

**Aboyne Residents Association
Committee Meeting, 25 November 2014**

MINUTES

1. Attendance

- Present: Mary Conneely (Chair), Cynthia Ireson, Sue Noon, Brian Benson.
- Apologies: Fiona Couper, Andrew Dawes, Anna Davis

2. Minutes from meeting of September 30, 2014

- Minutes were not available and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

3. Consultation on SADC Strategic Plan

- Brian Benson had submitted comments on behalf of the ARA. In these, objection was made to the use of the Green Belt for development, favouring instead use of existing brown field and city centre sites. The estimated need for housing was also questioned, suggesting that a lower figure would be more sustainable and opposition to the additional congestion that the current plans and associated infrastructure would inevitably bring. Objection was also made to proposals for a major retail development on the Drovers Way site.
- The meeting agreed with the thrust of the comments.

4. Feedback from the Public meeting concerning the proposals for St Claire's

- Brian Benson, Fiona Couper and Anna Davis had attended the two hour meeting on 21st November, which attracted well about 150 people, including local councillors and Anne Main, MP.
- Presentations were given by Karen Dragovich (SDAC Housing), David Bogle (Hightown HA CEO) and the Hightown Service Lead in which the background, development and some operational detail of the proposals was outlined.
- Nigel Povoas (St Clair's Action Group) presented the objectors' response which focused on the density of the proposed development, the perceived risks to the security of vulnerable members of the community and the lack of trust in the council and the HA that had developed over the preceding weeks owing to poor communication, lack of information and a lack of empathy on the part of the developers.
- Q&A followed. A webcast is available on the SADC website.
- The way forward appears to be consultation between SADC Housing Dept and Hightown in the light of the evening's discussion followed by a second meeting with local representatives, to include the ARA. The meeting agreed that the RA will continue to work with the Action Group.

5. Communications Update

- It was decided that developing a website was preferable to a blog as a means of communication with members.
- It was decided that a database of member details was needed. Cynthia and Fiona will meet to discuss its creation.

- The timing of the next ARA newsletter, formally due out in early December, was discussed. Does sufficient content exist for a distribution now, or would delaying publication to January be more informative?
- It was agreed to discuss this with Fiona in a few days' time for her views.

6. Update from Committee Leads

- **Treasurer.** Bank balance now £913.62 excluding subs just received from Worley Road Middle. All of Worley Rd is now covered by Street Reps. Christchurch Crescent, Folly Lane, Adelaide St and Catherine St remain with no Street Rep.
- **Planning.** The Enforcement Hearing concerning the Brickyard will be held Dec 2nd. Brian Benson will attend on behalf of the RA. No further issues were current.

7. 2015 AGM

- The date of 26th March 2015 was agreed, with official notice of the meeting going out in February.

8. Dates of Further Meetings

- **Committee Meetings:** 21st Jan 2015, 3rd March 2015, 11th May 2015
- **Street Representative Meetings:** 24th February 2015, 10th June 2015