

General Meeting

Chair's report

Darwin Green Residents' Association

Monday 12 October 2026, 7:30 to 9:00 pm

Community Rooms

dgra.cam

hello@dgra.cam



Tonight's agenda

1

Apologies and minutes

7:30 pm · 5 min

2

Welcome Maysie Stedman

7:35 pm · 5 min

3

Welcome Simon: planning meetings

7:40 pm · 10 min

4

Vote: Alice joins the Committee

7:50 pm · 5 min

5

Money and grants

7:55 pm · 15 min

6

Community life

8:10 pm · 10 min

7

Community safety and communications

8:20 pm · 20 min

8

Preparing for the Community Forum

8:40 pm · 10 min

9

Any other business

8:50 pm · 5 min

10

Next meetings

8:55 pm · 5 min

1. Apologies



Welcome to the DGRA General Meeting

Monday 12 October 2026, 7:30 to 9:00 pm



Apologies for absence

- Carol, Neighbourhood Watch
- Any other apologies received are read out
- The Secretary records them in the minutes
- Any apologies from the floor?

1. Approval of the minutes



Before we vote

- The minutes are on the DGRA website
- Any corrections or matters arising?
- A proposer and a seconder, then a show of hands

Contact us: hello@dgra.cam



Proposal

**Approve the minutes of the
General Meeting of 14 July 2026**

[Read the minutes](#)

2. Vote: Alice joins the Committee



Proposal

That Alice joins the DGRA Committee

Show of hands: for, against, abstain



Her role

- **Community Support** with surrounding entities
- Girton and Eddington residents' associations, and others
- Brings relevant news back to the Committee and shares DGRA's views outward
- Already represents DGRA at the planning meetings with Barratt Redrow

3. Welcome Maysie Stedman, Active Lifestyle Officer



Maysie Stedman

Active Lifestyle Officer, Cambridge City Council,
covering North-West Cambridge including Darwin
Green

*"I'm looking forward to working with residents,
partners, and local communities across the North-
West."*

What she does

- Helps people lead healthier, more active lives
- Connects people with local activities
- Works with community groups and partners
- Supports initiatives that get people moving



Say hello

Maysie.Stedman@cambridge.gov.uk



Residents' survey

[Take the survey](#)

4. Welcome Simon: the planning meetings



Simon

Chair of the Community Planning Meetings

Invited by DGRA to chair, as John Shuttlewood is working on other sites

Why

Residents and Barratt Redrow in one room, with issues tracked and followed up

What

Lighting, parking, roads, facilities, the Plaza and planning conditions

Who

Barratt Redrow, DGRA, residents, WIRE and neighbours

Where

Darwin Green Community Rooms

When

Wednesdays, every 6 weeks. Next: Wed 4 Nov, 11:00 to 12:30

Your say

Contact us: hello@dgra.com

4. Highlights from 23 September



Lighting and walking routes

- Rolling lamp post audits; one outage since December
- Windsor Road: cycle symbols off, signage added
- Brownlow Rd yellow lines; Blackhall Rd kerb removed



Parking, roads and drains

- Franklin Gardens, Sedgwick Cres: signs, 1-week grace
- BDW2 roads: top surfacing before New Year
- Jenyns Drive: ponding from blocked gutter drains



Facilities and the Plaza

- Play area: seating and surface by end of October
- Allotments: works by New Year, then City Council
- Plaza review; six shops sale hoped by New Year



Planning conditions

- Woodlark Road ditch fencing approved (COND9)
- BDW3 spoil heap: dust control and watering
- BDW6 piling: noise and vibration monitored

4. Open actions from 23 September



Andrew (Barratt Redrow)

- Report on the Huntingdon Road access route
- Report on the allotment transfer timetable
- Notify residents of BDW3 spoil heap removal, dust control and monitoring
- Sort out Jenyns Drive front garden fencing with Alina
- Check the post box requirement, replace the library bin, specify notice board lighting
- Send Alice the lamp post map

Tom (Barratt Redrow)

- Send Quentin the approved street name plan
- Review bins and no-dogs signs at the play area

Alice (DGRA)

- Send Andrew outage details and lights shining into bedrooms
- Send Andrew photos of the blocked Jenyns Drive drains

Quentin and John

- Quentin: ask residents for remaining street name issues on WhatsApp
- John: ask the landowner to remove brambles on Lawrence Weaver Road

5. Finance and insurance



Finance update

- Treasurer: Graham
- Current balance
- Income and spending since July
- Accounts and the shared drive



Insurance for events

- Treasurer: Graham
- Public liability cover for DGRA events
- Halloween evening, food trucks and the Christmas event
- Anything the Committee needs to approve

5. Council Community Grants



Small Community Grants

£5,000

maximum, restricted to activities

- Round 1: opens 24 Nov, closes midday 12 Jan 2027
- Round 2: opens 20 Apr, closes 1 Jun 2027
- Suits one-off events and smaller or newer groups
- Activities run to 31 Mar 2028



Large Community Grants

£10,000

a year, for up to 3 years

- Closed midday 22 Sep 2026
- Cabinet decision 18 Jan 2027
- Group must be at least 1 year old
- Last multi-year round



Organisation Support

£40,000

a year, or 20% of turnover

- Closed midday 22 Sep 2026
- Unrestricted, multi-year funding
- Needs 3+ years, paid staff and a past city grant
- Cabinet decision 18 Jan 2027

For DGRA: Small Grants Round 1 is the realistic route. Check our legal form and bank account meet the rules first.

