

GLENOGLE COURT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 25 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7.00PM IN STOCKBRIDGE PARISH CHURCH

Present

Jill Andrew (Chair), Sam Rennie (Treasurer and Secretary) Carol Shaw, G Dunbar, Tom Smith, Sandra Smith, Deborah Waterson, Michelle O'Toole, Patrick Honeybone, Colin Dempster, Fiona Dempster, J Sutherland, G Sutherland, Robert Williamson, Ysabel Collyer, D Boyle

Apologies

Caroline Crawford, Chris Brennan, Anne McCarthy, Jane Norrie.
Police: Peter Sparrow, Holly Matheson, Neville Richardson and Wendy Walton
Cllrs: Hal Osler and Max Mitchell

Chair's Report

Jill Andrew welcomed residents to the meeting. She advised that, as the meeting was not quorate, matters would be discussed but no formal decisions taken.

She reported that since the last AGM, various strategies has been tried to increase participation with good results. Michelle O'Toole had been elected to the Committee at the last AGM and Patrick Honeybone and Sandra Smith had been co-opted during the year. Several other residents were willing to assist as required and interest from new volunteers would be welcomed.

She went on to report:

Subscriptions: there had been great success by the treasurer in collecting subscriptions. Details, including the level of subscriptions to be set for next year would be covered in the Treasurer's report.

Barbecue: the general consensus was that this had been a good event and a repeat is planned for next summer.

Gardening: the expenditure for this is as noted by the Treasurer in the accounts. The general consensus is that the gardeners are doing a good job and the Estate is tidy.

Committee: GCRA is always on the lookout for more involvement from residents onto the Committee. Committee members are entirely voluntary and unpaid. The remit of the Association is only to deal with the collection of subscriptions and the payment of the gardening contract. GCRA has no responsibility for maintenance etc of the blocks, regulation of car parking or collection of rubbish.

In summary, Jill Andrew thanked the Committee for their hard work and support over the last year with particular thanks to Sam Rennie for holding the reigns on secretarial and treasurer duties and for the sterling job she had done on the collection of subscriptions including the "bad debts".

The key points arising from discussion of the Chair's report were:-

Rubbish: there are ongoing difficulties with rubbish collection and the only way to address this is to complain to the Council about bins not being emptied on schedule. Recording complaints on the Council website may help as there are target response times the Council aims to achieve. To assist, notices to remind residents not to overfill bins are being provided for each close.

Responsibilities: some boundary walls are cracking and deteriorating and it was noted that where these form part of the boundary to a block then they are the responsibility of the owners. GCRA is responsible for the common areas of grass and the strip along the riverbank; the Council for the adopted, ie tarmac, footpaths; and owners for the paved paths leading to close doors.

Lighting: Some lights along footpaths are not working. These should be reported on the Council website giving the lamp post number where possible and / or identifying the location.

Trees: roots continue to be of concern. However, each block is responsible for the trees within its boundary and, as trees are covered by conservation orders, permission is required for cutting back or felling. It was agreed the gardeners should be asked to treat moss on paths.

Treasurer's Report

The financial position is as reported in the GCRA accounts. The balance as at 30 September was £7,935.62 which is sufficient to cover the gardening contract for the year. Outstanding subscriptions for last year have reduced to £2/300 attributable to two owners who are being actively pursued. Monitoring sales and lets has resulted in improved collection from absentee owners or their agents.

Invoices for the current year have been issued and the online payment facility is proving successful with almost half the subscriptions already paid.

It was proposed that the annual subscription for 17/18 be held at £100.

Secretary's Report

The website appears to be well used though up-to-date figures are not available at present. Minutes of Committee meetings are posted along with information about local events and organisations. Items for inclusion on the website should be notified to Sam Rennie.

It was noted that other items had been largely covered earlier on the agenda and that sharing the secretary's responsibilities among several members had worked fairly well during the year.

Committee Members

Volunteers to serve on the Committee for the coming year are Jill Andrew, Sam Rennie, Carol Fraser, Michelle O'Toole, Sandra Smith and Patrick Honeybone. A few other residents have offered to assist as required and further interest in becoming involved is very welcome.

It is proposed that Jill Andrew continues as Chair and Sam Rennie as Treasurer with additional responsibility for the website. Patrick Honeybone will deal with correspondence, Michelle O'Toole will maintain the database on owners and residents and Sandra Smith will arrange and minute meetings.

Guest Speakers

There were no speakers as none of those invited were able to attend.

Other Matters

Double Yellow Lines: the request for double lines on the bend on Glenogle Road is progressing slowly through Council procedures. The 20mph limit has not yet been re-painted following the roadworks.

Bridge Repairs: GCRA did not receive formal notification of the works to the bridge though some residents were notified on the day the work started.

Potholes: Scottish Water had advised that the potholes in the car park at Ettrickdale are on a rainwater drain and are therefore the responsibility of the Council. This will be pursued.

Bikes: efforts will be made to determine ownership of the bikes left at Liddesdale prior to arranging a charity uplift.

Stair Lighting: some closes have had lighting cleaned / replaced and information about contractor and cost will be made available.

Table and Chairs: GCRA is unaware of any proposals re siting of a picnic table at Ettrickdale. Use of the existing table by non-residents is an ongoing problem despite letters to Standard Life and the School.

Close of Meeting

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was closed.