

# *THE BLACKET ASSOCIATION*

## **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING on 7 October 2013 at 11 Dryden Place**

**Apologies :** Patricia Alston (PA); Alison Mowat (AM); & Ray Footman (RF)

**Present :** *Chair* - Hazel Fletcher (HF); Bob Cupples (BC); Ian Lewis (IL);  
Sheila McLeish (SMcL); Becky Colegrave (Bec); Richard Seligman (RS);  
Hugh Mackay (HMac) & Ian Chisholm (IC).

**MINUTES** : Minutes of 26 August 2013 were approved.

**COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS** : This matter was carried forward. BC & HF are still to meet to define detailed breakdown of required tasks & roles, with particular regard to BC retiring as Secretary at 2014 AGM. All were encouraged to seek candidates to replace AM & IL at AGM. HF agreed to confirm Committee going forward including if PA & JJW wished to remain as co-opted members given their other commitments, instead their expertise being called on a case-to-case basis.

***New Action 7Oct13(a)***: ALL – identify new Committee candidates.

***New Action 7Oct13(b)***: HF – to confirm Committee & contact PA & JJW re co-opted status.

**PLANNING : THRUMS HOTEL** : BC reported that he had received an eMAIL (at 3:20pm!) indicating that the Council had instructed a contractor to remove the blue container in the car park. This would apparently happen on the first weekend in November.

***New Action 7Oct13(c)***: BC – to confirm removal of container before AGM.

**ROYAL COMMONWEALTH POOL** : **Street Market**: BC to confirm market has been abandoned.

**NEW PLANNING MATTERS** : **44 Blacket Place**: Planning had no objection to removal of spruce and immature silver birch from back garden.

**32 Minto Street**: Like West Blacket Association, no objection made to application.

**1a Mayfield Terrace**: Permission granted for demolishing existing garage and building a double garage. No objection made.

**EXISTING PLANNING MATTERS** : **7 Dryden Place**: No decision had been made by Council.

**7a Blacket Place**: RS had seen their suggested internal alterations which raised no planning issues.

**23 Minto Street** : Committee were unanimously dismayed that the Council have decided to approve the Variation to the original Planning Application and were additionally very concerned that there was no avenue to challenge this through Planning process, unlike that available to applicants. The result of this is a building which in several major aspects is totally inappropriate for a Conservation Area.

Further the process which led to this decision was significantly flawed in that major alterations were deemed “not material”, thus not requiring to be re-advertised. This sets a very dangerous precedent and the Association are going to raise a formal complaint with the Chief Executive of the Council.

***New Action 7Oct13(d)***: BC – to draft letter of complaint regarding planning decision.

**GRANGE/PRESTONFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (GPCC)** : HF has been formally appointed as the Association representative.

**OTHER CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS** : No reports presented. As agreed at last meeting, BC will circulate suitable eMAILs received by the Committee.

***New Action 7Oct13(e):*** BC – to forward suitable eMAIL correspondence.

**WEBSITE** : HF reported that KFO had been ill - the planned meeting had not taken place.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** : IC has taken over fully from AM and all queries and information should now be directed to him.

**BLACKET AVENUE WORKING PARTY** : A cherry tree had been removed in North Blacket Place and replaced by a weeping rowan. The fence outside Thrums Hotel has been replaced but some of the posts supporting the fence are requiring replacement. Quote for £650 had been received but HMac was meeting with Council in the hope of getting a contribution.

***New Action 7Oct13(f):*** HMac – to forward met with Council re fence costs.

**TRAFFIC AND PARKING** : BC will circulate consultation TRO on Resident Parking. IC received letter from Council regarding upgrading Zone 7 parking to which stated that the costs were now unachievable as they are in the order of £600,000.

***New Action 7Oct13(g):*** IC – to seek clarification on Council response.

**COMMUNICATIONS** : ***Next Newsletter:*** To be issued immediately covering : AGM; Neighbourhood Watch; Owen Dudley Edwards talk; eMAIL trial; Working Party; Planning Process; Committee candidates.

