

GCRA Committee Meeting

Monday 27/10/14

Present:

Gus & Denise McNulty – Secretaries

Michael Sharp – Treasurer

Jane Norie

Jackie Sutherland

ACCOUNTS

Michael opened by going over the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2014. He also provided a statement which has been set out in a new format. The account shows a surplus for the year of £4619.97 and leaves us in a much healthier state than we were a year ago. Michael also said that there are six properties which are showing as being in arrears with the subscription fee.

Michael further stated that the invoices can be sent out in due course either before or just after the AGM. Also it was agreed that there is no need to raise the fees and that they could be left at £90 pa.

TREE MAINTENANCE

It was also raised that it would be worthwhile reminding the members that it is the responsibility of each block to maintain the trees that lie in the area of their blocks.

LANDSCAPING

Gus raised the point that we previously had a rolling programme to replace old shrubs etc and that this could be looked at again. It was agreed that Gus could contact Hall at Greenscape to get an estimate of what it would cost to complete this work. This would be with a view of spreading the cost over a period of time which would depend on the costs involved.

NO PARKING SIGNS

We now have two quotes for new signs. Both for 4 signs to be put onto buildings and 2 signs on posts at the entrance to Liddesdale and Ettrickdale Place. The first sourced by Jackie coming in at £457 and the second recently sourced by Jane coming in at £220. Jane said she is waiting on another

couple of companies getting back to her, however failing this it was agreed that we could progress her quote for £220. It was also clarified that we do not need planning consent as the signs would just be replacing old signage.

GROUNDS/RIVERBANK REINSTATEMENT

Gus said that progress is being made with the reinstatement of the riverbank. A contractor has been appointed and work should start by the end of the year. This should involve cutting back the grass and stone picking. A fence is also to be erected by the red bridge and a hedge planted. However, new grass seed will not be in place until next spring.

On the grounds, Gus said that Chris Brannan had met with councillors Hinds and Bagshaw along with John Wharrie from the council back in January and it had been agreed at that time that the damaged wall in the Liddesdale Place car park would be repaired and the parking bays repainted. There appears to have been little or no progress on this. Gus said that John Wharrie has moved on and possibly this was not passed onto his successor Jonathan James. Gus has recently contacted Jonathan and made him aware of the meeting in January and hopefully we will see some progress on this. Gus also said that John Wharrie had produced a photo from 2007 showing a dip in the Liddesdale car park and that due to this appearing to be old damage that the council would not be repairing this.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Gus said that Rik Hart has been in touch and wants a motion added to the agenda for this year's AGM. Rik feels that there should be better communication between the committee and the members and that more transparency is needed. He wants to propose that we should have more open meetings where all the membership are invited and that this should happen on a quarterly basis.

WEBSITE

Gus also said that Rik Hart has offered to set up and run a website. It was agreed that we could take him up on this.

SOCIAL CONVENER

Denise suggested that we could have a new role on the committee of social convener and we could ask the membership at the AGM if anyone would be interested in taking this on. Michael said that the core function of the GCRA was to maintain the grounds and that we should be careful not to

dilute this too much. It was agreed that this was the case and would continue to be so, however we could add this to the agenda and see if there is any response.

AGM

Gus said that Councillors Hinds and Bagshaw have both agreed to again come along to the AGM.

Also, Gus said that he would contact the Community Policing Team and see if anyone could attend.

The proposed agenda will be:

- CHAIRPERSON REPORT
- SECRETARY REPORT
- TREASURER REPORT
- RIVERBANK / GROUNDS REINSTATEMENT
- COMMUNITY POLICE
- MOTION FROM RIK HART RE: MORE OPEN COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
- SOCIAL CONVENER
- A.O.B

Meeting closed.