

## **MINUTES OF THE PRA GENERAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 2017**

### **Welcome & apologies**

William Gibbons (WG), Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new committee.

### **Minutes of the last General Meeting (held on 14th June 2017)**

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Peter Ted, seconded by Tom Lane and approved by the meeting.

### **Councillors' news**

Apologies sent from Susie Hosford for her absence.

Richard Bigs from DCC reported the following:

Improvements to the Dorchester Road cycleway are almost complete

Broadband problems in Poundbury's SW quadrant are hopefully being resolved due to intervention by the Duchy. The whole of Poundbury will be getting full speed broadband very soon.

County Council have experienced serious financial problems this year, including a £6m overspend mainly due to children's care services. Local government review to take place to make big financial savings.

Janet Hewitt from the Town Council reported the following:

The end of South Street has been regenerated, to make it easier to walk from Brewery Square into town. Improvements are also taking place at the County Museum.

There is a presentation taking place on 26th September at South Walks House, to discuss how developers and the council could improve Dorchester to make it a more vibrant town.

Investors are willing to spend money in the town.

The town council have been doing a lot of organisation for next year. 2018 is 100 years since WWI ended and lots of events are being planned. A new flower bed in Borough gardens will commemorate that women (aged 30+) won the right to vote in 1918.

District Council: no news on two unitary authorities from central government.

Susie still pursuing waste bins in Dunnabridge Square: Town Council currently refusing to fund one.

Ben Murphy: Duchy happy to fund the bin.

### **Great Field facilities: introducing Fabrik and Copper Consultancy**

Ben Murphy introduces consultants Andrew Smith (Fabrik) and Roz Henville (Copper Consultancy) and gives a background on the Great Field proposals. The consultation was launched in October for completion in early January. It is planned that the new facilities will be in place for the Spring/Summer of 2018. The full presentation can be found on the PRA website at [www.poundburyresidentsassociation.uk](http://www.poundburyresidentsassociation.uk)

### **PCSO Jane Goodwin**

Jane Goodwin introduces herself as the PCSO working out of Dorchester. Jane covers Poundbury but works over wider area in Dorch. PCSOs often deal with the follow up to initial crime. Jane encourages the public to pass on information that they think would be beneficial to PCSOs. Crimes can be reported via 101.

Jane is working with local housing associations with regards to inconsiderate neighbours and anti-social behaviour.

To contact Jane, call 101 and ask for Jane (collar number 6534) or Matt (collar number 6488).

There is a drop-in session at Octagon Cafe on the first Friday of each month, 2.30pm-3.30pm.

### **Treasurer's report and 2017 subscriptions (Tim Topper)**

A leaflet drop for every Poundbury household will take place over the next month to collect 2017 subscriptions. Please visit the PRA website (as above) for the rest of the presentation.

### **Chairman's update (William Gibbons)**

Car parking on Great Field opposite doctor's surgery has seen an improvement since Duchy added a sign.

Our last new residents meeting on Monday 18th September was a successful evening, with 25 attendees.

### **Website update (Mike Coleman) and Social Media update (Kate Atkinson)**

Mike Coleman: the PRA website now has 8.5 new visitors per day. Please register on homepage to receive the PRA newsletter.

There is a new events page and a planning page with access to maps and site plans.

Kate Atkinson: The PRA Facebook page now has 405 likes. Events and other info are shared on there.

### **Forthcoming events (Mike Coleman)**

Fashion show – 19th October at Engine Room. Group of suppliers taking part. drinks canapés music. tickets available from website.

Number of new events to be organised by the committee. Including event on GF - Poundbury Proms. Music event.

Any other business

- Kat Atkinson: please get in touch with the PRA if you want to display anything on noticeboards

- Boules court has been weeded and cleaned up. Ready to be used!

- Victor Jackson Square - a resident complains that they have been waiting 7 years for square to be finished.

UPDATE FROM DUCHY: This area is scheduled for adoption by Dorset County Council. It is hoped that progress will be made imminently in agreeing the design details in line with adoption requirements.