

St Augustine's Community Together Residents' Association. Minutes of public meeting on 10 April 2014 in St Augustine's Hall, Norwich. Meeting started at 7.30 p.m., the Revd Nicholas Vesey in the Chair.

1. Present: 14. Apologies: Margaret Camina, Margaret Goodyear, Nick and Lyn Hall, Cllr Stammers.
2. Minutes of last ACT meeting (27/2/14) approved.
3. Matters arising:
 - Item 8) Gyratory: ACT Secretary, Stuart McLaren, reported that Norwich City Council had informed him that work on a new pedestrian crossing in St Augustine's Street would not commence until January 2015, with surveying being conducted in August this year. County Councillor Richard Bearman promised to follow this up as he could not see why there should be such a delay in a project that so high a priority. The Secretary further reported that there was no definite news on when or indeed whether permanent bollards would be installed on the splitter island in New Botolph Street across which some drivers were taking a short-cut, potentially endangering other road users and pedestrians.
 - Item 9). Parking in Leonards Street: ACT Secretary reported that he had taken up this issue with Gemma Mitchell of Norwich City Council's Home Ownership department (who "own" the land on which the Leonards Street car park is located). Ms Mitchell had declined an invitation to attend this meeting as it would serve no purpose. It was noted that a sign saying "Residents Only" had been placed beside the entrance to the car park. This appears to be unofficial but anecdotally does seem to have reduced parking there by non-residents. It had been knocked over, apparently deliberately, at least once and it was agreed to monitor the situation and if it proved to be effective consider cementing the sign in the ground.
4. Anglia Square. It had been revealed in the local press that Anglia Square had been sold. The identity of the new owner had not yet been revealed. It was agreed that ACT would help facilitate a neighbourhood plan so that the views of local residents and traders could be consulted before any new re development plans were put forward. Cllr Simeon Jackson agreed to take this forward dependant on whether he was re-elected to the City Council in May.
5. The Revd Nicholas Vesey announced that there would be a special service of commemoration in St Augustine's (old) church on 3 August to remember the men from the parishes of St Augustine's and St Luke's who lost their lives in the First World War. Stuart McLaren had written a book "They Are Not Dead" about servicemen from St Augustine's and St Mary Coslany parishes who had died in the war and it was hoped that this would be launched in the Hall after the service.
6. On 11 October, there would be a "St Augustine's "Fringe Festival" to coincide with the 5th annual Magdalen Street Celebration day, with a table-top sale in the Hall, a BBQ, face painting, etc. and a concert of music in the old church.
7. "Open Mike" session:
 - Adrian Holmes (Oak St) reported that the planned "Eco Festival" in Wensum Park had been cancelled due to lack of funding but was hoped to be run next year.
 - Jeremy Hall (Bakers Rd) reported that responsibility for maintaining the City Walls was with the NPS (Norwich) Ltd, part of the NPS Group, a private company under contract to Norwich City Council to maintain its non-residential properties. A heritage partnership between the Council and English Heritage allowed the Council to carry out repairs without seeking permission from English Heritage at every occasion.
 - There was a query about the flats being built in Edward Street. Why had work apparently stalled?
 - Quintain Mews: new build of 19 houses off Sussex Street. There should be access from St Martins at Oak Wall Lane but this entrance had been blocked by a metal grating for several months.
 - A new cycle contra-flow was planned for Magdalen Street and Cowgate was planned for 2015.
8. Date of next meeting: 3 July 2014.