

**South Gosforth Residents Association
Minutes of Meeting 2nd November 2005
Late Venue Change to Brandling Pub**

Present: Jerry Ruddick, Gordon Robinson, Caroline Simpson, Clare Shakespeare-Watts, Pat McDonald, Colin Walmsley, Lorraine Cherry, John Addison, Alan Greenwood, Sheila Park, Siobhan O'Brien, Irene Mathison, Sonya, Peter Millen.

1. Apologies

Andrew, Annabel McKinnon, Joanne, Robynn

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Agreed

3. Update on Action Points from last meeting / minutes

JR apologised as a number of his Action Points were outstanding from the last meeting –

To report state of pavement outside Domino's Pizza

To report various gullies in the area

Motorbikes still an issue on the green

JR reported he had finalised all the papers from the AGM and would be posted on the website shortly when CSW submits the treasurer's report to JR.

GR – meeting with Dave Roberts, Neighbourhood Response Manager – regarding gully outside Lord Tool Hire. GR was asked to find out from Dave exactly what his remit is in our area. GR was asked to raise with Dave the fact that there seems to be an increase in the number of rats in the area and whether something can be done about it. GR was asked to point out the recent recurrence of black sacks alongside the trade waste bins behind Tenerife Buildings, which is also adding to the rats' issue.

JR to liaise with SO'B with regards to a letter to the Council about the skips now apparently permanently sited outside the Social Club, which are being used by Aubrey Cornfoot for their trade waste.

4. Feedback from Other Meetings

JR, Andrew and Matt attended a meeting at the Civic Centre in Newcastle with regards to the proposed Persimmon development at the Wrendale House/Nomad site on 12th October. JR previously circulated minutes by email and handed out further copies at the meeting (and are available to anyone who would like them). The meeting again showed the staff from Persimmon to be unprepared for the meeting, the feeling being that they had expected a decision about which route (Bowsden/Field/William or Ridgewood) they should use to be made by the Residents Association. The SGRA representatives at the meeting of

course did not do this and Persimmon came away from the meeting having been instructed by various departments of the Council that reports, surveys and correct applications needed to be submitted before any decisions could be made about work starting on the site. This could delay the start of work by several more weeks. JR expressed to the Deputy Leader that when the decision is finally made as to which route will be the chosen option then it would not be for the SGRA to make that decision – it will be up to Newcastle City Council.

5. Meeting Place

Apologies to anyone who missed the meeting due to the last minute venue change. JR discovered at around 4pm on the day of the meeting that the Victory pub now has live music on a Wednesday night. Other venues were discussed – the end result being that “venues to hire” were expensive or unsuitable. Of the pubs, the Victory is the quietest and we should perhaps try starting the meeting earlier (by quarter of an hour) and be finished well before the live music starts. If there is a problem with this (by the pub landlord), we will try our best to give everyone more notice of any venue change.

6. Christmas Card

A discussion was held as to whether SGRA should produce a card this year – the overall feeling was that it was useful in that everyone who receives the card will then know the dates of at least the first few meetings of 2006, should they wish to join. A decision was taken that an alternative picture to the Colliery (used for both 2004 Christmas and 2005 Easter cards) should be used for this year. The detail of the Christmas card also needs to be finalised before the next meeting, to ensure they can be printed and delivered in time.

7. AOB

i) GR showed a letter he had received with regard to a new strategy being proposed by the Council to restrict the amount of student and shared dwelling accommodation there is in certain wards of the city – Gosforth being one of the areas. If SGRA wants to make a formal response to the strategy, it needs to be received by 14th December. Further to this point, there was a discussion as to why Gordon had received the letter but no-one else had seen one.

ii) Next Ward Committee Meeting at Trinity Church, 7pm on Monday 7th Nov. JR to attend.

iii) JR received notice that there are allotments available in the plot behind Hunters Road/Ridgewood Crescent if anyone interested.

iv) Graffiti has built up on the old Post Office building again. GR will raise with Dave Roberts.

v) General comment on the slowness of police to respond to calls from our area – particularly on the incidents involving motorbikes on the Green. **(AP for Jerry)**

vi) GR had noticed a camera mounted on a pole outside the Laundrette on Station Road and wondered if it was one of the mobile CCTV cameras discussed earlier on the year. It was apparently something to do with a traffic survey according to another member of the meeting.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

7th December at the Victory – NEW TIME 6:45

To be followed by Christmas refreshments at Jerry's house.

Dates for 2006 (will be published in the Christmas Card)

January 11th

February 8th

March 8th