

WEST DORSET WESTERN AREA TRANSPORT ACTION GROUP (WATAG)

Agenda for EGM March 2017

23rd March 2017 at 6.30pm

WI Hall South St Bridport

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Proposal to agree a revision to the 2005 version of the Constitution as circulated
- 3 AOB

Proposed revised Constitution attached
Amendments shown as follows:

(deletions - additions)

Secretary

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Chair & Treasurer

Peter Smith
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The Constitution

1. Name

The name of the organisation is the West Dorset Western Area Transport Action Group (WATAG) (the "Organisation")

2. Aims

The aim(s) of the group shall be:

- a) To seek and achieve sustainable improvement in Transport Systems within the five Dorset County electoral divisions of Beaminster, Bridport, Bride Valley, Chickerell & Chesil Bank and Marshwood Vale (including Lyme Regis).
- b) To seek and achieve sustainable transport links between the defined area (2.a), neighbouring electoral divisions, counties and elsewhere.
- c) To raise and employ funds (in a non-profit making manner), to be used for the purpose of improving transport facilities within the area.

3. Membership

Membership of the group will be open to: anyone with transport interests from Dorset County Council (DCC), West Dorset District Council (WDDC), Parish Councils, the Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils (DAPTC), Rail, Road and Sea Transporters (operators) and other concerned Groups and Citizens – all being volunteer members. Each member shall have one vote.

Members must actively seek to develop and adopt an Equal Opportunities policy and in all aspects to welcome people without discrimination as to age, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, disability or health (including HIV+ status), caring responsibilities, religious belief, social class, political belief, employment status, union membership, place of residence or housing status.

The Committee shall have the right:

- a) to approve membership
- b) to reject applications for membership
- c) for good and sufficient reason, to terminate the membership of any member provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the committee via the grievance procedure before a final decision is made.

All members shall pay an annual fee (currently zero) as agreed by the Committee (currently all those those present at meetings are deemed as members)

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4. Finance

All money **donated to**, raised by or on behalf of the Organisation is to be used only to further the aims of the Organisation.

The Treasurer shall **open** **maintain** a bank account in the name of the Organisation. Cheque signatories will be nominated by the Committee. **No electronic payments may be made or such systems set up without written authority**

All cheques and instructions to the Organisation bankers shall require two of the agreed signatures.

The Treasurer shall have the Accounts checked annually by an independent auditor.

The Organisation will not lend money to members.

5. The Committee

The Committee shall be elected to carry out the business of the Organisation.

The Committee shall be made up of a Chairperson, **Vice Chairperson**, Secretary, Treasurer and at least three (3) general members.

Only Members are eligible for nomination and election to the Committee.

The Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Committee members shall carry out the duties given to them by General Meetings.

The Committee shall meet no less than **two (2)** **six (6)** times a year.

Minutes **Notes** of the Committee meetings shall be available to all members.

The Committee may introduce, co-opt or appoint new members.

No two members from the same household shall be members of the Committee.

6. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

There shall be an Annual General Meeting held every 12 months (usually in January) at which the Committee reports on its work, presents a statement of accounts and then resigns.

The AGM shall elect a new Committee, **presided over by the outgoing Chairperson if present**, and vote on recommendations and any amendments to the Constitution.

The Secretary will notify all members of the date of the meeting not less than seven (7) days before the AGM.

7. Other General Meetings

A Special or Extraordinary General Meeting open to all members will be held if more than five (5) members submit in writing a request for such a meeting to the Secretary. The Secretary shall arrange for the meeting to take place within twenty one (21) days.

The Secretary will publicise all general meetings at least five (5) days in advance.

8. Quorum

No General Meeting (GM), Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall take place if less than ten (10) members are present.

No Committee meeting shall take place if less than half of the Committee are present.

9. Changes to The Constitution

The constitution can only be altered at the AGM or EGM.

Any suggested changes to the constitution must be handed to the Secretary thirty (30) days before the AGM or EGM.

Changes to the constitution must be agreed by a simple majority of the members present at the meeting.

The Chair shall have the casting vote, should the original vote be tied.

None of the aims of the Organisation listed in Section 2 may be deleted.

10. Dissolution

The Organisation may only be dissolved at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose and must be advertised fourteen (14) days before the meeting.

A proposal to dissolve the Organisation shall only be accepted if signed by two thirds of the members. The decision shall be agreed by a simple majority of eligible voters present.

Funds and possessions will be disposed of by a gift for charitable purposes in the area to a charity having substantially similar objects to the Organisation and in each case as agreed by a simple majority of the members present in person or by proxy at the meeting.

No members of the Organisation shall receive any benefit either in cash or in kind from any disposal of the Organisation's assets.

11. Standing Orders

Members shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a reasonable manner at meetings or in the premises used by the Organisation and be excluded if they contravene the objectives of the organisation. This will be done by a majority of those present and voting at any Committee or general meeting.

Any members may make a proposal. In order for it to be voted on by other members it must be seconded, (or supported) by someone else.

Only members present at the meeting may vote.

The only exception to the above rule will be for members whose disabilities or medical condition make it impossible to attend a meeting. In these circumstances such members may empower the Chairperson or Secretary to vote on their behalf.

Before voting any member may propose an amendment which must also be seconded.

The Chairperson shall have the casting vote when there is equal voting.

This Constitution was adopted by the

Date

Signed

Full Name

Position

Signed

Full Name

Position.....