



**ABOYNE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Committee Meeting**  
4 December 2017, 7.30pm, 4 Selby Avenue, St Albans

Present:

Fiona Couper (Chair)	Julia Duschenes (Sec)
Barry Cropper (Vice-Chair)	Christine McLauchlan
Nigel Gale (Treasurer)	Sue Noon

**1. Welcome**

FC welcomed the committee

**2. Apologies for Absence**

There were no absences.

**3. Minutes of the Last Committee Meeting** (Sept 2017) were corrected and agreed for accuracy.

**4. Matters Arising**

Nothing that was not already on Agenda

**5. Treasurer's Report**

No money has been spent since the last meeting. Still £678.08 in the bank. NG still chasing SADC from whom the ARA may collect £100.

**6. Comms Report**

Emails have gone out about Club Veeda and the opening of St Claire's. The next Newsletter will come out in time for the AGM. Street Reps could ask residents if they ever look at the Newsletter. Street Reps

**7. Planning**

3 Russell Avenue: The resident has overbuilt and has been asked to submit a planning application for retrospective approval, but this has been called in by Simon Grover. FC will do final submission from ARA by 20 December. The Planning Office failed to issue timely notice of the denial of appeal. Councillors to be contacted about this failure. FC,RW

NG still awaits his request for the Planning Enforcement Policy. To be chased.

A chronology of this fiasco is required but will take some assimilation. FC to attempt with Rita Waldron. It was noted that applications came in from the property piecemeal and it was very difficult to see exactly what was being proposed.

Other RAs to be alerted to this problem.

11 Britton Avenue: FC to follow up on the complaint about the replacement windows at this address. FC

APRA Planning Policy: APRA has devised a plan as to when they would/would not contest planning applications. ARA proposes to use this as a template.

Club Veeda: A new longer-hours license was granted but the complaints were routed to a false address, so time has now been extended to make complaints again. Individuals encouraged to do so.

### **8. Parking and Parking Permits**

Following meeting with John Charlton and Garry Payne, FC and BC reported that a new consultation about parking will be sent out in the New Year including the proposal that Zone A has extended residents' parking until 10pm and on Sundays. ARA would heartily endorse this.

Parking spaces in Stapley Rd are up for discussion to try to ease traffic flow to the carparks.

An Onstreet Parking Policy is now proposed. It is possible that properties might not automatically have a right to a parking space.

An Explanatory Document is to go out with the consultation which will have had input from the RAs from a series of questions put together by BC and NG. BC,NG

### **9. Albany Lodge**

FC and Lucy Povoas are to meet management from The Lodge to discuss, once again, smoking in the area. (7 December) FC,LP

### **10. St Claire's**

FC & BC have visited. An "Open Day" for local residents to see around before the official opening was unfortunately only given 48 hours' notice, so few went. The facility is now open. Wardens in place as promised and things seem to be working so far. However, the idea has already been introduced for couples to use these flats which would once again double the occupancy density. There will be a meeting between Councillors, Hightown Management and ARA in January. To be watched.

### **11. Pollution**

Local resident, Jack Pia proposes the pedestrianisation of St Peter's Street to reduce pollution levels.

This was attempted whilst he was a LibDem Councillor and not considered a success. It was agreed however that idling is bad, particularly at this time of year and ARA is to encourage SADC to put some teeth into anti-idling. Its new Anti-Idling Policy requires enforcement. BC to investigate source of leaflets (library?) which could be handed to idling car drivers. BC

### **12. APRA AGM and Jubilee Centre Meetings**

BC reported on a good turn-out for an interesting speaker and Edgar Hill took a few questions at a well-attended meeting.

NG & SN attended on an equally well-attended meeting at the Jubilee Centre which is focused on preserving the venue as a community asset. Future meetings (next in January 2018) to be attended by members of ARA. ALL

### **13. Etna Road**

Local resident has requested speed bumps for the road as a safety precaution for the school. It was noted that this was worth pursuing, particularly getting Aboyne Lodge School involved, but that it was known that the council now disapproves of speed bumps because of the hazard for emergency vehicles. General discussion of overall traffic flows took place with some interesting suggestions: e.g. that Gombards should be one way out towards Catherine Street, but were otherwise inconclusive.

#### 14. Subscriptions and AGM Planning

It was agreed at the last meeting that £2 was to be collected towards an ongoing fighting fund early in the New Year. CM has produced sheets for Street Reps to use.\

It was agreed to approach John Allworth to speak. BC heard him at APRA meeting. He is the Building Contractor for the Town Hall reconstructions. FC to contact.

AGM: will take place on Thursday 15 March 2018. JD to book Aboyne Lodge. Notice must go out to residents by 22 February. FC to prepare flier.

FC exhorted committee members to find new recruits.

FC  
JD  
FC  
ALL

#### 15. AOB

15.1 Waxhouse Gate: Although outside the ARA area, it was noted that this has been nicely renovated recently, spurred on by wealthy local resident who is keen that the area be smartened up.

15.2 Aboyne Lodge School: is to be renovated at substantial cost as it has listed status.

15.3 Local Transport Policy Consultation: has been circulated for individual response. (NG made a substantial response to last year's version and thought that not very much of substance had changed)

ALL

15.4 Meeting with Local Police: Sue Noon is to meet with local officer, PC Russo, in January.

SN

15.5 SLP: It was noted that Secretary of State, Sajid Javid, is likely to get involved due to the local council's failure to produce a policy. The local quota for houses to be built in the area is likely to go up substantially due to the lack of plan.

#### 16. Future Meetings

Committee and Street Reps Meeting

Thursday 8 February 2018, 4 Selby Ave

AGM: Thursday 15 March 2018, Aboyne Lodge School

ALL

The meeting ended at 9.20pm