

Minutes of NRA COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 21 August 2025

7.30 St Mary's Social Centre

Present: Carole Kirby (Chair), Mike Fisk, John Somerville (Treasurer), Vicki Trenhaile, Lesley Healey (minutes), Fiona Griffin, Sarah O'Kane

Apologies from Robert Massey

1. Welcome to new committee members.

Fiona Griffin, John Somerville, and Sarah O'Kane.

Introductions made. Code of conduct explained. Hard copies given to three new members and signed.

Lesley to send Conflict of interest forms.

2. Correct Web site.

Need to add new chair, treasurer, and committee members.

Action: John will send his photo to Carole, Carole will send hers and John's photos to Malcolm plus additional committee member details.

3. Minutes of last committee meeting 16 June 2025.

a. NRA e-mails now go to Lesley.

b. Road Report - now on website, though font and plan are very faint and hard to read. Carole might ask whether they can mark up the bus stop by the shops.

Update - no further changes can be made now

c. Open meeting on 22 September. Ann Holmes confirmed to talk about the history of the Nevill estate

d. Drain Cleaning.

Mike met with Wendy and clarified the position on road closures for Nevill bonfire. Wendy had asked whether there could be an extension to the road closures at bonfire. She'd had the conversation and the new Highways officer said they'd consider it. Road sweeping is done by LDC but they don't work overnight or at weekends so may have to be done before bonfire, which seems a bit silly and pointless. Mike also suggested the two hits of drain clearance with parking on different sides of the road on different days.

As yet, no confirmed way forward.

Action: Mike will chase Wendy up to see if she's heard anything.

e. Snow and ice

Snow Shovels. (Feedback from Robert re request for shovels on WhatsApp)

Grit - Mike has checked cost of salt. About the same as before. Will organise soon.

f. Overgrown Hedges onto pavements. (*Feedback from Robert's request on WhatsApp*)

Agreed: include something in the newsletter about the problem of over-wide hedges, and potential help to get them cut. Also include the way to report an obstructive hedge to ESCC.

4. Treasurers Report.

John reported that there is a balance £1243.65, after £400 from the Garden Trail has been given to Homelink. The remainder of Garden Trail income (£349.50) has been given to NRA to benefit the estate residents. Discussed how much needs to be set aside for Defibrillator, hire of halls, website, and Public Liability insurance.

Action: John to do a spreadsheet for the open meetings to help people to understand our financial position.

5. NRA Newsletter Distribution.

Discussed practicalities of getting it copied, split into bundles and got to street reps for delivery. Fiona asked whether all street reps are on WhatsApp. Unknown - Lesley will ask them as it might make communicating with them easier. Vicki offered to take on the splitting into bundles and getting to street reps. Fiona offered to be back-up or share it with Vicki. Vicki will do the autumn one. Carole will start to write the newsletter after the next open meeting.

6. Seat by the Shops.

Arm repair done by Men's Shed. Acknowledged that the bench won't last too much longer and it would be better if we had a backless bench (people can sit either way round on it) rather than a seat. Lesley could ask Brian who made the benches by the Dew Pond, although that design wouldn't be easy to fit - requires very deep holes for the legs. *Action: John will firstly take a look at it and give us his carpenter's opinion.*

7. Agenda for Open Meeting on 22 September in St Mary's Hall.

Chair's report

Matters arising from the AGM and any progress.

Vicki - report on the garden trail and how funds disbursed.

Mike and Robert on Snow shovels, grit bins, drain cleaning

Hedges - actions to recover the pavement and visibility at corners.

Treasurer's report

Ann Holmes to talk about the Nevill - the big event and likely to attract people to the meeting.

Carole has done a poster for the open meeting, including the Historic England photo of the Nevill Crescents.

Action: Carole to finish off the poster with the agenda and send to Lesley. Two prints needed for notice boards and one print per

street. Mike Fisk will put them onto telephone poles. Lesley to circulate to email list

8. Dates for next meetings.

- a. Committee meeting after Open Meeting - October 9th at social club
- b. January committee meeting - 13th Jan at social club
- c. February – Open Meeting 10th Feb at church hall
- d. March committee meeting - 19th March at social club
- e. 2026 AGM - Tues 21st or Thursday 23rd April at Church Hall

9. Any other business.

Sarah O’Kane raised bus times and timetable. Compass reports that passenger numbers have increased, so every household should get a timetable and be encouraged to use the buses. *Action: Sarah to take up with Compass to see if they will pay for a reprint. P.S. Compass has agreed to pay £100 towards print costs for the new timetable. NRA resources will pay for remainder. Agreed to report good news to open meeting. Fiona and Sarah will get new timetable printed in time to circulate with newsletter.*