**SOCIAL EVENTS** : **AGM** : HF/Bec had good meeting with Salisbury Arms re Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November including alterations to room layout & cost of £7 per head. This was agreed but detailed arrangements (e.g. microphones; name labels etc) to be confirmed.

Given planning issues over 23 Minto Street, no invitation is to be made to Planning but instead invitation to go to Councillor Perry, chairman of Planning Committee, to speak to “Planning Rights & Responsibilities in Conservation Areas” as well as invitations to other councillors.

Committee are to arrive at 7:15pm followed by members at 7:30pm for 7:45pm start. BC will redraft the AGM invitation & 2012 AGM minutes for issuing by 1<sup>st</sup> November. This will be followed up by issue of all reports by 15<sup>th</sup> November.

***New Action 7Oct13(h):*** HF/Bec – to book venue & confirm detailed arrangements.

***New Action 7Oct13(i):*** BC – to invite Councillors to AGM.

***New Action 7Oct13(j):*** BC – to finalise AGM agenda & minutes for issue by 1<sup>st</sup> November.

***New Action 7Oct13(k):*** BC – to issue reports for AGM by 14th November.

**OTHER BUSINESS** : **Minto Hotel** : Following a member request, BC did survey regarding noise pollution emanating from rear of the Minto Hotel and problems are being experienced by some households. This is occurring despite undertakings made under former licencing process, that this would be minimised. BC will write to Licencing Authority raising as an issue.

**New Action 7Oct13(k):** BC – to write to Licencing Authority regarding Minto Hotel.

**FUTURE MEETINGS** :

AGM	- 18 Nov ( <i>venue : Salisbury Arms</i> )
Committee	- 13 Jan ( <i>host : BC</i> )
Committee	- 17 Mar ( <i>host : tba</i> )

**SUMMARY of CLOSED ACTIONS :**

**18Mar13(h):** HMac – contact Planning on attendance of officer at AGM - CLOSED.

**18Mar13(i):** HF – contact RF/KFO re updating content on website - CLOSED.

**13May13(b):** BC – to query progress on the Thrums Enforcement Order - CLOSED.

**13May13(d):** RF – to meet KFO re website - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(a):** BC – to supply list of Committee with re-election dates for AGM - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(c):** RS – to contact owner of 7a Blacket Place re application - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(e):** AM/IC – to meet with WPC Collins - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(f):** AM/IC – to raise issue of tramp in Mayfield Terrace shrubbery - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(h):** IC – to write to Council re upgrading Zone 7 parking facilities - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(i):** HF/Bec – to identify and organise venue - CLOSED.

**26Aug13(j):** BC – to draft agenda for AGM - CLOSED.

### SUMMARY of OPEN ACTIONS :

- 14Jan13(b): SMcL – production of new “welcome pack” – carried forward.**
- 18Mar13(l): ALL – consider the new resident information proposal– carried forward.**
- 13May13(a): BC/HF – to provide breakdown of required tasks & roles – carried forward.**
- 13May13(f): BC – continue to update list from IC and any other source – carried forward.**
- 26Aug13(b): BC – to contact Southside Ass to confirm market not continuing – carried forward.**
- 26Aug13(d): HF/RF – to meet KFO re website and agree upgrade process – carried forward.**
- 26Aug13(g): BC – to circulate Resident Parking consultation document – carried forward.**
- 7Oct13(a): ALL – identify new Committee candidates.**
- 7Oct13(b): HF – to confirm Committee & contact PA & JJW re co-opted status.**
- 7Oct13(c): BC – to confirm removal of container before AGM.**
- 7Oct13(d): BC – to draft letter of complaint regarding planning decision.**
- 7Oct13(e): BC – to forward suitable eMAIL correspondence.**
- 7Oct13(f): HMac – to forward met with Council re fence costs.**
- 7Oct13(g): IC – to seek clarification on Council response.**
- 7Oct13(h): HF/Bec – to book venue & confirm detailed arrangements.**
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