

JRA Committee Minutes

Burdon Terrace, 17th December, 2014

- 1 **Present:** TW, RA, NC; RL; BY, AC, Andrew Todd (Newcastle University), CW.
2. **Apologies:** FC; SB, DE, IN.

The minutes of the last meeting on 19th November were accepted as an accurate record.

Action points

TW to follow up outstanding actions on Jesmond Dene.	TW to discuss with Georgina Mackie of Jesmond Dene Residents Association the possibilities of volunteer effort and of business sponsorship.
DE/TW to meet with Diane Wilson re. JRA audit.	To meet in January 2015.
AC to attend landlord meeting and report back to JRA	Deferred to January 2015.
AC to notify JRA of student housing survey.	Deferred to January 2015.
CW to advertise JRA Information Folder on local notice boards.	CW has contact names and to update relevant boards.
TW to attend and report back on Nov. Acord Road Working Group.	Done.
All to come to next meeting with ideas for publicising consultations recommendations.	Done: JRA agenda will be made public - library file, noticeboards, LinkMail.
TW to write to Nexus over concern of felled trees at Jesmond Metro.	Done, but TW to speak to Jesmond Local with update.
TW to make contact with Primary Schools as part of membership drive.	Done
RL to liaise with residents groups for a general meeting.	RL will organise a meeting and RA will ensure that contacts details are complete.

3. Current Urgent Planning Issues

NC took the Committee through the points outlined in the previously circulated paper (see attached).

4. Updates from Chair

(a) Tidy Gardens Scheme

Progress has been made CW/TW have met with Skill Mill who work with Youth Offenders and could use their labour to assist Landlords, Estate Agents in running an effective pilot. Discussions are ongoing.

It may also be possible that SCAN (Student Community Action Network) could have a similar involvement.

(b) Community Food Market

The notes of the second and third meetings of the planning group have been circulated. The Armstrong Bridge has been agreed as the site for 3 trial events: 18 April; 16 May and 20 June, 2015.

Anna Hedworth will be organising the practicalities of the events. The primary focus will be on food and it is proposed that traders pay for stalls to cover marketing and advertising costs. The committee expressed concern over the JRA account being used by the market group and alternative suggestions will be sought at the next meeting.

(c) JRA Library talks 2015

TW and BY met in December to share ideas for the New Year. A theme may be "Jesmond Below the Surface" – whatever this may mean: physically, socially, religiously (or not), politically and so on.

TW has invited Alan Morgan to speak on mines in Jesmond, 12 February. CW offered to speak on National Service in March and this would allow TW/BY time to fill out the programme.

(d) Forward Planning for Community Festival

TW/IN to meet to discuss ideas which will include cycle, walk, food market (16 May)

5. Updates from the Secretary

(a) Communal Bins

David Hardman is organising a vote in all terraced streets where communal bins could be used. JRA agreed that they should be voted on only by residents who share adjacent lanes with the outcome depending on the views expressed by the majority, rather than only one third.

(b) Acord Road Implementation Group

Notes of the two meetings have been circulated. Currently there are two petitions circulating regarding modifying options previously voted on and all six Jesmond councillors will be seeing Jed Bell separately over the issue; a decision by the council is expected soon.

6. Student Update

SCAN will be targeting certain street for clean-ups on 13th February 2015. They are: Cavendish Road, Devonshire Place, Sunbury Avenue and Manor House Road. The initiative will involve students and residents and it is hoped that local businesses may support the work with food and drink for those undertaking clean-up work. It is hoped that student volunteers will be from both Newcastle and Northumbria Universities.

6. AOB

The Chair wished all members of JRA the compliments of the season and wished us all well for the New Year.

The meeting ended with a convivial buffet.

Summary of Action Points

TW and CW to liaise with SCAN, Skill Mill, landlords and agents regarding the Tidy Gardens Scheme.

TW and BY to develop a programme of JRA talks at the Library (and meet in January, 2015).

TW and RL to attend planning meetings for Food Market.

Next meeting 21 January 2015, at Jesmond Library.

BY 9.1.15