gosforth RA Hut on Christon Avenue.
4. Feedback form Meetings Attended
SGRA has been invited to attend a “Your Homes Newcastle” event for Outer West and North Area Tenants Representatives on 9th November. Jerry has the details if anyone would like to attend on our behalf.
Jerry intended going to the Ward Committee Meeting on Monday 1st but did not go in the end!
5. A.O.B
- Parking – Colin has seen a scheme in Gateshead whereby 20mph speed limit markings are painted on the road, but there are no speed bumps. Tom confirmed that a similar scheme is being trialled in one area of Newcastle to see if it is effective, as much cheaper to install than speed bumps.
 - Still on Parking – the residents parking scheme on Lilburn and Lartington Gardens starts soon, along with double yellow lines being painted onto Freeman Road. Need to keep an eye on any impacts this has on parking in our area.
 - Andrew mentioned that a new potential source of funding for SGRA would be the “Coalfields Regeneration Trust.” JR also received information re Newcastle Community Chest and other funding streams through CVS. Until we have a plan of action, we won’t be able to apply for any of these funding pots.
6. Dates of next meetings
Weds 1st December at the Victory – main point for discussion will be the SGRA Christmas Card!
Next dates – 12th January, 9th February, 9th March 2005

Meeting closed at 8pm.