

**Dorchester Business Improvement District (BID)  
Meeting of Board of Directors**

**The Dressing Rooms, Corn Exchange  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January, 4.30pm**

**Minutes**

Present:

Keir Francis  
Phil Gordon  
Lisa Cartwright  
Mark Andre  
Chris Gould  
Tim Batty  
Claire Robertson  
Rachel Cole

Observers:

Trevor Hedger  
Matt Pye  
Kelly Dyer (Left at 5pm)  
Alistair Chisholm  
Denise Addison (Left at 6pm)

- Democratic Period

Alistair Chisholm asked the board if full accounts can be presented in detail at the AGM.

- Apologies:

Emma Stapleton  
Gerald Duke  
Brian Keene

- Minutes of last meeting

These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

- Matters arising

Nothing to report

- Reports:
- Phil Gordon Report

Phil Reported on:

- Parking
  - Scratch card system for hotels seems to be working well.
  - Vouchers for free car parking to be extended in January and February 2011. Chris Gould reported excellent take up (almost 600 at his two sites in first two months).
  - Consultation document on parking charges from WDDC has been received by PG. Some increases on long stay parking charges but short stay to remain the same. PG will respond.
  - On Street Parking – hoping for concessions for businesses from DCC. Gerald is taking lead on this project when he returns from holiday mid February.
  - Thanks to WDDC for free parking on two days before Christmas
  - DBID board extends their thanks to Ian Doyle and his team for their hard work during the week leading up to Christmas and the week between Christmas and New Year.
- Park and Ride
  - Awaiting response from David Evans on aspects of park and ride strategy moving forward. C of C have their normal members meeting at 6.15pm 8<sup>th</sup> February at Kings Arms which will include Park and Ride
- Website
  - More photos on home page
  - Numbers slightly down after a peak in early December. This reduction would be expected.
- Dorchester Photos Screen Saver
  - These will be available to download in due course. There are a number of pictures of Dorchester and the surrounding area.
- A Boards
  - Currently awaiting a meeting date which will be in partnership with the C of C and Councils and Councillors supporting the initiative
  - Ladder board pricing due from Dorset Works in week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011. Quotes will also be sourced from other local manufacturers. South Street could require possibly three or four ladder boards.
- Cardboard Recycling
  - 25 more businesses are signed up to the joint DBID/WDDC initiative
- Mid-term survey
  - This should be with businesses by end of January.
  - An additional question will be added to ask if businesses would like late night shopping to be on Thursdays in December rather than Wednesdays.
- Arts Project
  - Funding from the Highways Agency will not be available. They may be able to offer some in kind donation which may take the form of Groundwork, Diversions etc. This project will still continue, as a lot of work has been undertaken to gain agreement from the appropriate agencies.

- KF to speak to Sam Rose from DCC World Heritage Coast Team to see if they can offer any funding. Chalk and Cheese may also be approached to see if this may fit in to their criteria.
- The Hardy Arcade project is on hold due to Charles Street works starting soon.
- AC has quote of £3000 for the walls at the top of Durngate Street to have photographs of Dorchester on them. MP awaiting comment from the Property Owner. The pictures are from the archives at Dorchester Museum and will be agreed by the Heritage Committee.
- PG advised that the archway at Durngate Street is in the process of being agreed. This may have an effect on the size of the space available for the artwork. (This will be funded from the signage budget)
- KF proposed £5000 from Hardy Arcade will now be split to £2000 for wall project in Durngate Street (permission dependent with Heritage Committee as lead agency) and £3000 towards the roundabout project increasing the roundabout fund to £15000. This was agreed and carried.
- MP will call in to Tony and Guy asking them to make an additional effort in their unoccupied part of their premises.
- Map of Dorchester
  - Free flight over Dorchester courtesy of Brian. Hoping combination of PG photos and WDDC map that a hand drawn map could be made.
  - AC advised Heritage Committee is commissioning an artist to do this. AC will keep DBID updated with this progress.
- Radio Link
  - DBID have secured a number of refurbished radios from Weymouth who have upgraded to a digital link. DBID will purchase the radios and then will charge this same rate to any businesses that would like new radios or join the scheme therefore being cost neutral. The meeting for this is scheduled for early February 2011. Pub Watch will also join up with the retailer's radio link.
- Finance Report (LC)
  - LC presented figures to the board
- Chamber of Commerce Report (CR)
  - Good subscription levels and renewal.
  - Membership now in excess of 100
  - Italian, Tunisian and French Markets are hoped to take place in 2011
  - Possibly a German market in December 2011
  - Extensive car parking discussion are underway at present
- Dorchester Christmas Cracker Report (CR)
  - Wash up meeting not yet held
  - Overall the committee are very pleased with outcome
  - Survey undertaken with excellent feedback
  - Hoping for additional help and support for 2011 as committee numbers were low for 2010
  - Hoping for stalls on the other late night shopping nights in Dorchester to be in situ
  - Planning for Cracker 2011 will start much earlier this year.

- RC suggested that universal pricing is in place for mulled wine and similar items that will be for sale on the evening
- Dwell time was increased for families
- No incidents reported
- Takings were up across the board
- Promote Dorchester Report (RC)
  - Meeting end November 2010
  - Re-thinking ideas -hoping to concentrate on summer music events
  - Intending to use existing websites rather than creating new ones
  - Next meeting February 2011
  - Hoping for increase in committee members
- 2013 Re-ballot

Timeline will be created and put forward to board at meeting in March 2011

- AGM and Annual Report Preparation

PG will undertake report but would like some help on this task. PG will use same template as in last two years and adjust content and pictures.

AGM will be 6<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

- Park and Ride Plans

Refer PG report

- 2012 Olympics

CR would like to start making plans on how Dorchester will benefit from this and how Dorchester can become involved. It is expected that there will be increased visitor numbers for up to eight weeks.

TH advised that there may be an additional 30,000 visitors per day to Weymouth. MP will report back on how Weymouth C of C are planning to deal with this and how Dorchester can fit in with that and what realistic opportunities there are. Businesses need to be aware of the effect of the Olympic Games with regard to staffing and deliveries etc.

MP suggested a joint meeting with Weymouth CofC, Dorchester CofC and DBID. CR advised that there is a website up and running for Dorchester Olympics 2012. CR will confirm address and ensure that the appropriate permissions are in place for the use of the wording and logos etc.

- Nominations for role of Vice Chair

LC will move forward with this in March meeting.

- Items for Agenda – Next Meeting

To be emailed for inclusion

- Any Other Business

MP advised the cigarette bins are not as robust as expected. PG advised Dorchester Stop the Drop have a system for replacement and repair.

MA did question who the liability fell with for these bins.

MP advised that the CofC breakfast meeting is on last Tuesday of each month. TH will be presenting at the January meeting.

Els Pontin has resigned from the board. The board would like to extend their thanks for her involvement with DBID.

KF reported that DBID have approached the businesses with a very substantial levy increase and advised them of the system in place for rebate of the increase.

Meeting closed at 18.15h

- Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011, 4.30pm The Dressing Rooms, Corn Exchange.

**Meeting Dates for 2011/2012**

2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2011	4.30	Dressing Rooms
6 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	AGM	Kings Arms Hotel (TBC)
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2011	4.30	Dressing Rooms
6 <sup>th</sup> July 2011	4.30	Dressing Rooms
7 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	4.30	Dressing Rooms
2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2011	4.30	Dressing Rooms
11 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	4.30	Dressing Rooms