

MINUTES OF ARA COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2015

PRESENT – MC, CI, FC, BB, SN.

- 1) **Welcome** by MC.
- 2) **Apologies** – AD
- 3) **Minutes of last committee meeting** - from 25th November 2015 – MC will circulate minutes by email for approval and apologies to the committee. (NB – This has now been done and minutes accepted and approved by committee). We are still awaiting one missing set of minutes and have been assured by AD that they will be sent on.

4) Treasures update (CI).

- £941.62 in Bank Account.
- Nora subscription for 2015 has just been paid.
- Expected outlay for the AGM is £40/50.

5) Comms update (FC).

FC has been looking into options for creating a website for the ARA. The best option is a freelancer called Beverly Szczech. Can offer what we need for approx £100/200, this to be followed up and a final amount discussed further, before any expenditure is committed. FC proposed a small but relevant website. FC showed a possible draft idea and a discussion followed about what should be included, FC will circulate drafts for the committee to contribute to.

ACTION: FC to set up initial meeting with Beverly Szczech.

6) Planning update (BB).

- a) No planning applications for our area at the moment.
- b) Brickyard – Robert Pankhurst has a letter of complaint to send to the council re noise issues already.
- c) Bonjourno Italia - has had massive support against the threat of closure. The present lease expires at the end of 2016.
- d) CI spotted a planning application for the old Japanese restaurant on Spencer Street to be turned into 5 flats.

ACTION: BB to contact Rita Waldron to see what her views are.

- e) Strategic Plan – the responses are beginning to be analysed over the next few weeks by the Planning Policy Committee. BB to go to meetings as an observer and will be able to ask questions if necessary. Agreed as a committee that it is important that someone from the ARA is in attendance if at all possible.

7) Parking Survey (BB)

BB's outlined whether we would be able to challenge the residents parking survey results as the response in our area was very low and the numbers questionable.

FC suggested that we maybe in a position to question the validity of the Council's figures.

CI has compared the results with Zone B – same % response, and feels that we need to challenge the required level of 60% response in order for any changes to be considered and

should we be raising this Chris White? CI will also bring issue up at the next Combined Residents Association meeting, to check their responses.

MC suggested that this should be a key item at the Street Reps meeting.

FC further suggested that if Nigel Gale joins the committee after the AGM it may be helpful to ask him to take on parking as his area of responsibility.

8) St Claire's

There has been no news from the action group. MC thinks that the council's suggestion for a re-development with a reduced number of units is a good compromise. However more information is required.

ACTION: MC to contact Action Group with our response to current proposal. Will wait to hear back from them before we respond to the council.

9) AGM – 26TH MARCH 2015

Lodge Room at School has been booked by FC.

ACTION: MC to invite councillors, but as part of evening, not as speakers.

MC to approach Bar Meze for possible wine donation.

SN to approach Freddie's Restaurant.

Nibbles – small budget available.

Nigel Gale - to audit books prior to meeting.

10) AOB – None.

Meeting Ended at 9.50pm.