**Minutes of the Pipers Area Residents Association 40th AGM 9th May 2015**

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Watts, Cllr Bluh,Neil Hopkins, Mary Ratcliffe

**Committee members present:** Susanne Webb, Carole Bent, Judith Randell-Sly, Chris Hawkins, Bea Menier, Jane Milner-Barry, Kareen Boyd, Daphne Hardwick, Claire Bouverie-Brine, James Waterhouse, Colin Doubleday, Chair, Linda Kasmaty

And Claire Ellis, Cllr Mattock

1. **Minutes of last AGM**: proposed by Kareen, seconded by Daphne.
2. **Matters arising**: Duncan Cunningham resigned from the committee before the AGM; he was thanked for his contributions to PaRa. We were informed the committee can have up to 16 members. Carole Bent and Daphne Hardwick were re- elected, and James Waterhouse was elected onto the committee. We agreed an email distribution list would be useful.

We will have our 5th tidy up and planting event, Let’s Look After, on the 17th May 2pm-4pm, the balance remaining for planting from monies donated is £576.39.

It was suggested that residents communicate with SBC regarding their worries about increased traffic resulting from another cohort of pupils going to Croft School.

1. **Chair’s Report**
2. **Treasurer’s Report**
3. **News and Q & A**

**Old Town Lights**

Kareen and Carole have been working with OTBA to replace the Christmas lights in Old Town with S106 money. £50000 was allocated to replace and extend existing lights so they illuminate Victoria Hill, and then go round the ‘square’, instead of just along Wood Street. The aim was to have a grand switch on scheduled for the 29th November and make it a big family event. This is part of the renaissance of Old Town, other events included a Food Festival, on June 14th, during Old Town Festival which is held from 6thJune-14th June, and a Sausage and Ale Trail in September.

**Introducing Claire Ellis**

Cllr Mattock introduced Claire Ellis, a parliamentary assistant to MP Robert Buckland as the Conservative candidate for Old Town to replace Cllr Bluh.

**Traffic Flow, Parking and the Corn Exchange development**

Concerns were expressed about traffic flow if the new Corn Exchange plans to narrow High St near the Corn Exchange to give it a ‘villagey’ feel, and also if the Corn Exchange developer , Steve Rosier, was going to remove 2 car parks, where would people park their cars? We were reminded that the worst air quality in Swindon is in Devizes Road.

When asked about lessons learnt at Regent Circus regarding traffic flow and the shared spaces, Cllr Mattock said he felt they work. Concern was expressed over repeated delays in getting the Corn Exchange developed to bring it back into use, those present wanted to know what was happening.

**20mph Zone in Croft Streets**

It was proposed that we have a 20mph limit to slow down traffic in these streets, problems as ever exist with enforcement.

The meeting ended at 11.45am