



**JESMOND RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION**



JRA AGM Minutes Wednesday 27th September 2023

Welcome and Introductions:

David Houpt chaired the meeting and introduced the Officers of the JRA: Kathy Cunningham (Chair), Nils Clemmetsen (Secretary) and David Etchells (Treasurer). Also welcomed were Guests from Newcastle City Council, Community Safety Development Officer Sally Hamilton and Prevent Coordinator Joe Hogan and from Northumbria Police, Neighbourhood Sergeant Lesley Morton.

Apologies for absence: Ralph Tatt, Ben Ponton, Jeannie Davison & Alan Grant

Minutes of last AGM: No minutes of last meeting due to Covid

Secretary's Report

General

Due to Covid pandemic there has been a restriction on activities since March 2020, however we are now getting things going again.

Linkmail

We continue to send out information that we think will be of interest to Jesmond residents using Linkmail. Thanks to David Houpt for continuing to circulate Linkmail.

Newsletter and E-Bulletins

The JRA sent out the recent e-Bulletin that is circulated electronically to people on Linkmail. In the past we have delivered a newsletter to all residential addresses in Jesmond. Following discussions with the Jesmond Community Forum we discussed the delivery of a simple leaflet to all residential addresses in Jesmond. This will be picked up by the new committee.

As well as Linkmail we are also trying to maintain an increased presence on Facebook and Twitter.

Website

The website was refreshed in early 2023. We were grateful for the assistance provided by Dave Cross that has speeded up viewing the site.

Foodmarket on Armstrong Bridge

We continue to support the foodmarket on Armstrong Bridge. Under the management of Food North East it continues to thrive and is now held twice a month. Kathy Cunningham has regularly been at the market to meet residents.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The JRA continues to support residents with anti-social behaviour (ASB) matters. Since 2020 has been particularly challenging. Before the pandemic, ASB was reduced out of university term times, however during the pandemic many students in private rented accommodation chose to return to their flats over the summer which meant that there were continued issues. This led to the formation of the "End ASB in Jesmond" facebook group. We work with the "End ASB in Jesmond" facebook group with our main link being Ben Ponton who has been a JRA committee member and is also "End ASB in Jesmond" facebook group administrator.

Jesmond East Low Traffic Neighbourhood

Newcastle City Council introduced the Jesmond East Low Traffic Neighbourhood in March 2023. The trial could be in place for up to 18 months. There was a public consultation for the first six months which was extended to 15 October 2023. As the JRA tries to represent the interests of all Jesmond Residents and we know that there are residents both strongly for and against measures that have been taken the JRA committee decided that the JRA would remain neutral on this matter. There are dedicated action groups for both sides. The JRA has been represented at various meetings that have taken place.

The Grove, Jesmond

The Grove, Jesmond is a footpath/road that links the north end of Queens Terrace with Jesmond Dene Road. In March 2021 a local resident contacted the JRA to see if the JRA would support an application for the path to be recorded on the definitive map as a public right of way by Newcastle City Council. The application was made on the basis of witness statements provided by residents that there has been unhindered use of the footpath for more than 20 years. Soon after the application was lodged the Public Rights of Way Officer left the Council and was not replaced for over six months. Due to the delay an appeal was made for non-determination of the application to the Planning Inspectorate who currently have jurisdiction. The City Council responded that the application will be determined by 31 December 2023.

Planning

The JRA continues to take a keen interest in planning matters affecting Jesmond. In particular we maintain our interest in restricting the number of family dwellings being converted into Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) and generally register an objection where a change of use or increase in size is proposed. The JRA will try to assist residents with planning matters where appropriate.

The area covered by the JRA is the residential areas within North and South Jesmond Wards.

A summary of approval for major developments as well as other significant matters is as follows:

Change of use ground and first floors from private club (Sui Generis) and erection of second floor to provide 12 no residential apartments (Class C3), new entrances at ground floor, refuse/cycle storage, 16 no car parking spaces, hard and soft landscaping.

Royal British Legion Club, 1 - 3 West Jesmond Avenue, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 3EX
2023/0492/01/DET

There were two earlier applications that would have added residential accommodation with the club remaining operational, but the club has now closed.

