



JRA Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday 12th June 2024

Committee Members

Jonathan Scott, David Etchells, Nils Clemmetsen, Katherine Crosby, Jeannie Davison, Annie-Ester Dugini, Ian Nelson, Yve Ngoo, Ben Ponton, Aldo Spagnoli, Eileen Strouzer & Ralph Tatt

Present: Jonathan Scott, David Etchells, Katherine Crosby, Ian Nelson, Aldo Spagnoli, Eileen Strouzer & Ben Ponton

Apologies for absence: Jeannie Davison, Nils Clemmetsen, Yve Ngoo & Ralph Tatt

Minutes of last committee meeting: Accepted as a true record.

Action points from last meeting:

Finalise changes to Constitution. JS to review proposed changes again.	Deadline for amendments is Saturday (15 th)
AS to send out draft Communications Plan	See agenda item
Finalise joint JRA/JCF Leaflet – AS/NCC	See agenda item
Outline plan for allocated roles - All	See agenda item
NCC further action to work out whether to push for Article 4 Direction for new planning restriction on Short Term Holiday Lets.	NCC Not in attendance

Committee Members to present plans associated with Aims and Objectives against agreed roles

JS reviewing changes to Constitution.	Deadline is Saturday 15 th for amendments
Liaison with the Police and Crime Commissioner – ES	ES has drafted a letter and has asked AS to develop a JRA Letterhead
Liaison with Jesmond Ward Councillors - KC	KC is developing the role and intends to have regular meetings with Ward Councillors
Liaison with Jesmond Community Forum – DH	DH has resigned from the committee
Liaison with local Jesmond businesses – YN (BP proposes business cards that YN could give out in her role as business liaison officer)	YN absent
JRA contribution to Christmas/Winter Festival Events in Jesmond – A-ED	A-ED absent
Social Media – AS	See report
Working with landlords – RT	RT absent
Liaison with Jesmond Neighbourhood Groups – IN	See report
ASB / Environment – BP & JD	See report
Planning and Licensing – NCC	NCC absent but report submitted

Management of JRA Social Media Accounts

AS circulated a report on JRA social media, i.e. Facebook, Twitter and Linkmail. As a result there will be more emphasis on the activities of the JRA, AS is looking after Facebook; NCC is looking after Linkmail and IN Twitter.

Joint JRA/JCF Leaflet

AS has circulated draft cover artwork – see attached. Maybe aim for October delivery so there is at least a chance of leaflets being delivered to student houses not being immediately binned?

Jesmond East Low Traffic Neighbourhood

No progress, traffic on the rat runs is building up again; JS to meet with Newcastle City Council for an update.

ASB – BP

The committee notes that a lot of instances of ASB are going unreported as there seems to be no consequences; residents are to be encouraged to report ASB, broken glass, litter, vomit etc. With the end of the academic terms students and landlords have been dumping rubbish in the back lanes, the Council have been clearing the rubbish away but the culprits are not pursued.

The now vacated Legion building has been identified as an emerging potential hotspot for ASB.

A concern has been raised about properties been let with overflowing drains and the then not being addressed.

Neil Ford (Newcastle University) and Vashti Hutton (Northumbria University) are to attend the next committee meeting, BP & JS to meet to set agenda for the meeting.

Treasurers Report – DE

A draft Financial Statement was circulated, the JRA finished the financial year (May 31st) with a balance of £7606.29.

Planning – NCC in absentia

The Legion has been sold to a local developer – Modo Bloc. NCC & AS met with the developer; the plans are for up to 60 1 and 2 bedroom flats As planning is expected to take around 18 months for the redevelopment, considering short term use of the building and car park. Considering three temporary Padel courts in the car park and the building as some form of club house. The JRA is to monitor application progress and submit objection if appropriate.

NCC attended the community consultation event for the proposed development of Whites Hotel. Bar Blanc is to remain operational; the hotel rooms are to be converted to 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. The planning application is being submitted within six weeks, JRA will monitor and submit an objection if appropriate.

Licensing

No current applications but JRA to monitor the licence renewal for Whites Hotel

A.O.B.

Defibrillator

The JRA has been approached to make a donation towards the installation of a defibrillator at The Holy Trinity Church. The committee raised a few concerns that need further discussion.

Local Residents Groups

IN has a list of local residents groups although this is somewhat outdated; to update the list it is requested that details are passed to IN. Tanya Pretswell was mentioned as a potential source of contacts.

Absenteeism

JS noted that some committee members have poor attendance and questioned their commitment.

Rats

Rat are being noted in greater numbers in back alleys and around Jesmond Dene. Residents are urged to contact PSR to report sightings.

Next meeting - Wednesday 3 July 2024 at 7:00pm in the Library**Action Points:**

Finalise changes to Constitution. JS has set deadline as Saturday 15th
AS to develop a JRA Letterhead
Finalise joint JRA/JCF Leaflet – AS/NCC
Contact info for residents groups to be sent to IN - All
Planning and Licensing renewal applications for Whites Hotel to be monitored - NCC
NCC further action to work out whether to push for Article 4 Direction for new planning restriction on Short Term Holiday Lets.
JS to meet with Council re: LTN
JS & BP to develop agenda for meeting with University representatives

Dates of Next Meetings:

Wednesday 3 July 2024

No meeting in August

Proposed Autumn Meetings

Wednesday 11 September 2024 (2nd Wednesday to be well past summer holidays and closer to AGM)

Wednesday 2 October 2024

Wednesday 6 November 2024

All meetings to be held in Jesmond Library and to start at 7:00pm UNO.



JRA Committee Meeting Summary Wednesday 12th June 2024

Development of Aims and Objectives for 2024 and changes to Constitution.

Jonathan Scott reviewing changes to Constitution.

Management of JRA Social Media Accounts

Report on JRA social media circulated, i.e. Facebook, Twitter and Linkmail. As a result there will be more emphasis on the activities of the JRA, AS is looking after Facebook; NCC is looking after Linkmail and IN Twitter.

Joint JRA/JCF Leaflet

Draft cover artwork circulated. Maybe aim for October delivery so there is at least a chance of leaflets being delivered to student houses not being immediately binned?

ASB

The committee notes that a lot of instances of ASB are going unreported as there seems to be no consequences; residents are to be encouraged to report ASB, broken glass, litter, vomit etc. With the end of the academic terms students and landlords have been dumping rubbish in the back lanes, the Council have been clearing the rubbish away but the culprits are not pursued. The now vacated Legion building has been identified as an emerging potential hotspot for ASB. A concern has been raised about properties been let with overflowing drains and the then not being addressed.

Planning

The Legion has been sold to a local developer – Modo Bloc. JRA representatives met with the developer; the plans are for up to 60 1 and 2 bedroom flats. As planning is expected to take around 18 months for the redevelopment, the developer was considering short term use of the building and car park however due to vandalism this is unlikely. The JRA is to monitor application progress and submit objection if appropriate.

NCC attended the community consultation event for the proposed development of Whites Hotel. Bar Blanc is to remain operational; the hotel rooms are to be converted to 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. The planning application is being submitted within six weeks, JRA will monitor and submit an objection if appropriate.

Licensing

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Local Residents Groups

JRA assembling a current list of local residents groups with lead contacts.

Rats

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