

Huntly Gardens Proprietors Association

Committee Meeting

24.10.2024

6.30 at No 4.

Attending: Lawrence Weaver, CH (4), Hilary Barclay, Gardens (6), Stewart Curren, N/S Road (3), Mo Gillespie, Tres (10), Joyce Lavelle, Sec (2), Joss Reid (9), Ronnie Kyle (2), Andy Whillance (9),

Minute of the meeting: The purpose of the meeting was to review progress since our last meeting and plan for the 2025 AGM. Lawrence welcomed all and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies** from Dorothy Gillespie (23)
2. **Review of Committee Meeting Minutes 04.03.24** which were accepted, with Joyce highlighting items already completed, ie. information forwarded to Andy for website, consultation on lighting sent out, constitution sent out to new committee members and consultation with ironworker on damaged railings at no.11.
3. **Garden business:** The issue of non-payers of garden fees had been raised with the committee. Following discussion, it was decided not to pursue legal action, but to continue to monitor and follow up on an individual basis.
Trees took up the remainder of this section. A request had been made to have trees on the north side topped and discussion held at the last committee meeting between topping and thinning. Advice had been sought in the interim and it was agreed that we should have an annual inspection done on the trees by an arborist, both to help with this decision and for insurance purposes. Stewart pointed out that GCC offers this service and the committee agreed that it would be good to have this done and figures available for the AGM as it would have a knock-on effect on future garden fees.
Hilary pointed out that she separately has a quote for work to be done on the trees at the bottom of the garden of £2,500. The committee agreed this should go ahead.
Garden furniture which had again been raised was put on hold until the expense of the decision on trees was known.
The responsibility for repairing the garden/road edging on the north side following the replacement of the old lamps had been in contention between the two account holders. While a split had been agreed, Lawrence stepped in with a £300 donation, which he had earned for allowing the use of his house for filming. A vote of thanks was given to Lawrence for this donation.
4. **Website:** Andy demonstrated the new website, showing us how to access it and the different sections it now held. He asked us to add any photos or other appropriate information we may have. It was also agreed to introduce the website to all residents at the forthcoming AGM. He was congratulated and thanked for his work on this to date.
5. **Road business:** Stewart reported that the new lighting was now all done and paid for. He was also congratulated on a job well done!
Ronnie went on to report the findings of the ironworker who had visited no.11 to survey the ongoing damaged railings situation. He reported that it now looks like the metalwork would need to be recast and a stone worker involved. In time, this damage will affect the pavement. It was accepted that this could only be initiated by the owner. Recognising this, there was a further suggestion about improving the temporary barrier with something safer and better-

looking. It was acknowledged that this would also require input from the owner. Mo agreed to have an informal discussion with the owner.

6. **Preparation for AGM February 2025:** It was agreed to hold the AGM on Monday 24th February 2025 which meets our constitutional requirement. Hilary would book the room. Joyce would prepare and send out the initial invitation giving advance warning of the date, including an invitation to join the committee and how to do this. Stewart and Hilary would prepare their annual reports on the roads and garden together with financial reports for the second circulation along with the minutes of last year's AGM and an agenda.
7. **AOCB:** There was some discussion around how to involve more south side residents on the committee. It was agreed to specifically target them with the invitation to the AGM and Joss agreed to 'go and knock some doors' to personalise the invitation. There was also some discussion around the emissions-related parking charges currently being proposed by GCC, with individuals commenting that they had or would respond to this proposal before the closing date of 1st November 2024.
8. **Date of next committee meeting:** It was agreed to hold our next meeting after the AGM on 13.03.2025.

The meeting closed with thanks to Lawrence for again generously hosting the meeting at 8.15pm.