

ACRA

Alliance of Christchurch Residents Associations

Minutes of the meeting on **Tuesday 10th December 2013 at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:** Liz Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Rob Evans (Christchurch Citizens); Debbie Stephens (SAMRA); Mike Collard (SAMRA - Chairman); Jim Biggin (West Christchurch – Secretary);
2. **Apologies for Absence:** John Mather (Highcliffe); Chris Hopkins (Somerford); Roger Hamilton (West Christchurch)
3. **Also Absent:** Friars Cliff; Grange
4. **Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of 10th September 2013 were accepted subject to correction of the date
5. **Matters Arising:**
 - 5.1. **DCC-Trees that damage roads (minute 5.1):** Jim Biggin reported that no real progress was being made and one had to conclude that it was not important enough to receive attention
 - 5.2. **Purbeck Council (PDC-minute 11):** Jim Biggin reported that after an extensive and costly fact-finding that demonstrated potential cost savings PDC had dropped out of consultations with CBC-EDDC.
 - 5.3. **Litter Bins (minute 15):** Jim Biggin confirmed that Dorset Waste Partnership are responsible and are aware of our concerns
 - 5.4. **Planning Backlogs (minute 16):** Jim Biggin confirmed that CBC had been made aware and so far as he knew the problem had been resolved. A member commented that the list of outstanding appeals now appeared to be growing. Jim Biggin indicated that there was nothing CBC-EDDC could do about that.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** ACRA funds amount to £75.63. The Secretary had spent £24.20 on two return train fares to Dorchester to see DCC Highways Department and Cllr Gould. Members supported this expenditure as better liaison with DCC is considered vital.
7. **Future Levy:** The Treasurer proposed that in March 2014 members each be asked to contribute £20 to cover future costs and The Secretary undertook to place this on the next agenda
8. **Delegate to Bournemouth Airport:** John Mather had presented his apologies but hoped to bring us all up to date in the New Year
9. **Druitt Hall:** Liz Evans (Christchurch Citizens) reported that a key meeting is to be held on 11th December 2013
10. **Druitt Gardens:** Liz Evans (Christchurch Citizens) reported that tree works application T/13/0248 was causing concern as it appeared that healthy trees were to be felled to enable the developed of the adjacent Cornfactor site to both build very near to the site boundary and to gain access to their site by driving across Druitt Gardens. Individual members were asked to protest to Ms C McPhie, Landscape and Tree Officer

- 11. Update Meeting With CBC:** Mike Collard reported a useful and constructive meeting. A full report is at www.wcresidents.co.uk. *It was resolved that we should meet with CBC again at a sensible and convenient time in the budget cycle – probably March 2014*
- 12. Dorset Police:**
- 12.1.** Jim Biggin confirmed that the follow up meeting with PCC Martyn Underhill scheduled for 27th November had been cancelled by his office late in the day in some confusion.
- 12.2.** Jim Biggin and Mike Collard indicated that the presentation by Martyn Underhill on 31st October to WCRA had done little to clarify his priorities or resource allocation.
- 12.3.** Jim Biggin confirmed that DCC Highways completely rejected Martyn Underhill's assertions regarding responsibilities at an RTA and firmly indicated that the Police are the responsible body and it is they who call in DCC Highways when in the judgement of the Traffic Police their presence is required
- 13. Meeting with DCC Cllr Robert Gould:** Jim Biggin reported a constructive but still worrying meeting. The budgetary situation at DCC remains difficult. A full report is at www.wcresidents.co.uk and a further meeting will be held in March 2014.
- 14. Meeting with DCC Highways:** in addition to points already mentioned in these minutes Jim Biggin indicated that DCC Highways had undertaken to give a presentation at The Hall on the Hill on Thursday 27th February at 7.30pm
- 15. DCC and Broadband:** an update from Councillor Margaret Phipps can be found at www.wcresidents.co.uk under Council Affairs
- 16. Failed Hospital Merger:** the news that plans for Christchurch Hospital have not been affected was well received. It was felt that we could at the moment do little but watch and wait
- 17. New Supermarkets:** the announcement by Quantum of their Christchurch Fund was welcomed but the extent to which it depended upon the outcome of Stony Lane and The Meteor Site was not clear. The further delay to both Stony Lane and Meteor was noted and various possible reasons were mooted. The plans by The Co-Op to develop the site of the derelict pub on Fairmile next to the Texaco Garage without needing to go to public consultation was not welcomed
- 18. Avon Beach Café:** SAMRA members are concerned about some matters of over-development on the site; they are in discussion with Friars Cliff RA with a view to submitting a joint response
- 19. Next Meeting:** Tuesday 11th March 2014 at The Hall on the Hill, West Christchurch at 7.30pm. This is the AGM and nominations for Chairman are required as the position is traditionally rotated around constituent ACRA members

Jim Biggin, Secretary
jebgreycells@zoho.com
01202-473-658