

WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND ACCESS GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at 2pm on Tuesday 19th February 2013 at
Acorns Centre, Grosvenor Road, Weymouth

1. Introduction of those present

Mike Kelly (President), John Lambert (Chairman), David Harris (Secretary), Steve Rook (Treasurer), David Dowle (Vice Chairman) Carolyn Harris, Julie Hursthouse (Community Development Officer WPBC), Ray Bartlett, Terri Bartlett, Syd Martin, Ian White (investigations Officer), David Harris (Cllr), Christine Pearce, Cathy Wratten, David Wallis, Carole Chinn, Gill Penwell

2. Apologies

Kate Wheller (Cllr), Graham Ryan, June Ryan, Dave Thompson (Access Dorset)

3. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 12th February 2012

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the 2012 Annual General Meeting.

4. President`s Report

Mike considered that it had been a relatively successful year. We had seen new people join the group and had been involved in a range of initiatives which had brought some successes.

5. Chairman`s Report

The hosting of the Olympics within the borough has passed successfully Congratulations to Ian White and David Wallis on being Flame Ambassadors at the London events and locally. Progress was being made in the Chafeys Roundabout situation. Julia Willoughby had stepped down, replaced by Sue Bickle, who had herself moved on. Julie Hursthouse was present to provide continuity with WPBC until a more permanent nominee was appointed.

6. Treasurer`s Report

Steve Rook presented the examined accounts and said that the account was in a healthy state. Two separate payments had been received within the financial year from our efforts as volunteers at Weymouth Carnival, £100 for 2011 and £150 for 2012. Approval of the accounts was proposed and seconded by David Dowle/Ray Bartlett. The meeting approved them.

WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND ACCESS GROUP

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st December 2012

2011	Income	2012	2011	Expenditure	2012
£		£	£		£
	Donation re Carnival		0.00	Hall Hire	14.00
	Re 2011	100.00	42.70	Postages & Stationery	48.89
	Re 2012	150.00	25.00	Disability Rights UK	50.00
2000.00	Synergy Housing		174.46	Insurance	174.46
			100.00	Web-Site - M Golsby	100.00
100.00	R Brotherwood	100.00	18.40	Travel	35.00
	(sponsor of website)		30.00	Carer costs	65.00
			<u>390.56</u>		<u>487.35</u>
	Excess of expenditure	137.35	1709.44	Excess of Income over	0.00
	over income			expenditure	
<u>2100.00</u>		<u>487.35</u>	<u>2100.00</u>		<u>487.35</u>

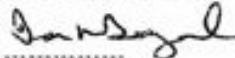
CASH ACCOUNT

2011		2012	2011	Represented by:	2012
1055.37	Bank balance b/f 1.1.12	2,772.81	2772.81	Bank balance 31.12.12	2,635.46
16.81	Cash in hand b/f 1.1.12	8.81	8.81	Cash in hand 31.12.12	8.81
		<u>2,781.62</u>			
2100.00	Add income	350.00			
3172.18		<u>3,131.62</u>			
<u>390.56</u>	Less Expenditure	<u>487.35</u>			
<u>2,781.62</u>		<u>2,644.27</u>	<u>2,781.62</u>		<u>2,644.27</u>

S Rook

Hon. Treasurer

These accounts have been examined and agreed in accordance with vouchers and documents presented for examination:

Signed 

Date 22/1/2013

7. Election of Officers for the Coming Year

The following were approved to the posts for the coming year:

Post	Nominee	Proposer	Second
Chairman	John Lambert	Terri Bartlett	David Dowle
Vice Chairman	David Dowle	Ian White	Mike Kelly
Secretary	David Harris	Ray Bartlett	John Lambert
Treasurer	Steve Rook	David Dowle	Mike Kelly
Publicity Officer	John Lambert	David Harris	Ian White

The meeting was declared closed at 14.20.

WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND ACCESS GROUP

MINUTES FOR MEETING No. 112

**Held following the AGM on Tuesday 19th February 2013
at Acorns Centre, Grosvenor Road, Weymouth**

1 Introduction of those present

Mike Kelly (President), John Lambert (Chairman), David Harris (Secretary), Steve Rook (Treasurer), David Dowle (Vice Chairman) Carolyn Harris, Julie Hursthouse (Community Development Officer WPBC), Ray Bartlett, Terri Bartlett, Syd Martin, Ian White (investigations Officer), David Harris (Cllr), Christine Pearce, Cathy Wratten, David Wallis, Carole Chinn, Gill Penwell

2 Apologies

Kate Weller (Cllr), Graham Ryan, June Ryan, Dave Thompson (Access Dorset)

3 Approval of Minutes of Meeting 111 held on 12th November 2012

Cllr David Harris requested an amendment be made - only two of the crossings on Weymouth Way (Goldcroft Rd and Chafeys (Southill)) were to be the full 3m width. Minutes approved subject to this change.

4 Summary of Points from 2012

Several outstanding items were briefly discussed in order to update those present:

- a) "A" Boards - the County Council initiative had now "run into sand" for a variety of reasons - so the situation is effectively unchanged.
- b) Provisional list of drop kerbs - IW will mention later in the meeting.
- c) Buses - licences for mobility scooters - on hold for the moment - unlikely to be restarted until the local bus operation has a new owner.
- d) Landslip on Chapelhay slope still causing long "drive around" for those unable to use steps. JH reports work has gone out to tender - start expected soon after 1/4/13.

