

# St. Peter's Neighbourhood Association Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: **Anzio House, St. Peter's.**

Date: **Tuesday 6 November 2018, 7.00pm.**

Present: **Robert Mee (Secretary), Peter Thompson (Treasurer), John Watts, Brian Hunt, Paul Common, Jude Harris, Phil Huddy, David Robinson Young, Peter Boyle**

Apologies: **Jon Bryan (Chair), Gwynneth Common, Catherine Harris, John Cornhill, Veronica Dunn (Cllr), Nick Kemp (Cllr), George Allison (Cllr), Stephen Douglas (Northumbria Police)**

	Item	Action
1.	<p><u>Opening</u> The Meeting commenced at 7.00pm and the Committee agreed Robert should chair the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Litter bins. Robert advised the Council's final plan for the rationalization of litter bins involving new large capacity bins and the upcycling of existing heritage style bins to planters has been approved by the Council. The Council's arrangements for the turnaround are in hand, and a date for this work along with volunteers is to be advised.</li> <li>b. Traffic Management Proposal. The double-yellow-line extension at the Dobson Crescent and Bottlehouse Street junction is being reviewed. The timings for the installation of St. Peter's road signage on Walker Road, and decisions for the traffic control on St. Peter's Wharf /Marina eastside, as well as the double-yellowing extension on St. Lawrence Road are also to be decided upon.</li> <li>c. Footpath tarmac. Council to advise whether the use of black tarmac to repair footpath surfaces instead of the in-keeping red tarmac is contrary to Article 6. Article 6 is intended to maintain the original design values of the St. Peter's estate. The use of black tarmac is upsetting many residents.</li> <li>d. Garden refuse clear away. It was noted the Council teams were very efficient in clearing away bulky waste originating from the volunteer gardener activities, and their work is very much appreciated.</li> <li>e. Walker Road. The parking of many cars, by people who work in Hoult's Yard, on both sides of Walker Road is causing concern within the neighbourhood. It was noted that two moving buses, for example, can no longer pass each other on what is a wide road.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Council</b></p> <p><b>Council</b></p> <p><b>Council</b></p>

3.	<p><u>Police</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Steve reported that incidents in our neighbourhood remain comparatively very low compared with others in the City. He is still of the view that residents and businesses need to be vigilant against opportunists and their presence, and always try to avoid creating opportunities for crimes to be perpetrated.</li> <li>b. Crimes since 04.09.18 (last meeting): Five reported incidents were vehicular related - either theft or attempted theft from vehicles, and interference with vehicles. There was also damage to a home's window, and a theft of garden ornaments.</li> <li>c. There were five incidents of reported anti-social behavior.</li> <li>d. Phil commented that he had seen golf balls in the verges around The Ropery. Discussion appeared to point towards these being possibly the result from people teeing off either from the top path of Hadrian's Way or from across the river at the Friar Goose side. Meeting agreed that residents might be encouraged to be wary and vigilant, and report incidents.</li> </ul>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>PB/JH</b></p>
4.	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Peter advised the current bank balance. He also advised that the grant award from Newcastle Building Society Community Foundation was expected to reach the account within the next week.</li> <li>b. The Association will spend the Newcastle Building Society grant as intended on acquiring three new petrol-motored power tools. The spend is to be supplemented by money from the Association's own funds.</li> <li>c. Some funds remain unspent from the Ward-aid grant from the Council. This has been approved by the Ward Committee to be spent purchasing litter-pickers.</li> <li>d. As agreed at the previous meeting, money from the Association's own funds has been spent on purchasing of spring-flowering bulbs. These have also now been planted in communal areas across the St. Peter's.</li> <li>e. Robert advised that a decision was due on an application to another local business for funding to support another neighbourhood project.</li> </ul>	<p><b>RM</b></p>
5.	<p><u>Wellbeing &amp; Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Fish with Two Heads. Paul reported that the wooden structure had been treated with anti-termite fluid, filled where possible and repainted. It is generally acknowledged that the sculpture now has limited life expectancy. Robert advised that conversations are planned with the Council's Community Arts Manager to work out a possible way forward on replacing the sculpture, and its third-party funding. It was agreed that this is likely to be a three-year plan and would involve a neighbourhood-wide dialogue.</li> <li>b. Autumn volunteer gardening. John reported that the volunteer group was turning out weekly and working through the programme presented by Gwynneth, and approved, at the last meeting.</li> <li>c. New tools. Funded mainly by the Newcastle Building Society Community Foundation grant with a top-up from the Associations' funds, and these are to be purchased from a nearby Walker business.</li> </ul>	

	<p>d. Request for Volunteer Help. The volunteer group had assisted a Rowes Mews property-owner in tackling a problem Ivy tree and other overgrowth growing from public land into his own garden.</p> <p>e. Both Trinity Courtyard and Merchants Wharf had performed well in the local Byker in Bloom competition. Respectively securing first and second in Best Group category. Trinity Courtyard had also won the “Best” in the wider City awards and been highly commended in the Northumbria competition. Robert suggested next year that the Association might financially help the running of the local <i>in Bloom</i> competition.</p> <p>f. Autumn Litter Pick. This will take place Saturday 10 November, 10am – 12 noon, meeting outside Merchants’ Tavern.</p>	<b>All</b>
6.	<p><u>Social &amp; Fundraising</u></p> <p>a. 2018 Christmas Party is planned to take place Saturday 1 December from 7pm at Merchants’ Tavern. Everyone to try to secure donations of raffle prizes.</p> <p>b. Christmas Advent Calendar Window Walk. Volunteer numbers whilst strong, it was noted that there was still some way to go to achieve 24 volunteers to create 24 windows. Everyone agreed to have a further push on recruiting.</p> <p>c. Christmas Foodbank Collection. Precept on St. Peter’s Wharf had volunteered to once again run a two-day Newcastle East Foodbank collection. This will be promoted by the Association across the neighbourhood.</p> <p>d. Christmas Eve Carol Singing. John confirmed that this would be taking place under the main riverside arch in Trinity Courtyard from 6.00pm and that people from across the whole neighbourhood were very welcome to go along and join in.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>All /RM</b></p> <p><b>JDW /All</b></p>
7.	<p><u>Marketing</u></p> <p>a. A winter newsletter and events flyers will be produced and distributed.</p> <p>b. The website and neighbourhood noticeboard are updated regularly.</p>	<b>RM</b>
8.	<p><u>Any other business</u></p> <p>a. Angling Tournament. Committee members asked Robert to write to the Police and the Councillors to outline their concerns, observations and suggestions, as well as seeking information, arising from the news that the event was due to take place that coming weekend.</p> <p>b. SUEZ Recycling. It was felt that a closer understanding might facilitate relationships between this neighbouring business and the neighbourhood. Committee members asked Robert to contact SUEZ in this respect.</p> <p>c. CCTV. Advice had been sought on the installation of CCTV operations. It was agreed that this matter was one for individual residents and businesses to decide upon.</p> <p>d. Spiller’s. Members discussed the St. Peter’s-neighbouring site, the publicized plans for a theme park and works in hand on the site. The perceived lack of consultation with the neighbourhood by the possible applicant, Homes England and Newcastle City Council was noted. Should any planning application come forward for the theme park, the Association will take actions to help St. Peter’s residents and businesses have information on which to base their own views and comments.</p>	<p><b>RM</b></p> <p><b>RM</b></p>

9.	<u>Next Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.</li><li>b. Next meeting: Tuesday 8 January 2019, 7pm, Anzio House</li></ul>	
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