

5th June 2015

Dear Friend and Supporter

We are writing to invite you to our first AGM as a fully-fledged Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which will be held on Thursday 9th July from 5.30pm at Skinner Street URC. CIO status has given R2R greater stability and the ability to own property, employ staff and enter into contracts in the name of the charity, rather than in the names of the Trustees. All that was Routes to Roots Charity No 1093689 has now been successfully transferred to the new CIO and we are continuing the good work of serving the needs of rough sleepers, the newly homed and the vulnerably housed in the Borough of Poole. The logo and informal names of Routes and Roots and R2R remain the same.

Routes to Roots first became a registered charity in 2002 and since then our work has become more widely acknowledged and accepted in the town. Although we no longer have a contract with the Borough of Poole to provide outreach services, we still work from the office at Skinner Street URC and give assistance to those in need. This includes: two lunch time drop-ins with light lunch, two evening drop-ins with cooked meal, breakfast vouchers for rough sleepers from December to March, one to one support for benefits claims, calls to agencies, calls to doctors, calls to landlords, etc., one to one professional counselling, referrals to other agencies, postal care-of address, access to landline telephone, chiropodist services, supplies of clothing, toiletries, sleeping bags, food, etc. We also continue to provide motivational and well-being activities through our association with Holton Lee as well as through activities at our afternoon drop-ins.

We are always very encouraged by your support of Routes to Roots – in time, money, and fundraising. When negotiating with government agencies and potential funding partners, it is important to demonstrate that we have a good number of supporters and so please be assured that we value your partnership in the work we seek to do amongst those who are so vulnerable here in Poole.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that subscription is renewable annually on 1st April so we would encourage you to make sure you have set up your renewal. We have maintained our membership costs for several years, being mindful of the austerity we all face. However, as the costs of carrying out all our activities to help our clients have increased we have decided to make a small increase in individual membership to £24.00 per annum or £ 2.00 per month, which we are sure you will agree is still a very reasonable figure. Church or Organisation membership has been increased to £48.00 per annum or £4.00 per month. Regular monthly income helps us to plan our finances and if you set up your subscription through a standing order this will also help to minimise our admin costs. A standing order form is attached and you can arrange payment on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis, as you prefer.

Thank you so much for your support, whether monetary, in time or in kind – we rely on you to keep our work going and would particularly ask for your prayers for all our supporters, workers and volunteers, and especially for the homeless and vulnerably housed whom we seek to help.

With many thanks

Yours sincerely
Lynn Foster

Lynn Foster, Honorary Secretary

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the members of Routes to Roots (Poole) CIO, Charity No 1155945, will be held on Thursday 9th July 2015 commencing at 6.00 pm at The United Reformed Church, Skinner Street, Poole, BH15 1RQ. Refreshments will be available from 5.30 pm. The meeting is called to consider the following:-

1. To receive the Trustees' Annual Report
2. To receive the Treasurer's Report and adopt the accounts for 2014/15
3. To receive the Management Services' Report
4. To re-elect Trustee Kate Mellor

Lynn Foster

Hon Secretary on behalf of the Board of Routes to Roots (Poole) CIO

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the previous AGM of Routes to Roots, Charity No 1093689, held on 12th June 2014
4. Trustees' Annual Report from the Chair
5. Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts for 2014/15
6. Finalisation of R2R, Charity No 1093689
7. Management Services Report
8. Re-elect Trustee Kate Mellor
9. Any other business