

Huntly Gardens Proprietors' Association (HGPA)

Annual General Meeting

20.02.2023

Location: Kelvinside Hillhead Parish Church, Belmont Room

Time: 6.30pm

Attending: Lawrence Weaver (4), Hilary Barclay (6), Stewart Curren (3), Joyce Laville (2), Ronald Inglis (15), Ronnie Kyle (2), Dorothy Gillespie (23), I. Mackinnon (2), Maureen Curren (3), P Barclay (6), John Carrigan (16), Bill Daly (13), Jane Daly (13), Ronald Inglis (15), John Miller (8), Rhona Lindsay (6A), Simon Naylor (3/30), Mo Gillespie (10), Alison & Paddy Dorian (13), Katy Cook (14), Joss Reid (9).

Apologies: Brendan Murphy (1), Graham & Belinda Sanders (15), Bev Shroot (24), Emma Kelly (19), Rosie Lever (12).

Minute of Meeting

1. Lawrence, as chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated how pleased he was to see so many people willing to come out on a winter's evening.
2. He went on to read apologies and ask if anyone present had any to add.
3. Lawrence proposed the minutes of last years AGM which were accepted by the meeting as accurate.
4. Hilary Barclay, as Gardens Co-ordinator presented the already circulated Gardens Report and Accounts. She highlighted the rise in the numbers of birds in the garden with particular reference to the flock of Goldfinches. She also mentioned the purchase of new furniture as requested at last year's AGM, and asked for everyone's help in keeping 'sets' together. Hilary also reported a clean up of the area behind the shed and hoped that we could try to keep it clear by removing rather than dumping any unused item – particularly barbecues. She also reported that the gardener is no longer using the glyphosate-based weed suppressant that had been raised as an issue at last year's AGM. Hilary then asked for any questions.
A new resident, John Carrigan raised the issue of dogs in the garden. An e-mail had already been received by the committee from another member, Andy Whillance with a similar request, so it was agreed to discuss now as part of the garden report, rather than later under AOCB. Both residents were suggesting allowing owners' dogs in the garden, to be kept under control, on short leads, cleaning up and removing dog litter.
Hilary – the Gardens Co-ordinator, said she believed that in the best interests of both the gardens and the residents who use it, that the status quo of no dogs should be maintained. She gave as reasons, that not all dog owners are responsible, that mess is likely to be inevitable, some residents are not comfortable around dogs and there would be an issue of policing if dogs were not kept under control? A wide-ranging discussion followed with several non-dog owners expressing their support for allowing dogs in with suggested restrictions. John asked if the matter could be put to all residents. After further discussion, it was referred back to the committee for discussion at its next meeting.
5. North-side Roads Co-ordinator, Stewart Curren, gave the also circulated Road Report and Accounts. He addressed each of six key issues, with the damaged railing at no 11 being picked up by the meeting for further discussion, with many owners worried about the ongoing health and safety implications of this now 6 year old problem. Lawrence outlined

the amount of support previously offered by the committee and subsequently ignored by the owners. He then reported on a discussion following last year's AGM, with one of the owners, which led him to telephone the blacksmith named as dealing with the repair but was not entirely satisfied with his response. The meeting agreed that Lawrence should pursue this blacksmith further if he could be provided with an address for him as it was felt that a face-to-face discussion might be more productive. A member present said she might be able to help with this and would pass any information on to Lawrence. Hilary also suggested that the resolution may ultimately lie with Glasgow City Council and that we individually should keep up pressure on the council by phone and e-mail, rather than continuously pursuing the elderly residents at No 11.

Another resident asked about the abandoned car. It was explained that because it was not abandoned but owned by a resident, there was nothing the committee could do about having it removed. Following further discussion, it was agreed that the committee would investigate whether the recently introduced GCC Parking Zone over-ruled private road status on this matter.

It was also suggested by a new resident that we consider asking for painting of parking bays. Stewart pointed out that the original Roads Sub-committee had asked for this not to happen as it was thought we could get more cars in without it. While acknowledging that sometimes odd spaces were inevitable, it was still felt preferable in terms of residents being able to park on the road to have no bays painted.

Other issues highlighted were about drains – which were confirmed as our responsibility, and an upcoming discussion with Kew Lane Owners about possible introduction of CCTV following the current spate of 'bin raiding'.

Stewart also mentioned the 'Welcome Letter' specifically designed to help those new to Huntly Gardens to understand their responsibilities on becoming an owner. It has been found to be useful in its draft form and is currently close to completion.

6. The Treasurer's Report was given by Hilary in Brendan's absence and focussed mainly on ongoing garden expenses and how it was necessary to maintain enough in the fund for emergency work. After some discussion it was agreed to raise the garden fee to £120 per year (from £108 last year).
7. Lawrence stated that the committee still had three vacancies and only one representative from the south side but had received no new nominations. He asked those present for nominations and received the following: John Carrigan (16) was proposed by Mo Gillespie (10) and seconded by Ronald Inglis (15). Joss Reid (9) was proposed by Simon Naylor (30) and seconded by Katy Cook (14). Both agreed to serve on the committee and will be contacted by Lawrence inviting them to the next committee meeting.
8. AOCB. Items which might have been in this section had already risen and nothing further was raised.
9. The next AGM will be in the third week of February 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm with thanks to the Chair, Co-ordinators, and the Secretary.