

## AGM minutes 2022 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 Newcourt Community Centre

7:30pm

Trustees in attendance: Gordon Edwards, Helen Harper, Paulene Godfrey, Lucy Bliss, Sam Prestwood, Paul Brady.

Officers in attendance: Lisa Gordon, Karen Silcox,

Councillors in attendance: Cllr Rob Newby, Cllr Joshua Ellis-Jones (Exeter City Council) Cllr Andrew Leadbetter (Devon County Council)

Other people in attendance: Voting members of the Newcourt Community Association, Dawn Rivers, Programme Manager Communities Exeter City Council. Andrew Sails, Chairman Seabrook Orchards Residents Action Group (SORG), Cher Bradbury – Arts Café facilitator.

Apologies: Tina Lawton Community Builder for Newcourt Area

### **Agenda items**

Minutes from AGM 2021: The meeting agreed the last AGM minutes: No comments received. Gordon Proposed to accept, Paulene Seconded. Meeting voted to agree.

#### Election of trustees:

- Trustees that have resigned since the last AGM: Judy Cretney, Emma Kain, Lesley Harvey, and Richard Whittaker.
- Trustees stepping down and not standing for re-election; Jonathan Draper, Paul Brady, and Christina Thomas. Gordon Edwards thanked them for all the time they have contributed.
- Trustees coopted since the last AGM standing for re-election: Gordon Edwards, Lucy Bliss, Paulene Godfrey, Sam Prestwood, Gill Westcott. These trustees were proposed by Jonathan Draper and seconded by Paul Brady. All members voted in agreement.

Gordons Chairmans Speech: Gordon summarised the activity of the NCA over the last 12 months. The loss of several key trustees along with the resignation of the Community Centre manager led to a significant focus on resilience. This work continues. Gordon pledged that in order to support the community hire prices at the community centre would not be raised.

Karen's Financial report: Karen wants to record her thanks for all the volunteers for the position we find ourselves in today. There are signs of recovery in the finances. Rental income is up from £32,000 approx in 2020 to £42,000 in 2021 with period to June 2022 already taking nearly £40,000 in rental income. 2021 was a small loss of £827 which was good in the circumstances.

Seabrook Orchards update: "We are delighted to report that SORG is now very much up and running. With over 130 households signed up to our mailing list. We held our inaugural AGM and elected an executive committee. We are grateful to NCA for your encouragement and support. Ultimately, we expect Seabrook Orchards to comprise of around 700 homes, half of which are yet to be built. The development is due to include communal *managed areas* including a streamside walk, children's play areas, the M5 sound barrier, sports pitches, allotments, and Seabrook Square. The first children's playground has now been completed, and a station for *co cars and co bikes* is now operating on Dart Ave. We hoped the square would include a medical facility; however, this now seems very unlikely, with the developer paying a financial compensation sum to be used offsite. We are seeking assurances that the money will be used enhancing health provision for the Topsham/Glasshouse

Lane area. Many of you are aware of the narrow strip of land separating Fish St and Vernon crescent, this is often referred to as a *Ransom strip*. We are trying to establish who owns this land in order to negotiate the opening of the road for cars to travel between the two estates. So overall the Seabrook vision remains an exciting one, but its implementation is very much a complex work in progress. If you live in Seabrook, do make sure you are on our mailing list. Thank you.” (Andrew Sails. SORG)

Community Activities: Pop up Cafes; Cher Bredbury. Thank you for the invite to be here tonight. The pop-up cafes were set up to help fill/bridge the gap between the Newcourt community and 100 Club based in countess Wear. These sessions were funded by Northcott Theatre. The first and second cafes were attended by between 8 to 10 young people. We offered refreshments, it was a drop-in session with no booking required. We had a week break as no staff from 100 club were available to attend. We had two further cafes planned, however no one turned up yet young people were in the local area.

Presentation from Lisa Gordon newly appointed Community Engagement Officer: Lisa showed her vision for her role and future development for Newcourt community. We are the first Community Association to employ someone to engage with the community.

Community Builder Update: The meeting watched a video update from Tina about the work in the area over the last 12 months. Karen has asked Kate Arkell, administrator if the NCA membership mailing list to forward Tina’s report to the membership.

#### Councillors Questions and Answers:

Cllr Andrew Leadbetter, Cllr Rob Newby, Cllr Joshua Ellis-Jones

Also, in attendance Dawn Rivers -Exeter City Council

Q 1) Resident Angela: Why do we need Lisa as well as Tina? Can we get money for a loop/Av system in the community centre?

Gordon response: Tina only has a set number of hours per week to engage with a wide area of the community and her feedback is for the council whereas Lisa is for Newcourt and solely Newcourt. We will commit to investing in equipment.

Q 2) Resident Antony: What is happening with the housing plans for St Bridget Nursery site? Were these included in the original Greater Newcourt Plan?

Rob Newby response: Original plans did not include this. At present no decision made.

Antony: Traffic will be the issue. Traffic shouldn’t be using Old Rydon Lane, why can’t they use Ikea roundabout? The infrastructure does not appear on original plan.

Rob Responds: It seems to be build it then think about things after. Its like a production line. Feels like its political.

Gordon responds: we need to group together and speak to the councillors to tell them what we want.

Cllr Andrew Leadbetter has agreed to meet with Antony and his neighbour in regard to their concerns over this particular development.

Q 3) Lucy Bliss: can we have bins at bus stop by Bloor entrance?

Rob responds: I will look into it.

Q 4) Barbara: can we have some new clubs?

Gordon responds: We welcome all ideas.

Q 5) Phase 1 Newcourt grass verge/ open space. Who does it belong to? Who is responsible for replacing broken fence?

Rob Responds: Open space is ECC, Verge is DCC, still ongoing discussions with persimmon for who is responsible.

Q 6) Crazy Corner: Any updates?

Andrew Leadbetter responds: these needs chasing up. Andrew has paid for design plans.

Q 7) Street Lights in Dart Ave

Andrew Leadbetter responds: it is in the hands of the developer.

Gordon responds: there seems to be none on the plans.

Rob responds: If no plans show streetlights, then there will be no streetlights.

Q 8) Pedestrian crossing at bottom of golf course.

Andrew responds: DCC is responsible for crossing however the road is not adopted.

Andrew Sails: what can we do to make them hurry up and adopt?

Andrew: it's a lack of planning rules. The problems are with the current under pass of the golf course.

Rob: One of you could be a lollipop person.

Gordon: Could we pay for a lollipop person?

Barbara: what about school flashing lights sign?

Judy: it's the lack of national rules to make builders finish within a certain time frame that then holds up the council adopting the land.

Closing statement: Thank you all for coming to our AGM. Good night.