6. Community life



Events

- Faith
- Community Christmas get-together: details next slide
- Insurance cover, see the Treasurer



Food trucks

- Joanna
- Regular vendors and pitch donation: next slide
- Al Chile
- Open doors for Halloween evening



Socials

- Mel
- Admin of the Friendly Neighbours and Homeowners chats, adding residents who ask to join
- Advertises events for Faith and Joanna
- Plaza Facebook group: no repeat advertising, duplicate posts removed

6. Events: a community Christmas get-together



The plan

- Faith, DGRA Events Lead
- Start with one manageable event, planned together
- An indoor Christmas get-together, open to everyone
- Games, crafts and refreshments
- International Day: revisit next year



To agree first

- Venue
- Budget
- Mel and Quentin promote the event
- Food trucks, Joanna to support
- Insurance cover, Treasurer to support
- Grants, Chair and Treasurer to support



Volunteers wanted

- A small events team to share the planning
- Helpers on the day

Good to know: Elenasy's existing programmes stay independently managed, and collaboration with DGRA is welcome.

6. Food trucks: vendors and pitch donation



Regular vendors

- Kiwi Coffee: Wednesday to Sunday, every week
- Manna Seoul: 1st Thursday of the month
- Pizza Mondo: 2nd and last Thursday
- Pimp My Fish: 3rd Thursday



Pitch donation

- Today: £30 a pitch (default)
- Proposed: £35 or £40, for the Committee to agree
- Kiwi Coffee pays £7.50 a day, based on projected daily takings



Coming up

- Al Chile
- Open doors for Halloween evening
- Thank you to Graham and Mel for their help

7. WhatsApp: how are the chats going?



The atmosphere

- Quentin and Mel
- The neighbours' chat can turn dark when ASB is discussed
- Neighbourhood Watch could be a better home for those conversations



Keeping chats safe

- Proposed approach, for the Committee to confirm
- Members agree to behave in the chat and outside it
- Harassment outside the chat can mean removal, after a private word where possible
- Messages that may be evidence are kept, not deleted



Why Buy/Sell/Gift is on the agenda

- Open to everyone, not just our area
- Far-away adverts and buyers who cancel
- Money changes hands, and phone numbers are shared

7. Vote: the Buy/Sell/Gift group

1

Residents-only Buy/Sell/Gift

Keep buying, selling and gifting, but only for Darwin Green, King's Court and Franklin Gardens residents

2

Residents-only Gift

Gifting only in the chat. People are directed to Facebook for buying and selling

3

Leave it alone

The group stays open to everyone, as it is today

If option 1 or 2: transform the existing chat or start a new one, and how do we keep adverts local?

7. Anti-social behaviour and Neighbourhood Watch



What we are hearing

- Safety concerns in the park, especially for women
- Police response has been limited
- L&Q has an escalation contact for its residents



Neighbourhood Watch

- Carol (Cambridge-wide) is helping us set up; apologies for tonight
- Kristian, Andy and Alex have volunteered to help us set up the local scheme
- Alex, already a member
- Community meeting with the police
- Still needed: a Darwin Green attendee at the Girton police get-togethers – Alice might be able to support this?



What you can do

- Report incidents to the police as well as in the chats
- Tell the Committee what you are seeing
- Volunteer for Neighbourhood Watch

8. Community Forum: postponed



Questions to ask when it takes place

- Update on the Galton Road and Patagonia Way intersection
- Library
- Shops
- Allotments



What we already know

- Shops: sale of six shops hoped to be completed by the New Year
- Allotments: site works by the New Year, then transfer to the City Council
- Library: opening was hoped for in November or December 2026

Postponed: new date to be confirmed. Tell us tonight what to raise, and we will share the date once we have it.

9. Any other business



Howes Green

- Last day for comments is tomorrow, 13 October



Bus lines for Darwin Green

- Which routes should serve Darwin Green?
- Can we benefit from the University buses
- The Plaza review includes a bus shelter



Co-working space

- Re-opening the co-working space?
- Is there demand, and who would run it?



Book club

- Barratt's PR team and a contribution to the book club

Post Boxes

- In the plaza

10. Next meetings



~~Thu 15 Oct~~

Community Forum

North-West and West Cambridge



Wed 4 Nov

Planning meeting

11:00 am, Community Rooms

[Add 4 Nov to calendar](#)



Mon 25 Jan 2027

General Meeting

7:30 pm

Planning meetings: stay on Wednesdays, now every six weeks.

Thank you: how you can help



Tell us about lamppost outages and lights shining into bedrooms



Tell us about broken kerbs, blocked drains and other hazards



Share remaining Franklin Gardens street name issues in the WhatsApp chat



Fill in Maysie's Active Lifestyle survey



Volunteer for Neighbourhood Watch, Events or come to the next planning meeting

Contact us: hello@dgra.cam