Change of use from Office use (class E) to 8 No. bedroom HMO (sui generis); erection of stone pillars, boundary plinth and railings to front; erection of 1.8m high boundary fence with gate to rear; installation of bicycle racks to rear; and formation of refuse storage and 2 No. Parking bays to rear (Part retrospective) (Amended Description)

18 Portland Terrace, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 1QQ 2023/0510/01/DET Grant Conditionally
This was the third similar application.

Change of use of residential dwelling (Class C3) to 3 bed HMO (Class C4).

33 Sunbury Avenue, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 3HD 2022/1958/01/ DET Grant Conditionally

The following applications were refused planning permission:

Demolition of public house and erection of 12 no. town houses (Class C3), 6 of which have integral garages, cycle, refuse storage and hard and soft landscaping.

The Dun Cow Brandling Place, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 4RS 2022/1621/01/DET Refused

Change of use from 6 bed HMO (Class C4) to 7 bed HMO (Sui Generis)

1 Oakland Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 3DR 2023/1037/01/DET Refused

Proposed conversion, extension and alteration of existing dwelling house (Class C3) to create 4 apartments (Class C3) through the conversion of roof space to residential, erection of 3 storey extension

to south elevation, first floor extension to south east, creation of roof terrace to south west, stepped access to lower ground from western elevation, alterations to elevations including insertion of additional windows, insertion of rooflights and provision of refuse and cycle store.

The Porte Otterburn Villas, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 3AR 2022/0914/01/DET Refused

The property has now been sold and there is a new planning application that appears to be for continued use as a family home.

Change of use from first floor residential flat (class C3) to 3 bed HMO (Class C4) (retrospective).

61 Mayfair Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 3DN 2022/0399/01/DET Refused

Change of use from six bedroom, three reception room Use Class C3 residential dwellinghouse across three levels to sui generis House in Multiple Occupation with no more than seven residents.

41 Osborne Avenue, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 1JS 2022/0692/01/DET Refused

Change of use of ground floor flat from residential (Class C3) to 3 bed HMO (Class C4) (Retrospective).

57 Lavender Gardens, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 3DD 2022/0608/01/DET Refused

Matters Arising from Report

Concern was raised about the reach of linkmail and how this could be widened.

Communication: the library folder of JRA Minutes and correspondence has not been updated since 2020.

Planning, a number of businesses have been turned into HMOs.

The Grove, the view was that this needs to be a granted PROW status.

Treasurer's Report

Four years of accounts were summarised:

| Year Ended May 31st | Income | Expenditure | Balance |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 2020 | £1828.50 | £429.60 | £4739.69 |
| 2021 | £903.50 | £95.80 | £5547.39 |
| 2022 | £898.50 | £25.00 | £6420.89 |
| 2023 | £805.50 | £25.00 | £7201.39 |

Matters arising from Report

Sources of funding, the JRA is funded by donations and Council Ward Grants.

Newsletters, funding has been given for newsletters but not spent.

Christmas tree, will there be a Christmas tree in Acorn Road?

Thanks were given to previous Chair and Secretary Ron Armstrong who has personally funded linkmail for a number of years.

Election of Committee for the year 2023-24

The following Committee Members are re-elected

- Kathy Cunningham (Chair 2022/23)
- David Etchells (Treasurer 2022/23)
- Nils Clemmetsen (Secretary 2022/23)
- Jeannie Davison
- David Houpt
- James Knox
- Ben Ponton
- Ralph Tatt
- Alan Grant

Nominated new committee members were elected to the committee

- Katherine Robson
- Annie Ester

Sarah Kettle and Guy Pike have chosen to stand down from the Committee. We thank them for their input.

AOB

None

Q&A with Northumbria Police and Newcastle City Council

Police Matters

Topics discussed were:

Theft from motor vehicles

Cycle Theft

Motoring offences, speeding, pavement parking and blocked dropped kerbs.

Operation Oak

E-scooter and food delivery drivers

Police contact details on community noticeboards

Newcastle City Council

Preventing extremism

Victim support

Online Safety Bill