5 President`s Report

Post Olympics meeting

A meeting took place in December with Simon Williams, Matt Ryan, Julie Hursthouse, Cllr David Harris, Mike Kelly and Ian White. In general there had been many positive results reported and there were follow up meetings and events planned - legacy sports events and access improvements for persons with disabilities.

Weymouth Town Centre Post Office

The Post Office was now in smaller premises. Despite specific assurances having been given in meetings before the re-location, on the opening day access through the main entrance for those on wheels still left much to be desired. A ramped entrance was such that scooter and power chair users

were forced to apply more power to get over the threshold, this caused some risk as the space immediately inside was somewhat restricted. WPAG members managed to highlight this on the day before the formal opening, getting a photo into the local press alongside the news item about the opening!

We are also in ongoing discussions about Fortuneswell Post Office.

Shared footpaths and cycleways

Work is ongoing to complete the link from the Rodwell trail via the Marsh to the Chickerell Road. When finished this will allow smooth, level shared cycleway/footpaths across much of the borough without being in conflict with road traffic other than at good crossing points.

DCC are consulting on improving the route alongside the A354 Portland Beach Road from the Chesil Beach Centre southwards.

Bus Services

Further service reduction are planned to take effect from March 24th. Cllr David Harris expanded on this by giving some detail. All of these changes are coming about because the withdrawing of County Council subsidies for uneconomic routes are coinciding with the First Group deciding to pull out of this area. First are closing the uneconomic routes and leaving their older buses in this local fleet. Only profitable, simple routes are left now. There is a consultation web site within the Dorset For You web site at "dorsetforyou.com/busconsultation". Please put in there what difficulties you encounter.

Boots Pharmacy in Easton

Nothing has happened since our last meeting (other than many people reporting continuing serious service problems in the pharmacy). There had been no progress on the plans. The situation was now seen as completely unsatisfactory. Various members of the group would now see if the earlier interest shown by Angel Pharmacies could be resurrected within the NHS - it had previously been turned down because of Boots objections - now they are providing poor service there may be a chance to get the application re-considered. Syd Martin, Cllr David Harris & Mike Kelly would pursue this.

Note. If any WPAG members have complaints about poor service here can they please forward the to Mike Kelly.

5 Chairman's Report

Firstly the chairman expressed his thanks to Mike Kelly and to Ian White for doing "most of the spadework" during the period.

He now expressed concern at the Pavilion situation - what would become of the Tourist Information Centre? It was particularly important for disabled people to find the relevant information when they were here as visitors.

6 Access Officers Report

(None - will be resumed when post is filled)

7 Investigations Officers Report

Hearing Loops

Ian had found that there were hearing loops installed in several premises, but all too often the staff lacked the knowledge to operate them. Ian agreed to follow up these situations with the businesses in question.

New Post Office

Following the discussions about satisfactory access to the new premises, a further meeting had been arranged for March 10th with the various parties involved, including Dawn Atkins - Highways and Matt Ryan . IW would report back afterwards.

Dropped Kerbs

Ian White had been told that there was funding in the coming financial year to be able to complete up to eight pairs of dropped kerbs. It was considered likely that a similar amount would be available in following years.

Portland Contacts

Ian and Mike Kelly attended a meeting of Weymouth and Portland Lip Reading Group and also went to meetings of Portland Groups at the Foylebank, Castletown and Ladymead, Easton Centres, meeting some of the people who had attended the November meeting. He had also contacted David Wallis who has agreed to help the group in future, as had Carole Chinn.

ASDA lift mirror

Ian reported that despite his best efforts, the mirror within the lift at ASDA was still unsatisfactory. He felt that as other organisations (WH Smith, Debenhams) within the town were able to achieve good results, it should be possible at ASDA also. He provided photos showing how it was still not possible from a seated position to see if it was safe to reverse from the lift. He asked for the Group to increase the pressure on ASDA to get a good resolution.

David Dowle agreed to take this up with his contact at ASDA and to report to John Lambert who would write to ASDA HQ if the matter was not resolved.

8 Treasurer's Report

See AGM information reported above.

10 AOB

a) Christine Pearce had noticed various problems in premises around the town: Centenary club ; Debenhams had a RADAR key toilet but no longer had a notice saying how to get a key; William Henry pub had a disabled loo, but one of the two Ambilifts was out of order so loo no longer accessible; she had encountered problems with the clothing hook in the Disabled loo in M&S. Chairman suggested that items such as these should be taken up with the premises by individuals, and the group should only get involved when resolution had not happened.

b) Cllr David Harris said that the introduction of the Centre for

Independent Living into the Fernhill premises was still to go ahead but had been delayed by issues about the length of the lease. The project was still expected to go ahead. He also mentioned that the Chafeys R'bout changes were also going ahead independently of the cycleway extension.
c) Gill Penwell reminded us that DLA would be changing to PIP in April; and mentioned that the Dorset Carers group now had a web site

Date of Next Meeting Monday 13 May 2.00pm Acorns Day Centre

Further Information

Since the meeting, Carole Chinn has visited the William Henry to discuss the non-working lift:

"I visited the William Henry today for lunch and found the ground floor lift to the mezzanine floor, which has been out of order for some months, is still not working; however the lift to the upper floor is working ok. I spoke to the Manager who stated that both he and the company knew the ground floor lift was 'unfit for purpose' and that a new lift was to be installed. He said this had been approved and signed off and hopefully should be installed by Easter."